



**CITY OF SANTA BARBARA**  
**Parks and Recreation Department**

**PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**STAFF REPORT**

**AGENDA DATE:** April 4, 2014

**TO:** Planning Commission

**FROM:** Jill E. Zachary, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director  
Parks and Recreation Department

**SUBJECT:** Urban Forest Management Plan Project

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Commission:

- A. Receive a status report on the Urban Forest Management Plan project; and
- B. Review and provide comments on the Urban Forest Key Issues and Draft Objectives.

**DISCUSSION:**

Background

The development of an urban forest management plan (UFMP) is a key Parks and Recreation Department project for Fiscal Years 2013 and 2014. The primary objective of the plan is to provide a long-term guide for the preservation and enhancement of Santa Barbara's urban forest. The scope of work includes preparation of a baseline tree canopy assessment and policy options analysis; extensive public outreach through community meetings, City TV, web resources, and other public information methods; public discussion during meetings of the Parks and Recreation Commission, Street Tree Advisory Committee, and other Boards and Commissions; and final action by the City Council. The project is funded in part by a grant from the California Department of Forestry and Fire.

Project Status

Since the project began in July 2012, the Department completed and advanced a number of project tasks. These include formation of the Technical Advisory Committee, completion of the citywide tree canopy assessment, case studies of other urban forest management plans, preparation of the baseline analysis and background documents, completion of a community tree information survey, and preparation of a key issues document and preliminary draft objectives. The Technical Advisory Committee has met

four times, and two community meetings were held in January 2013. The Department is also coordinating with the Community Development, Public Works, and Fire Departments throughout the project.

Now that the project is well underway, the Department is sharing results to date with City boards and commissions, and soliciting input on the key issues and preliminary draft objectives. During the month of April, the project was presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission on March 27, 2013 will also be presented to the Street Tree Advisory Committee, Architectural Board of Review, Historic Landmarks Commission, and the Single Family Design Board.

Tree Canopy Assessment

The tree canopy assessment was completed by digital mapping individual and continuous canopy throughout the City. The mapping process revealed that there are 2,787 acres of canopy throughout the City. This area, divided by the total city area of 10,986 acres, calculated the overall citywide canopy cover at 25.4%. This area excludes unincorporated areas, the airport, and the area of the 101 Freeway that intersects within the City limits. As shown in the table below, the assessment data was used to determine canopy cover for residential areas, parks and open space, and other major land uses.

Citywide Canopy Cover and Tree Population

<b>Location (2011 General Plan Zones)</b>	<b>Canopy Area (Acres)</b>	<b>Percent Canopy by Location</b>	<b>Percent Canopy of entire city</b>	<b>Estimated Tree Population</b>
<i>Entire City</i>	2,787	25.4%	--	322,290
Residential Areas	2,094	27.8%	80.6%	259,719
Parks and Open Spaces*	322	23.3%	11.6%	36,727
Commercial/Civic	140	20.4%	4.9%	16,077
Office Areas	20	11.4%	0.7%	2,320
Industrial	10	6.9%	0.4%	1,148
Public Schools	55	18.7%	2.0%	6,299

\*Parks and Open Space areas in the 2011 General Plan include The Montecito Country Club, Sheffield Reservoir, Laurel Canyon Reservoir, and the Santa Barbara Municipal Golf Course.

In an effort to correlate canopy cover with the number of actual trees within the City, staff also developed tree population estimates. The estimates were developed using the average canopy of the 16 most common species found throughout Santa Barbara. The species represent approximately 55% of the total street tree species. This

population sample was assumed to accurately encompass a large enough population of trees to apply to the rest of the City's known canopy area. In addition, the canopy area of these trees was selected because they are the only canopies mapped over known GPS coordinates of street trees in the Arbor Access Database.

