



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT

AGENDA DATE: October 23, 2013

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 changes to the Street Tree Master Plan:

The Upper East Association held a walk-around meeting of their area. Forty-seven members reviewed the existing trees, parkways and the trees that are designated for each of the blocks. After a discussion, they requested changes to the Street Tree Master Plan for items A1, A2, A3, and B1 below.

1. 2100 block of Santa Barbara St. – consider change to Queen Palm – Fred L. Sweeney

The Committee recommends (4/0) that the Commission add *Syagrus romanzoffianum*, Queen Palm as a co-designation. The Committee determined the existing Queen Palms in this block are performing well and should be added as designated trees. Since designation in 1977 by City Council no new tree plantings have occurred.

2. 2200 block of Santa Barbara St. – request addition of Oak tree species – Fred L. Sweeney

The Committee recommends (4/0) that the Commission add *Quercus virginiana*, Southern Live Oak as a co-designation. The Committee determined that the currently designated tree, *Acer oblongum*, Evergreen Maple has not performed well. There are only 33 of this species in the City inventory. The Committee determined the Southern Live Oak would provide greater canopy cover in this block.

3. 200 block of E. Junipero St. – request addition of *Olea europaea*, Olive – Fred L. Sweeney

The Committee recommends (3/1) that the Commission add *Olea europaea*, Olive as a co-designation. The Committee determined there are existing Olive

trees nearby that would be complimented by this addition, and the existing designated tree is not currently available commercially.

4. 500-900 blocks of W. Valerio St. – request change from Tipuana – Staff

The Committee recommends (4/0) that the Commission approve *Cedrela fissilis*, Brazilian Cedar Wood as a designated tree and remove *Tipuana tipu*. This request came from staff because the available parkways along this section are too small to support the needs of the Tipuanas. The Committee determined the Brazillian Cedar Wood trees have a similar appearance and a smaller parkway requirement.

5. 1100-1900 blocks of Gillespie St. – request addition of *Pistacia chinensis*, Chinese Pistache – Staff

The Committee recommends (4/0) that the Commission approve *Pistacia chinensis*, Chinese Pistache and *Brachychiton acerifolius*, Australian Flame tree species as co-designations and remove *Koelreuteria bipinnata*, Chinese Flame Tree from the Street Tree Master Plan. Staff is concerned about the prolific nature of the Chinese Flame Tree. The Chinese Flame Tree produces many saplings which will grow wherever the seed lands in favorable conditions. The Committee determined the Chinese Pistache fits well as a replacement tree. The Committee further noticed the current species profile within these blocks includes some Australian Flame Trees. The Committee is recommending Australian Flame Tree be included as co-designated. This action would provide for three trees to be co-designated and one to be removed. The co-designated trees would be *Pistacia chinensis*, Chinese Pistache, *Brachychiton discolor*, Pink Flame Tree and *Brachychiton acerifolius*, Australian Flame Tree.

B. Deny the following change to the Street Tree Master Plan:

1. 2300-2400 blocks of Santa Barbara St. – request deletion of *Chorisia* – Fred L. Sweeney

The Committee recommends (4/0) that the Commission deny the request to remove *Ceiba (Chorisia) speciosa*, Silk Floss Tree from the Street Tree Master Plan. The name of this tree recently changed to *Ceiba speciosa*. The Committee determined this species is a valuable species and should remain designated. They further determined there is a variety called Majestic Beauty that grows without thorns and could be used without changing the designation. The Committee recommends three designations remain: *Ceiba (Chorisia) speciosa*, Silk Floss Tree, *Corymbia ficifolia*, Red Flowering Gum and *Cinamomum camphora*, Camphor Tree.

- ATTACHMENTS:**
1. 2100 block of Santa Barbara St.
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 3. 200 block of E. Junipero St.
 4. 500-900 blocks of W. Valerio St.
 5. 1100-1900 blocks of Gillespie St.
 6. 2300-2400 blocks of Santa Barbara St.

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