



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT

AGENDA DATE: March 25, 2015
TO: Parks and Recreation Commission
FROM: Parks Division, Parks and Recreation Department
SUBJECT: Street Tree Advisory Recommendations

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission:

A. Conditionally approve the following Street Tree removal requests:

1. 215 Pesetas Ln. – (7) *Pinus halepensis*, Aleppo Pine and (1) *Pyrus kawakamii*, Evergreen Pear – Brad Hess, Sansum Clinic Director of Planning and Development

The Sansum Clinic is moving forward with a project for their facility at 215 Pesetas Lane. The project will involve handicap accessibility improvements both onsite and in the public right of way. This, coupled with storm water management requirements, will result in the removal of a significant number of trees. The Committee determined the project would result in a significant loss of tree canopy in the area; therefore, it would be important to plant trees, despite the drought declaration.

The Committee (3/0) recommends that the Commission approve removal of the trees requested on the application on the condition that they are replaced with at least eight *Jacaranda mimosifolia*, Jacarandas, minimum 24” box and that irrigation is included. Staff concurs with this recommendation.

2. 616 Laguna St. – (5) *Brahea edulis*, Guadalupe Palms – Andrew Grubb, City of Santa Barbara Public Works

The Committee (3/0) recommends that the Commission approve the removals as proposed, on the condition four of the palm trees be boxed and preserved for use elsewhere, that trees be planted in the proposed planters after the drought declaration is lifted, and that irrigation is installed in the planters.

Staff concurs with the recommendation to approve the removals on the condition the four palms are boxed and preserved for use elsewhere. Due to the design of

the retention basins, irrigation placement is problematic. Staff does not recommend installation of irrigation for these planters. Any new trees can be watered utilizing temporary watering bags. Staff further recommends that trees be planted at the time of construction. A local nursery has several *Olmedelia bechleriana*, Guatemalan Holly Trees available. Only one of this species exists in our current inventory. Obtaining these trees while they are available is consistent with the City Council adopted Urban Forest Management Plan, Objective 4; Optimize age and species diversity. The proposed planters are small, and the success of the permeable pavers requires trees that do not drop debris that clogs the pore spaces. This species is small enough for the planters and has large leaves which would serve this purpose well.

3. 1364 Santa Rita Circle – *Metrosideros excelsus*, New Zealand Christmas Tree – Richard and Karen Fryklund

The Committee (3/0) recommends that the Commission approve the removal on the condition the applicant plant a street tree near the existing tree.

Although this tree is not thriving, removal without a replacement street tree would be a detriment to the neighborhood. Staff concurs with the recommendation; however, does not support the removal of the tree until such time as the drought declaration is lifted and a replacement street tree can be planted.

4. 312 Rancheria St. – (2) *Geijera parviflora*, Australian Willow, (1) *Washingtonia robusta*, Mexican Fan Palm (setback) and (1) *Phoenix canariensis*, Canary Island Date Palm (setback) – David Black and Associates

The Committee (3/0) recommends that the Commission approve the removals on the condition that two street trees are planted as replacements.

Staff concurs with this recommendation. This location is within a densely populated neighborhood with limited tree canopy. Despite the drought, new street trees will provide an overall benefit to the neighborhood.

- B. Conditionally approve or approve without conditions the following Setback Tree removal request:

1. 650 Aurora Ave. – *Cedrus deodara*, Deodar Cedar – Susan V. Bartz

The Committee (3/0) recommends that the Commission approve the removal on the condition the applicant replace with a minimum 15-gallon designated street

tree on the other side of the driveway. This action would require the removal of hardscapes currently installed in the parkway.

Staff recommends that the Commission approve the removal without conditions. The hardscape removal and street tree planting can occur after the drought declaration is lifted.

- ATTACHMENT:**
1. 215 Pesetas Ln.
 2. 616 Laguna St.
 3. 1364 Santa Rita Circle
 4. 312 Rancheria St.
 5. 650 Aurora Ave.

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