



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT

AGENDA DATE: February 23, 2011
TO: Parks and Recreation Commission
FROM: Parks Division, Parks and Recreation Department
SUBJECT: Street Tree Advisory Committee Recommendations

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission:

A. Conditionally approve the following Street Tree removal request.

1. 3179 Lucinda Ln. – *Liquidambar styraciflua*, American Sweetgum – Ben and Kathryn Marrs

The Committee recommends that the Commission conditionally approve the removal. The Committee and staff recommend approval of the removal request on the condition the approved 15-gallon street tree, Australian Willow, be planted south of the driveway. Since the tree is in good condition and the removal request is granted solely for the convenience of the applicant, the full cost of the removal and replacement will be borne by the applicant. The Committee determined the American Sweetgum is likely to cause further damage in this location.

B. Postpone the following Street Tree removal request.

1. 125 State St. – (2) *Metrosideros excelsus*, New Zealand Christmas Tree – Van Atta Associates on behalf of the Children’s Museum of Santa Barbara

The Committee recommends that the Commission postpone a decision until the Committee can review the proposed landscape plan for La Entrada across the street. The Committee determined the existing New Zealand Christmas Trees are in good condition.

This section of lower State Street is currently designed to provide a consistent planting between Cabrillo Boulevard and the US 101 Freeway overpass. The existing New Zealand Christmas Trees and Mexican Fan Palms are placed in a set pattern with like trees located directly across the street from each other. Mexican Fan Palms were not planted at 125 State Street because there would

have been three planted in succession, breaking the pattern of staggered placement of the palms amongst the New Zealand Christmas Trees. The current designation for this section of State Street is mixed species, and the pattern provided by the existing trees is consistent with this designation.

In an effort to determine if it is advisable to continue the pattern and theme of mirrored plantings, the Committee determined it would be appropriate to review any proposed changes to La Entrada prior to providing the Commission with its recommendations. It is anticipated that the landscape plan for La Entrada, including any proposed changes to street trees will be submitted for review in March 2011.

C. Approve the following Setback Tree removal requests.

1. 222 E. Constance Ave. – *Phoenix canariensis*, Canary Island Date Palm – Joy Kuntz/Action Tree

The Committee recommends that the Commission approve the removal. The Committee determined the tree was not planted by the owner and the location of the tree is not appropriate.

2. 1730 Garden St. – (5) *Pyrus kawakamii*, Evergreen Pear – Grant Castleberg

The Committee recommends that the Commission approve the removal. The Committee determined the trees are diseased and the proposed replacement, Marina Strawberry Tree, will provide more community benefit due to denser shade than the diseased evergreen pear trees provide.

D. Conditionally approve the following Setback Tree removal request.

1. 915 W. Mission St. – *Pinus thunbergiana*, Japanese Black Pine – Don Glasgow

The Committee recommends that the Commission approve the removal on the condition that a multi-trunked king palm tree is planted, as proposed by the applicant.

E. Approve the following changes to the Street Tree Master Plan

1. 1100, 1200, and 1400 blocks of Chapala St. – consider change to designated species

The Committee recommends that the Commission co-designate *Cedrela fissilis*, Brazilian Cedar Wood and *Koelreuteria bipinnata*, Chinese Flame Tree, as designated species for the 1100, 1200, and 1400 blocks of Chapala Street.

The 1300 block is not included in this recommendation because the Commission reviewed and approved the change in designation on August 26, 2009. This block was reviewed at that time due to a proposed development of the adjacent property, and the poor condition of the existing trees.

The Commission made the same designation for the 1300 block that the Committee is proposing for the 1100, 1200, and 1400 blocks. The Committee determined the existing trees within these remaining blocks have a disease called Sycamore Anthracnose. This disease distorts the branching habit of Sycamore trees but does not make them unsafe. The proposed trees are not susceptible to this disease. No trees are planned for removal at this time, however when trees require future removal, this designation will allow for their replacement and provide a consistent designation for four blocks.

- ATTACHMENTS:**
1. 3179 Lucinda Ln.
 2. 125 State St.
 3. 222 E. Constance Ave.
 4. 1730 Garden St.
 5. 915 W. Mission St.
 6. 1100, 1200, and 1400 blocks of Chapala St.

PREPARED BY: Tim Downey, Urban Forest Superintendent

SUBMITTED BY: Jill E. Zachary, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director

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