### Community Meetings

Two community meetings were held in January. The meetings were attended by a total of 51 residents, including six City staff. The meeting agenda included a presentation of the project objectives and discussion of community concerns and interests about trees. Maintenance of City-owned trees was the issue most important to residents and was their number one recommended City priority. Comments were primarily geared at increasing street tree maintenance and reduced sidewalk conflicts, although others commented on maintenance by Southern California Edison and a lack of street tree debris maintenance by residents. Additional comments according to the following topics, included:

- *Tree type and size:* Tree type and size comments included the need for larger canopy street trees to shade paved surfaces. In addition, while some favored the use of native trees, others enjoy the look of a diverse mix of species and flowering trees along City streets. One commenter requested continuity of tree species by block.
- *Outreach and education:* Outreach and education is important to the public and comments included: partnerships with schools, County, MarBorg, and general tree value and care information for the public.
- *Resident contribution:* When asked what residents can do for the health of the urban forest, meeting participants suggested learning the City's regulations, planting trees, care for street trees, and reporting problems to authorities.
- *Residents want more Information:* Residents at the meeting would like to know more about: Public access to STMP database, balancing high fire with canopy, outreach efforts such as walking tours and disease and pest awareness, and topping trees for views.

### Community Tree Survey

The community tree survey was conducted between January 24 and February 21, 2013. The purpose of the survey was to learn more about the public concerns surrounding trees, gather perspectives of City tree priorities, and gauge familiarity with tree preservation ordinances. The survey also sought to understand what type of

information the public would like to learn more about. The survey was developed for distribution at the community meetings in January. The online survey tool, Survey Monkey, was subsequently used to broaden survey responses. A link to the online survey was emailed to a select group of residents including: City of Santa Barbara e-subscribers, subscribers to the City's weekly newsletter, and members of the online community forum Nextdoor.com. Additionally, the survey was placed on the Forestry webpage. The survey results are included in Attachment 1. Key findings include:

- *Most important tree-related issues:* Aesthetics and appearance, pruning and maintenance, tree health, tree protection, and historic and specimen species.
- *Top City priorities:* Tree health and aesthetics, public safety, tree planting, tree maintenance, and tree protection.
- *Resident contribution to the urban forest:* Maintaining and planting trees on private property, reporting problems, and understanding City policies and practices.
- *Contact with the City about trees:* 51% reported having contacted the City and 48% had not.
- *Familiarity with tree preservation policies:* 44% reported being unfamiliar, 47% reported being somewhat familiar, and 9% reported being very familiar.

### Vision and Mission

To guide the development of the urban forest management plan, the Technical Advisory Committee and staff also developed the following vision and mission statement.

*Vision:* Santa Barbara's urban forest is healthy and diverse, and contributes to the community's economic, environmental, and aesthetic vitality. It is valued and cared for by the City and its citizens, and reflects our horticultural heritage.

*Mission:* Preserve, protect and enhance our trees, promote the benefits of trees, and foster a healthy and diverse urban forest.

### Urban Forest Key Issues

In order to begin developing a potential framework for the urban forest management plan, staff prepared the attached key issues document. Developed with input from City staff, the Technical Advisory Committee, public input at the community meetings, and

survey results, the key issues address management of public trees and private trees, City organizational and policy considerations, and community education and outreach needs. The key issues document is included as Attachment 2.

#### Draft Plan Objectives

Preliminary draft objectives, included as Attachment 3, are organized under four major categories: 1) Tree Resource Management, 2) City Organization, 3) Policy and Planning, and 4) Community Involvement. These objectives assist in the development of key actions; the steps the City and community will take over the next 30-50 years, to preserve and enhance Santa Barbara's urban forest.

#### Next Steps

Development of the UFMP is progressing well. Significant progress has been made with establishing baseline information, identifying key issues, and initial public outreach. After gathering comments from boards and commissions, developing plan goals, objectives, and key actions are important next steps of the project. Additional public outreach is tentatively scheduled for June, with follow-up meetings with boards and commissions during the summer. The City Council will also be briefed on the project status in July.

- EXHIBITS:**
- A. Community Tree Survey Results
  - B. Draft Key Issues
  - C. Draft Preliminary Objectives



## **Community Tree Survey Results**

**Draft March 6, 2013**

### **Introduction**

Between January 24 and February 21, 2013 a "Community Tree Survey" was conducted by the Parks and Recreation Department. The survey was conducted to learn more about the public's concerns surrounding trees, priorities they feel the City should have, and their familiarity the City's tree preservation ordinance. The survey also sought to understand what type of information the public would like to learn more about.

Information collected from the Community Tree Survey will be used to inform the development of the Urban Forest Management Plan. While it is recognized that the pool of respondents is not a random sample, the survey allowed for broader interaction with the public than would have otherwise been made available. Information gathered does reflect and highlight known tree issues as well as provide insight into the public's knowledge and concerns of Santa Barbara's urban forest.

