



**CITY OF SANTA BARBARA**  
**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT**

**AGENDA DATE:** November 20, 2019  
**TO:** Parks and Recreation Commission  
**FROM:** Parks Division, Parks and Recreation Department  
**SUBJECT:** Street Tree Advisory Committee Recommendations

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Commission:

A. Partially approve the following setback tree removal request:

1. 1201 Del Oro – (1) *Lophostemon confertus*, Brisbane Box, (1) *Magnolia grandiflora*, Southern Magnolia, and (1) *Archontophoenix cunninghamiana*, King Palm (relocated) – Erin Carroll, Landscape Architect

The Committee recommends (5/0) that the Commission approve removal of (1) *Magnolia grandiflora*, Southern Magnolia, the relocation of (1) *Archontophoenix cunninghamiana*, King Palm, and deny without prejudice removal of (1) *Lophostemon confertus*, Brisbane Box.

The Committee members noted that the proposed site changes from construction near the Southern Magnolia would be too significant for the retention of the tree. After reviewing the site plans and the Brisbane Box, the Committee felt the proposed construction near the tree did not warrant removal. The Committee commented that it would be beneficial for the applicant to return to the Committee with detailed information regarding the proposed construction near the tree, including engineering details, so a more accurate determination of the potential for root disruption within the tree's critical root zone could be evaluated.

The Committee determined that pursuant to SBMC 15.24.090 B, the Commission could make the finding that a reasonable and practical development of the property on which the Southern Magnolia is located requires its removal.

B. Conditionally approve the following setback tree removal requests:

1. 407 La Marina – (2) *Washingtonia robusta*, Mexican Fan Palm, (1) *Ulmus parvifolia*, Chinese Elm – Carin and Gareth Richard

The Committee recommends (5/0) that the Commission approve removal of (1) *Ulmus parvifolia*, Chinese Elm, on the condition (3) *Archontophoenix cunninghamiana*, King Palm, street trees be planted, and approve removal of (2)

*Washingtonia robusta*, Mexican Fan Palms, on the condition a replacement that can achieve a mature height of 20 – 40 feet be planted in the front setback.

The Committee noted that the Chinese Elm located within the parkway was already too large for the planting space and that the tree could not be reasonably retained during the driveway improvements. Additionally, the Committee determined that the two Mexican Fan Palms located within the applicant's front setback would also be significantly impacted by the proposed driveway improvements and that removal was justified.

The Committee determined that pursuant to SBMC 15.24.090 B, the Commission could make the finding that a reasonable and practical development of the property on which the trees are located requires their removal.

2. 3139 Sea Cliff – (19) various trees – Trish Allen, SEPPS, Inc.

The Committee recommends (5/0) that the Commission approve the removals as submitted on their application with the condition that the applicant replace with (3) Coast Live Oaks, in lieu of the proposed California Sycamores. Further, the Committee commented that if additional trees proposed for retention require removal because of the soil remediation project, that the removed trees be replaced at a 1:1 ratio with Coast Live Oaks.

The Committee noted that the soil remediation project was necessary and that all reasonable measures to retain trees on site had been made.

The Committee determined that pursuant to SBMC 15.24.090 B, the Commission could make the finding that a reasonable and practical development of the property on which the trees are located requires their removal.

C. Deny the following setback tree removal request:

1. 437 Northridge Rd. – *Pinus pinea*, Italian Stone Pine – Dale and Judith Seaborg

The Committee recommends (5/0) that the Commission deny removal.

The Committee noted that the tree is in good health and that removal of the tree would be a material loss to the neighborhood.

The Committee determined that none of the findings pursuant to SBMC 15.24.090 fit the circumstances of this request.

D. Approve the following changes to the Street Tree Master Plan:

1. 300-400 Paseo Del Descanso – consider an alternate designation – STAC

The Committee recommends (5/0) that the Commission approve *Chilopsis linearis*, Desert Willow, as an alternate designation for the 300-400 blocks of Paseo Del Descanso.

2. 500-800 San Pascual Street – consider an alternate designation – Staff

Staff recommends that the Commission approve *Lagerstroemia* ‘Natchez’, Natchez Hybrid Crape Myrtle as an alternate designation for the 500-800 block of San Pascual Street.

The City recently discovered a new pest affecting Southern Magnolia trees, known as Tuliptree scale. Since the pest is difficult to manage, staff believes eliminating the planting of Southern Magnolia is prudent at this time. An upcoming Public Works tree-planting contract calls for the use of Southern Magnolia in the 500-800 block of San Pascual. Due to timing issues with the contract, staff did not have time to have this item formally reviewed by the Street Tree Advisory Committee (STAC). Staff did mention the intent to request an alternate designation during the November 7, 2019 STAC meeting.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. 1201 Del Oro
2. 407 La Marina
3. 3139 Sea Cliff
4. 437 Northridge Rd.
5. 300-400 Paseo Del Descanso
6. 500-800 San Pascual Street

**PREPARED BY:** Nathan Slack, Urban Forest Superintendent

**APPROVED BY:** Jill E. Zachary, Parks and Recreation Director