



## CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

### PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** September 26, 2012

**TO:** Parks and Recreation Commission

**FROM:** Parks Division, Parks and Recreation Department

**SUBJECT:** Street Tree Advisory Committee Recommendations

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Commission:

A. Approve the following Street Tree removal request.

1. 903 E. Cabrillo Blvd. – (1) Archontophoenix cunninghamiana, King Palm, (2) Phoenix canariensis, Canary Island Date Palm, (1) Arecastrum romanzoffianum, Queen Palm, (2) Washingtonia robusta, Mexican Fan Palm – Phillip Suding, Agent for Richard V. Gunner and Margaret S. Gunner

This project involves improving the pedestrian access from Cabrillo Boulevard along Milpas to the entrance of the Santa Barbara Inn. The trees are located on City property and therefore regulated by Chapter 15.20 of the Santa Barbara Municipal Code. Chapter 15.20 requires an application to remove a City tree from its location by any means, including relocation. The project is proposing to relocate three trees and remove three trees. The Committee reviewed the project and recommends that the Commission approve all removals on the application as presented by the project. The Committee determined that a reasonable development dictates the removal. Staff recommends the Commission approve the removals on the condition the project receives all other City approvals.

B. Partially approve the following Setback Tree removal request.

1. 2025 Bath St. – (2) Trachycarpus fortunei, Windmill Palm – Andy Sillers

The Committee recommends that the Commission approve the removal of the palm tree on the left side of the entrance (when facing the building from the street) and deny removal of the other tree. The Committee determined the tree on the right side of the entrance is healthy and unaffected by a fire.

C. Deny the following Street Tree removal request.

1. 550/555 La Marina – (2) Syagrus romanzoffianum, Queen Palm, (5) Washingtonia robusta, Mexican Fan Palm – Laura S. Rasmussen

The Committee recommends that the Commission deny the tree removals. The Committee determined that a view is not significantly diminished by these trees, and therefore, not sufficient justification to remove the trees.

D. Deny the following Setback Tree removal requests.

1. 211 Las Alturas Rd. – Eucalyptus spp., Eucalyptus – Clifford J. Ruddle

The Committee recommends that the Commission deny the tree removal. Parks staff discussed the application with Fire Department staff. Because the tree is located within the defensible space of the home, the Fire Department supports removal of the tree. The Committee determined that the removal of these trees would have a significant impact on the immediate neighborhood.

2. 1528 Clearview Rd. – Alnus rhombifolia, White Alder – Signe Drury

The Committee recommends that the Commission deny the tree removal. The Committee determined that the removal of this tree would have a significant impact on the immediate neighborhood.

E. Approve species change to the Street Tree Master Plan

1. Middle Rd. – species change – Josh Monroy

The Committee recommends that the Commission approve Cupressus macrocarpa, Monterey Cypress as additionally designated species. The Committee commented that it makes more horticultural sense to install two - 24” box trees than one - 36” box tree.

- ATTACHMENTS:**
1. 903 E. Cabrillo Blvd.
  2. 2025 Bath St.
  3. 550/555 La Marina
  4. 211 Las Alturas Rd.
  5. 1528 Clearview Rd.
  6. Middle Rd.

**PREPARED BY:** Tim Downey, Urban Forest Superintendent

**SUBMITTED BY:** Jill E. Zachary, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director

**APPROVED BY:** Nancy L. Rapp, Parks and Recreation Director