### **Methodology**

Surveys were distributed and collected through a variety of methods. Initial surveys were administered to attendees of the January 24 and 26, 2013 Urban Forest Community Workshop. Two surveys were emailed to residents upon request and returned via mail. The online survey tool Survey Monkey was used to broaden survey responses. A link to the online survey was emailed to a select group of residents including: City of Santa Barbara e-subscribers, subscribers to the City's weekly newsletter, and members of the online community forum Nextdoor.com. Additionally, the survey was placed on the Forestry webpage.

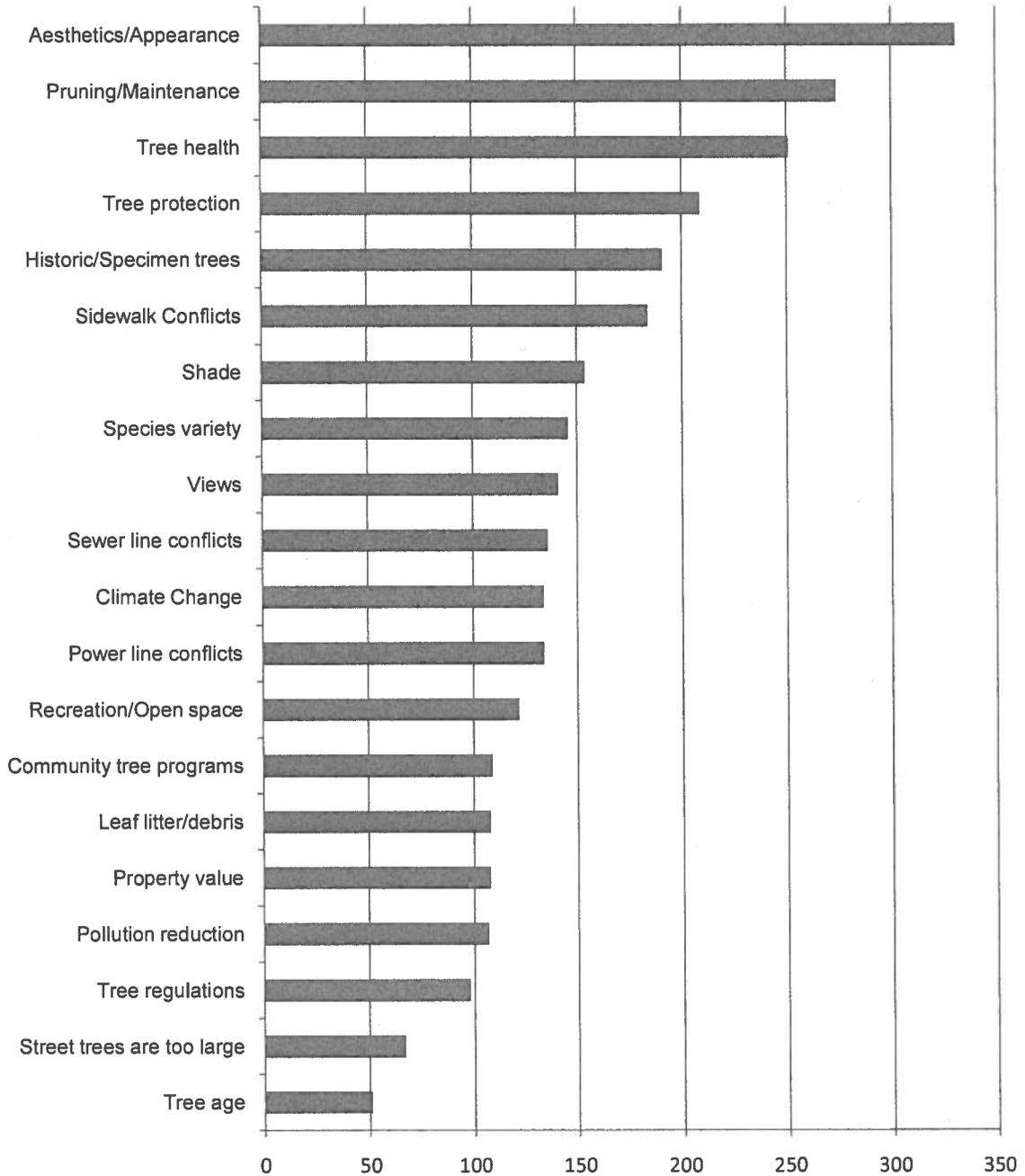
### **Survey Results**

A total of 517 surveys were collected: 20 from workshop attendees, 2 from mail-ins, and 495 from Survey Monkey link. The survey is provided on Page 6 of this document.

