



City of Santa Barbara

Parks and Recreation Department

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November 24, 2014

Barbara Lowenthal, President
Pearl Chase Society Board of Directors
P.O. Box 92121
Santa Barbara, CA 93190-2121

SUBJECT: DONATION FOR IRRICADES

Dear Barbara:

On behalf of the Parks and Recreation Department, I would like to thank the Pearl Chase Society Board of Directors for the \$14,560 donation for the purchase of 56 irrigades for the Italian Stone Pines on East Anapamu Street.

To date, 25 units have been installed. We have ordered and will install the additional 31 within the next month. The 125-gallon irrigades will improve both watering effectiveness and efficiency. We anticipate that the use of the irrigades will enable the trees to survive the drought. I hope the following information answers your questions.

- The irrigades will be maintained by City Forestry staff. The City will pay for the cost of water. Water will be released from the irrigades on a monthly basis. After each watering cycle, the irrigades will be refilled and remain full until the next watering cycle. When full, the irrigades are much less likely to be subject to vandalism.
- The irrigades and soaker hose will be inspected regularly. It is anticipated that the City may need to repair or replace the soaker hose over time. These costs will be covered by the Department's budget.
- Since we have no prior experience with these units, we do not know their lifespan. However, they are constructed of heavy duty plastic, similar to traffic barricades, and we anticipate that they will remain in use for a long time.
- We do not plan to remove the irrigades before the drought declaration is lifted. At that time, we will determine whether some need to be left in place to continue to support the trees or whether they should be relocated to support other trees.

Once again, we thank the Pearl Chase Society for its generosity and dedication to the care of the Italian Stone Pines. I can be reached at 805-564-5437 or jzachary@santabarbaraca.gov if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

Jill Zachary

Assistant Parks and Recreation Director