



## CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

### PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** February 27, 2008

**TO:** Park and Recreation Commission

**FROM:** Parks Division, Parks and Recreation Department

**SUBJECT:** De la Vina/State Street Landscaping Project

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Commission:

- A. Approve the removal of one Deodar cedar per the attached Street Tree Advisory Committee and staff recommendations; and
- B. Review and approve the proposed landscape plan at the intersection of State Street and De la Vina Street.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

Parks and Recreation and Public Works staff have been working over the past six months on the street realignment project at State and De la Vina Streets. This project includes the removal of an existing Deodar cedar currently located in the median. The placement of six *Acacia stenophylla*, shoestring acacia trees (approved as street trees at the November 2007 Commission meeting) on De la Vina, and three *Chitalpa tashkentensis*, chitalpa trees in the street-side island. Additionally, 4,800 square feet of new sustainable landscaping with drought tolerant plant material will be added to the street-side island.

#### Street Tree Advisory Committee Recommendations

The Committee and staff recommend that the Commission approve removal of the Deodar cedar. The Committee and staff felt that the removal is justified on the condition that Public Works attempts to find a vendor to take the cedar tree for planting on non-City owned property. If a vendor cannot be found, the Committee and staff support removal of the tree.

The Committee and staff also agree to the proposed locations for the nine new trees. Public Works has determined that one of the nine trees as shown on the conceptual plan is a visibility hazard on De la Vina Street, and is therefore recommending only eight trees. Although Public Works staff is recommending eight trees, the Committee and staff feel the ninth tree should remain and be placed on the Samarkand side of the

Quality Inn Motel property in an existing parkway. The exact placement of these trees will be adjusted at the time of construction to address concerns of the owners of the Quality Inn Motel.

The Parks Division has reviewed and discussed the landscape plan with Public Works staff. The Parks Division's plant palette recommendations are included in the plan.

**BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

The estimated maintenance impact to this site is 172 hours per year. The cost of maintenance is estimated to be \$5,500 per year. Annual landscape materials and supplies are estimated at \$2,250. The estimated total cost for maintenance and supplies is \$7,750 per year. Public Works and Parks and Recreation staff are having discussions regarding funding maintenance of this island and all street islands/medians citywide.

**ATTACHMENTS:** 1. Street Tree Advisory Committee/Staff Recommendations  
2. Public Works Transportation and Operations Staff Report

**PREPARED BY:** Santos M. Escobar, Parks Manager

**SUBMITTED BY:** Jill Zachary, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director

**APPROVED BY:** Nancy L. Rapp, Parks and Recreation Director