#### *Most important tree-related issues*

The top five issues most important to the public include: Aesthetics/Appearance, Pruning/Maintenance, Tree health, Tree protection, and Historic and specimen species. The graph below includes the full list. Sidewalk conflicts are the sixth most important tree issue and are a frequently commented on topic in Question 2.

**Question 1: Which tree-related issues are most important to you?**



### *Top City priorities*

Question #2 asked residents to identify priorities the City should have when managing City trees. Tree health and aesthetics, public safety, tree planting, tree maintenance, and tree protection were among the most widely discussed topics. Comments on public safety generally referred to sidewalk and infrastructure conflicts, but also included power and sewer line conflicts, seed and leaf litter debris, safety from falling palm fronds, and overhanging branches onto private property. The majority of comments on tree maintenance included the need for early and frequent tree pruning. A few respondents suggest an overly pruned forest. Tree planting comments primarily discussed right-tree-right-place and a more rapid replacement of removed trees. Other comments included: the use of natives, planting more trees, not planting more trees until the current inventory is better maintained, incentives for homeowners to plant trees and the use of or discontinued use of specific species (oaks, fruit trees, eucalyptus, palms). Although to a lesser extent than the comments above, other respondents made the following comments: protect birds, protect views, use water-wise trees, work with residents when planting and addressing street trees, public education, and appropriate funding.

### *Resident contribution*

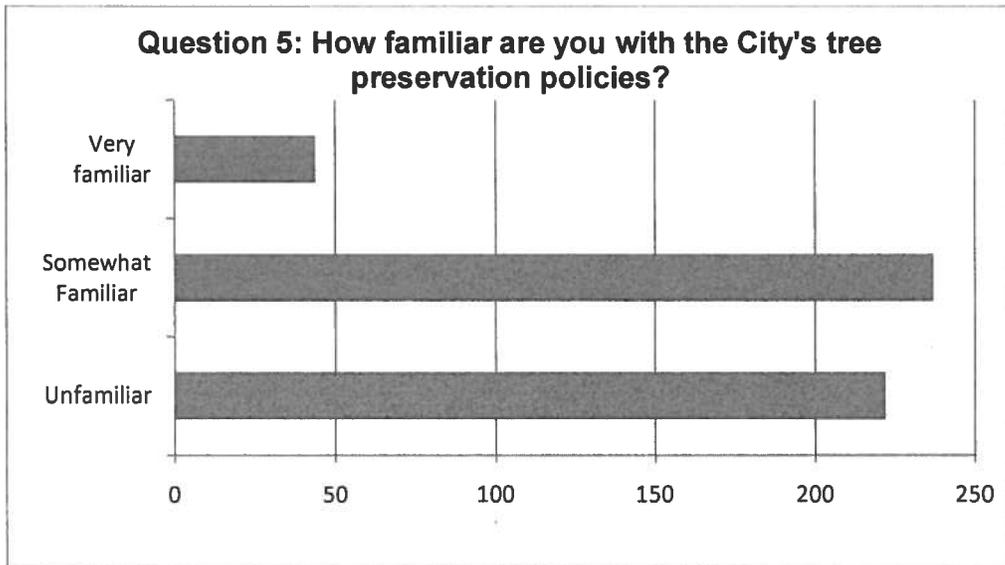
Question #3 asked residents to identify ways in which they felt they could contribute to the urban forest. Maintaining and planting trees on private property, reporting problems, and understanding City policies and practices were the three most frequently discussed items. Other comments included proper waste disposal, watering parkway trees, following fire guidelines, and acquiring the ability to trim parkway trees.

### *Contact with the City about trees*

Question #4 asked residents if they have ever contacted the City about a tree-related issue. 51% report had contacted the City and 48% had not. Reasons for contacting the City included: reporting tree problems and hazards, requesting a removal of a street tree or setback tree, requesting a street tree planting, inquire about tree regulations in general and discuss a view conflict. Other lesser commented reasons included notification of nesting birds and appreciation for City work.

