

*Date:* 7/28/08

*Requested by:* Earthform Design, Josh Monroy

*Address:* 1227 De La Vina St., Santa Barbara, CA 93101

*Location of Tree:* West Downtown Pedestrian Project

**Tree Species:** *Various* **Common Name:** *Various*

*Requested Reason for Removal:* Tree plantings per City of Santa Barbara.

*Species recommended by the Approved Plan:* *Various*

*Advisory Committee Recommendation:* *Approve Removal:*  *Deny Removal:*

*Staff Recommendation:* *Approve Removal:*  *Deny Removal:*

*Date Posted:* 10/9/08

*Recommendation:* That the Commission hear a report from staff regarding the project, review the Street Tree Advisory Committee and staff recommendations, and determine appropriate tree removals and replacements.

*Discussion:* The City of Santa Barbara Redevelopment Agency was tasked with providing better pedestrian access from the pedestrian bridges that cross over the 101 Freeway at Anapamu Street and Ortega Street into the downtown area. The project involves repairs to sidewalks, enhanced pedestrian lighting, improved safe crossing at intersections, Jacaranda trees at the intersections for accent, and additional trees along the two streets.

Earthform Design was selected to develop the landscape plans. Forestry staff walked the project with employees of Earthform to discuss the proposal and to assure the Parks Division needs would be addressed. After completing the walkthrough it was determined that 17 trees and 10 shrubs would be recommended for removal, and 87 trees recommended for planting. Most of these were the designated species.

Most of the removals are proposed because they are either dead, dying, or the needed sidewalk repairs would require substantial root pruning causing them to be subject to dying or becoming unstable. Five of the proposed removals are on Ortega Street under the high voltage lines. They have been repeatedly topped and are dwarfed by the un-topped Tipuanas across the street. Staff determined it might be best to remove these trees and replace them with a smaller species that could be better maintained under the lines.

*Street Tree Advisory Committee Recommendations:* The item was presented to the Street Tree Advisory Committee on October 2, 2008. After reviewing the plans, and a field visit, the Committee made the following recommendations:

- Recommend all removals be approved except three of the five *Tipuana tipu* trees in the 200 block of W. Ortega Street.
- Recommend the replacement tree for any approved Tipuanas be *Pistacia chinensis*, Chinese Pistache (species change).
- Recommend trees in the 200 block of W. Anapamu Street be planted with *Magnolia grandiflora* 'St. Mary,' St. Mary Magnolia (species change) as opposed to the designated *Pyrus kawakamii*, Evergreen Pear.
- Recommend the replacement trees in the 400 block of Anapamu Street be alternated between *Cinnimomum camphora* (designated in the 300 block), Camphor Tree and *Calodendrum capense*, Cape Chestnut (designated in the 400 block).

*Staff Recommendation:* Staff recommends all the removals be approved and concurs with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendations for replacement trees.

**PHOTO INVENTORY**





**Shrubs on Anapamu St.**



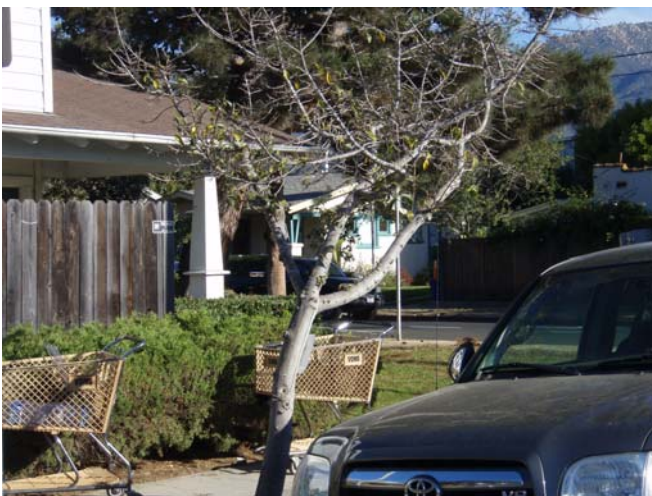
**Shrubs on Ortega St.**



**Avocado**



**Cape Chestnut**



**Cape Chestnut**



**Ash sp. and Canary Palm**



**Bay Tree**



**California Fan Palms**



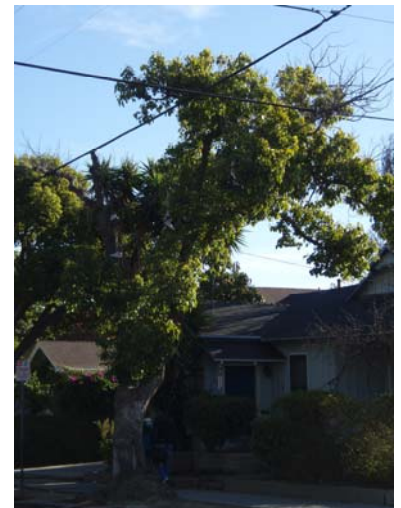
**California Pepper**



**American Elms**



**Camphor Tree**



**Camphor Tree**