



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT

AGENDA DATE: December 12, 2007

TO: Park and Recreation Commission

FROM: Parks Division, Parks and Recreation Department

SUBJECT: Street Tree Advisory Committee Recommendations

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission:

A. Approve the following Setback Tree removal request.

1. 1431 Shoreline Dr. – Lauren Emma – Myoporum

Justification: The Committee and staff recommend that the Commission approve the removal. The Committee and staff felt the tree is of little benefit in its present location. The Committee and staff felt removal of this tree would improve light for the adjacent tree and reduce the risk of damage to neighboring properties.

B. Deny the following Street Tree removal request.

1. 656 E. Valerio St. – George Bourgeois – Pittosporum

Justification: The Committee and staff recommend that the Commission deny the removal of the street tree. The Committee and staff felt the tree had value to the neighborhood. The tree does lean; however, there is no sign that the tree is likely to fall.

C. Deny the following Setback Tree removal requests.

1. 1727 Santa Barbara St. – Richard Suding – Canary Island Palm

Justification: The Committee and staff unanimously recommend that the Commission deny the removal of the Canary Island Palm. The Committee and staff felt the tree would not be inconsistent with the neighboring properties because two adjoining properties have three of this specie located in the front yard setback. The applicant expressed a desire to donate the tree, but during their search for companies who would take the tree, no one was interested. Staff felt the tree could be used within our Parks as there are several locations available to accept a donated tree of this specie. The cost of planting a tree of this size is not in the current budget. Staff would support relocating the tree if

this was done at the applicant's expense. In a subsequent conversation with the applicant he advised that he does not have the budget to transplant the tree either.

2. 920 Ontare Rd. – Virginia Revendy – Olive

Justification: The Committee and staff unanimously recommend that the Commission deny the removal. The Committee and staff feel that fruit drop is not a valid reason to remove the tree. The Committee suggested that the applicant's mailbox could be moved to a location that would permit the applicant to access the mail without transiting through fallen fruit on the way to the mailbox.

3. 231 Los Aguajes – Ross Koda – Mexican Fan Palm

Justification: The Committee and staff recommend that the Commission deny removal. The Committee and staff felt the hazard can be mitigated with proper pruning and that trees of this specie can be trimmed at almost any height. Trees of this specie in the immediate area have been pruned and are 3 times the height of this tree.

4. 203 Chapala St. – Richard W. Sanders – Monkey Puzzle

Justification: The Committee and staff recommend that the Commission deny the removal. The Committee and staff determined the tree is part of the original landscape of a hotel that was located in this area. During investigation of the tree area, there were many male cones and no evidence of female cones. Male cones are small and do not pose a hazard. The Committee and staff felt the tree adds character and benefits the entire community.

D. Recommend postponement of a decision and ask for more information from the applicant.

1. 907 Isleta Ave. – Mary Turley – Norfolk Island Pine

Justification: The Committee and staff recommend the Commission postpone a decision until landscape plans are provided. The Committee and staff do not think the tree is a fire hazard and with some direction in proper pruning, the tree can be maintained above the roof height. However, there may be some merit to removing the tree dependent on what landscaping plans the applicant has.

E. Approve the following Street Tree Designation.

1. 1000 block of East Haley St.

The Committee recommended that the Street Tree designation for this location be changed from *Geijera parifolia* to *Lophostemon conferta*. Staff supports this recommendation. The tree designation for the 900 block is *Lophostemon conferta* and this would continue the visual line. *Geijera* is not performing in these heavy soils.

- ATTACHMENTS:**
1. 1431 Shoreline Dr.
 2. 656 E. Valerio St.
 3. 1727 Santa Barbara St.
 4. 920 Ontare Rd.
 5. 231 Los Aguajes Ave.
 6. 203 Chapala St.
 7. 907 Isleta Ave.
 8. 1000 block of E. Haley St.

PREPARED BY: Tim Downey, Urban Forest Superintendent

SUBMITTED BY: Jill Zachary, Assistant Parks & Recreation Director

APPROVED BY: Nancy L. Rapp, Parks & Recreation Director