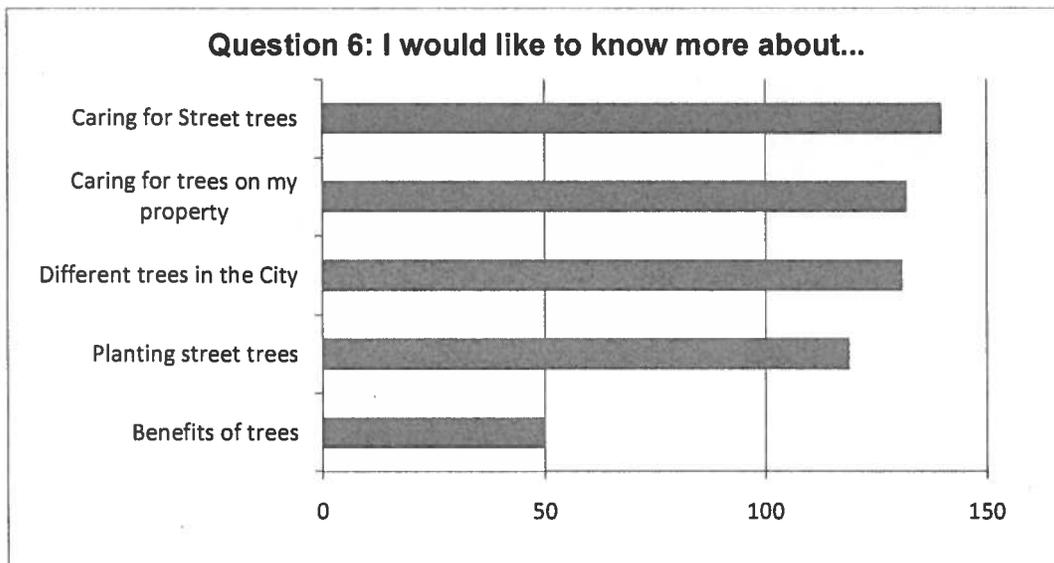
### *Familiarity with tree preservation policies*

When asked how familiar the public is on the City's tree preservation policies, 44% reported being unfamiliar, 47% reported being somewhat familiar, and 9% reported being very familiar.



*Residents want more information on...*

The following graph reflects what residents would like to know more about. 24% of respondents reported an interest in caring for street trees, 23% in caring for their trees, 22% in different trees within the City, 21% in planting street trees, 8% in the benefits of trees and 1% chose "other".



*Additional Comments*

Survey respondents were provided with space to add additional comments and 205 respondents did so. Most all comments were positive with approximately 50

respondents giving thanks and appreciation for the survey or general appreciation for the Forestry program. Other comments include: requesting tree information (such as that on the City's interactive MAPS and designated street trees), attention be paid to view and solar access, more funding for forestry work, more protection for historic and specimen trees, reduced fire hazards and adherence to fire safety guidelines, Edison poor pruning practices, and more/less enforcement and regulations.

**Tree Survey**

January 24, 2013

**1. Which of the following tree-related issues are most important to you?**

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics/Appearance      | <input type="checkbox"/> Species Variety            | <input type="checkbox"/> Pruning/Maintenance     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sidewalk Conflicts         | <input type="checkbox"/> Sewer line conflicts       | <input type="checkbox"/> Power line conflicts    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Street Trees are too small | <input type="checkbox"/> Street trees are too large | <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf litter/debris      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tree regulations           | <input type="checkbox"/> Shade                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Pollution Reduction     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stormwater Retention       | <input type="checkbox"/> Tree health                | <input type="checkbox"/> Tree age                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tree protection            | <input type="checkbox"/> Views                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Tree Programs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation/Open Space      | <input type="checkbox"/> Property Value             | <input type="checkbox"/> Historic/Specimen Trees |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Climate Change             |   |  |

**2. What priorities should the City have in managing City trees?**

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**3. What do you think residents can do to contribute to the health of the urban forest?**

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**4. Have you ever contacted the City about trees?  Yes  No**

**For what reason did you contact the City?** \_\_\_\_\_

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**5. How familiar are you with the City's tree preservation policies?**

- Unfamiliar                       Somewhat familiar                       Very Familiar

