



City of Santa Barbara
Parks and Recreation Department

Memorandum

DATE: October 12, 2007

TO: Street Tree Advisory Committee and Park and Recreation Commission

FROM: Tim Downey, Urban Forest Superintendent

SUBJECT: Casas Las Granadas Street Trees

The purpose of this staff report is to provide some background and reasoning for the special meeting.

Construction of the Casas Las Granadas housing project adjacent to the Granada Garage is nearing completion. In January 2006, the Park and Recreation Commission approved four street tree removals to facilitate construction, on the condition that they be replaced at the end of the project with four *Pyrus calleryana* 'Aristocrat'

The Redevelopment Agency (RDA) is currently developing a landscape plan for the plaza (see attached) in front of the housing units. The proposed plan calls for three oak trees. Since the replacement street trees could detract from the proposed plan, the RDA is proposing that the street trees not be replaced in this location. The Street Tree Advisory Committee conceptually reviewed this proposal at its meeting on October 4, 2007. The Street Tree Advisory Committee discussed a variety of options including:

- Requiring replanting the street trees
- Allowing the trees in the plaza to take the place of the street trees
- Planting the required street trees at another location

A special meeting is needed to review and act on this request because the Public Works Department intends to complete sidewalk improvements in this location. The sidewalk work needs to be completed by the end of November in order to issue the certificate of occupancy for the housing units.

An action on the street trees is required at this time so that sidewalk design can be determined and work can proceed.

Attachments