**6. I would like to learn more about:**

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caring for trees on my property | <input type="checkbox"/> Caring for Street Trees     | <input type="checkbox"/> Planting Street Trees |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benefits of Trees               | <input type="checkbox"/> Different trees in the City |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____                     |  |  |

**Additional Comments:**

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**Santa Barbara Urban Forest Project  
Key Issues – March 21, 2013**

In order to develop goals and actions for the Urban Forest Management Plan, a number of key issues and considerations are presented for discussion. These issues have been identified by or discussed in a range of venues by the Department and other City staff, appointed Board and Commission members, and members of the public attending Community Meetings and Tree Survey respondents. Also included are comments from Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) members. Key issues have been categorized into five subject areas: Tree Resource Management, Policy and Planning, Program Funding, City Organization and Community Involvement.

Description of Key Issue	Also Identified by Public	Comments
<b>Tree Resource Management - Street Tree Management and Maintenance</b>		
Low diversity/Overuse of similar species in existing population	✓	TAC identified key issue
Need to develop a proactive approach to systematic removal and replacement of poor performing trees, or trees at the end of their life	✓	Community attendees and survey respondents identified quick replacement of dead and dying trees as a key issue
Need to develop a plan to systematically address/minimize infrastructure conflict	✓	Public safety as it relates to infrastructure conflicts was one of the top five issues identified in both the Community Meeting and Tree Survey. Sidewalk conflicts fall at #6 as most important tree issue in Tree Survey.
Tree planting and landscaping challenges when buildings are constructed at property line and/or building heights limit tree sizes and/or ability to plant trees		Redevelopment/Urban infill changes street scapes and tree options.
8,000 vacant planting sites	✓	Community attendees and survey respondents identified quick replacement of dead and dying trees as a key issue
Maintenance focus on grid pruning and citizen response	✓	Proactive Pruning/Maintenance second most important issue most important to public in Tree Survey and most commented on City priority.
Climate change impacts have unknown consequences on tree population	✓	Identified by TAC and City departments.

Description of Key Issue	Also Identified by Public	Public, TAC and City staff comments
<b>Street Tree Management and Maintenance continued</b>		
Conflict between trees/solar access/views likely to increase	✓	TAC, City departments, survey respondents identified this as a key issue.
Need for proactive vs. reactive pest management		
Value of trees not frequently considered		
Trees not treated as a capital resource		
<b>Park Tree Management and Maintenance</b>		
Park tree maintenance focused on safety		
Significant number of park trees occur only once with no plan to offset loss of unique species	✓	Identified by TAC and public as a key issue. Tree health and protection identified as #3 and #4 most important tree issues in Tree Survey.
Climate change impacts have unknown consequences on tree population health, longevity and maintenance requirements		
Value of trees not frequently considered (such as water sequestration to reduce runoff)		
Opportunity to restore/enhance riparian canopy, eliminate invasive species and increase native habitat in open space parks and parks with creeks	✓	Tree protection identified as 4th most important to public in Tree Survey. Bird habitat frequently commented on as important resource.
Trees not treated as a capital resource		
<b>Private Tree Management and Maintenance</b>		
Poor or no maintenance and inappropriate planting and pruning practices	✓	Identified by City Fire Department as key issue. Tree Survey respondents listed planting and maintenance as number 1 way residents can contribute to the health of the urban forest.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fire access and vertical height clearance</li> <li>• Private trees that damage public infrastructure- City liable</li> </ul>		
Loss of tree resources through removals		
Conflict between trees and access to solar and views likely to increase	✓	Identified by TAC, City staff of various departments, Community Meeting attendees and Tree Survey respondents
Tree planting and landscaping challenges when buildings are constructed at property line and/or building heights limit tree sizes and/or ability to plant trees	✓	

Description of Key Issue	Also Identified by Public	Comments
<b>Private Tree Management and Maintenance continued</b>		
Lack of knowledge of landowner responsibility for maintenance of private infrastructure and regulated trees	✓	City liability when private trees and infrastructure damage City property identified as key issue by various City departments.
Enforcement of City tree preservation rules complaint driven		
Opportunities for restoration and enhancement of oak woodland and riparian woodland habitat	✓	Tree protection identified as #4 most important issue to public in Tree Survey.
Climate change impacts have unknown consequences on tree population health, longevity and maintenance requirements		
<b>Policy and Planning</b>		
Street Tree Master Plan outdated, provides limited guidance	✓	Identified by TAC and City staff
No overall Park Tree Master Plan	✓	Fire prevention a key issue identified as a key issue in Community meeting and Tree Survey, although discussed to a lesser extent.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of coordination with fire guidelines in open space parks</li> <li>• Fire prevention and species selection in parks and open spaces (Honda, Hale, canyons, Parma park, examples)</li> <li>• Defensible space considerations</li> </ul>	✓	Identified by TAC members as key issue
Landscape design guidelines require the planting and maintenance of some trees on private property, yet enforcement of those plans is limited		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Single Family Residential landscape plan trees are not protected unless the design review approval includes a protection condition</li> </ul>		
<b>Tree Plantings on rooftops and design review</b>		
Santa Barbara General Plan, Climate Action Plan, Local Coastal Plan outline support for urban forest management but implementation not fully identified	✓	Implementation identified by City staff of various departments as key issue
City has a strong foundation for tree protection and enhancement		
Well-established advisory boards provide a solid framework to address urban forest issues.		

Description of Key Issue	Also Identified by Public	Comments
<b>Policy and Planning continued</b>		
Tree preservation ordinances do not completely address native trees, native habitat areas, or wildlife corridors	✓	Tree protection identified as #4 issue most important to public in survey. Bird habitat commented on.
Pedestrian Master Plan does not adequately address need for space to plant trees		
Design Review Boards require landscaping within parkways without regard to maintenance needs		
Risk Reduction Plans based on reducing wind/falling limb hazards-identify potential high hazard trees or areas		
High Fire Hazard Area Defensible Space requirements limit tree planting opportunities and require certain tree maintenance	✓	Identified by Fire Dept. as key issue
Purpose and function of Historic and Specimen designations not well defined	✓	Identified by TAC and City staff of various departments as a key issue
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of definition and designation process with consideration of replacement species and location</li> </ul>		
<b>Program Funding</b>		
Limited funding resources to plant, establish and maintain new street trees	✓	Community attendees and survey respondents identified quick replacement of dead and dying trees as a key issue
Limited funding resources to maintain existing street trees	✓	Proactive Pruning/Maintenance second most important issue most commented on in Tree Survey and most commented on City priority.
Lack of funding and mechanisms for community education/outreach and tree planting programs	✓	Involvement in tree planting and maintenance was one of three main items identified in the Tree Survey as ways in which residents can contribute to the health of the urban forest. The number one item they would like to learn more about- Caring for Street Trees.
Limited funds (recent reductions of 20%) for park tree maintenance		
Limited of funding for new park tree planting and establishment	✓	TAC and staff identified key issue especially as it relates to lost park species diversity

Description of Key Issue	Also Identified by Public	Comments
<b>City Organization</b>		
Budget implications across many departments with proactive identification and resolution of infrastructure conflicts	✓	Maintenance number one item discussed at Community Meeting and on Tree Survey
No comprehensive enforcement program that is proactive, education based		
Limited staff training		
Competing priorities among different departments can create conflict and adversely affect trees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Wildland Fire Plan and high voltage wire street clearance requirements can lead to radical pruning with aesthetic and tree value impacts</li> </ul>	✓	SCE trimming practices commented on as aesthetically displeasing in Community Meeting and on Tree Survey
Inconsistent interdepartmental communication and coordination can result in missed opportunities to plant/maintain and protect trees		
Lack of staff knowledge on tree preservation and maintenance requirements results in missed opportunities, delayed project decision-making, loss of trees, lost opportunities for planting new trees and other issues.		
<b>Community Involvement</b>		
Limited community involvement in street tree selection, planting and maintenance	✓	Involvement in tree planting and maintenance was one of three main items identified in the Tree Survey as ways in which residents can contribute to the health of the urban forest. Out of 5 options, Survey respondents would like to learn most about Caring for Street Trees, followed by Caring for trees on their property, Different trees in the City, Planting Street Trees and last Benefits of trees.
Limited public knowledge of tree preservation policies	✓	Tree Survey respondents familiarity with Tree Preservation Policies: 44% Unfamiliar 47% Somewhat familiar 9% Very familiar

Description of Key Issue	Also Identified by Public	Comments
<p><b>Community Involvement continued</b> Public perception of street trees is diverse</p>	✓	Tree Survey and Community Meeting responses range in opinion of aesthetics, proper maintenance, species type and more.
Lack of knowledge of City preservation rules and landowner responsibility for maintenance of private infrastructure and regulated trees	✓	See above comments. Survey respondents chose "Caring for trees on their property" as the 2 <sup>nd</sup> most requested item to learn more about.
Limited resident participation in street tree maintenance	✓	Care for street trees was rated as the number 1 topic residents would like to know more about.
Community involvement primarily focused on street tree maintenance through tree permitting.		
Incentive programs do not exist to promote tree planting on private property	✓	Identified as key issue by TAC, Community Meeting attendees and Tree Survey respondents
Residential homeowners often have an expectation that the City will provide prompt response based pruning	✓	Proactive Pruning/Maintenance 2nd most important issue to public in Tree Survey and most commented on City priority.

**Santa Barbara Urban Forest Project**  
*Preserving and Protecting Our Community Trees*

**Vision**

Santa Barbara's urban forest is healthy and diverse, and contributes to the community's economic, environmental, and aesthetic vitality. It is valued and cared for by the City and its citizens, and reflects our horticultural heritage.

**Mission**

Preserve, protect and enhance our trees, promote the benefits of trees, and foster a healthy and diverse urban forest.

**Draft Objectives and Key Actions**

Tree Resource Objectives

- Maintain trees to promote safety, health and longevity
- Provide community wide sustainable tree canopy
- Maximize canopy cover
- Optimize age and enhance species diversity
- Maximize the economic, environmental, and aesthetic benefits of the urban forest
- Enhance and preserve native trees in riparian areas and protected open spaces

Key Actions

- Maintain the City tree inventory and assess citywide tree canopy
- Update Street Tree Master Plan to establish diversity criteria, revise street tree designations, etc.
- Expand street tree planting and replacement program to 500 trees per year
  - Prioritize neighborhoods with the fewest trees
- Increase street tree trimming/maintenance cycle
- Develop long-term street tree plans for major commercial corridors and public areas including: Upper State, De La Vina Street, Carrillo Street, Milpas, etc
  - Integrate street tree plans with land development and public infrastructure improvements
- Develop tree resource management guidelines that balance tree preservation with solar access and solar energy system design
- Develop Park Tree Master Plan

- Organize by park type, location open space, developed parks, community parks
  - Develop planting plan to increase canopy, restore riparian areas, address aging tree resources
- Work with Southern California Edison to develop tree replacement plans for City streets and public areas where mature trees conflict with high voltage lines
- Develop a tree preservation outreach and education program to
  - Expand community participation in tree preservation efforts
  - Enhance public knowledge and compliance with tree preservation policies
  - Provide incentives for the planting and proper maintenance of trees on private property

#### City Organization Objectives

- Increase funding to better manage tree resources and community outreach
- Improve interdepartmental communication and coordination related to tree preservation/enhancement
- Improve interagency coordination and partnerships
- Increase staff and Board and Commissioner knowledge of tree preservation policies and urban forest management objectives

#### Key Actions

- Develop a comprehensive budget as part of the City's annual budget process
- Identify and obtain external sources of funding to support the goals and strategies of the Management Plan.
- Establish formal urban forest team comprised of staff from Parks and Recreation, Public Works, and Community Development
- Implement annual staff and board/commission tree training program

#### Policy and Planning Objectives

- Integrate urban forest management plan with General Plan, Climate Action Plan, Local Coastal Plan, Pedestrian Master Plan, Wildland Fire Plan
- Ensure tree preservation ordinances support urban forest management goals

#### Key Actions

- Update the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Element of the General Plan
- Update tree preservation ordinances to be consistent with urban forest management plan objectives

### Community Involvement Objectives

- Enhance public awareness of the urban forest as a community resource
- Expand outreach and education programs to enhance public participation in urban forest preservation and enhancement.
- Expand public/private partnerships
- Broaden public participation in the management of City street trees
- Provide community wide sustainable tree canopy

### Key Actions

- Expand Develop Adopt-a-block or Adopt-a-Tree program to encourage healthy long-lived street trees
- Develop partnerships with organizations, businesses and the public school system to encourage tree health and plantings on private property
- Develop a technical assistance program to support the planting and care of private trees
- Develop a comprehensive tree education program to provide city residents with information about tree preservation policies