

PARKS & GENERAL SERVICES

23 Russell Boulevard – Davis, California 95616
530/757-5656 - FAX: 530/297-5410 – TDD: 530/757-5666



**Tree Commission Minutes
Davis Police Department
2600 Fifth Street
Thursday October 21, 2010
6:00 p.m.**

Commissioners Present: Laura Westrup-Chair, Mike Ozonoff-Vice Chair, David Robinson, Marijane Osborn, Marc Rubald-Alternate

Commissioners Absent: Rainbow Vogt, Hila Rooks, George Rooks-excused

Assigned Staff: Rob Cain, Urban Forest Manager

Opening Statement

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Welcome to the monthly meeting of the City of Davis' Tree Commission.

Members of the Tree Commission are all volunteers and appointed by the Davis City Council.

The Tree Commission provides leadership and guidance to the Urban Forest Manager and to the City Council regarding tree removal and replacement requests.

The Tree Commission provides for the protection, preservation, and enhancement of Davis' urban forest. The Tree Commission is charged to recommend the removal of a City tree on a case by case basis for the following reasons:

- Poor health, identifiable diseases, exceedingly slow growth, large scale limb failure and decay;
- Potential for hazardous conditions that are caused by the street tree and cannot be mitigated without the removal of the tree.

The Tree Commission does not have the authority to recommend the removal of a City Tree for its debris, such as leaves, fruit, nuts, pollen, pine cones, needles, etc., nor does it have the authority to recommend the removal of a tree for its potential as an allergen. or for solar collector installation per Municipal Code Section 40.38.00. The Tree Commission does not have the authority to remove a tree if it is healthy.

All Tree Commission decisions can be appealed to the City Council for their consideration.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Robinson, seconded by Ozonoff

Approved: 5-0

Approval of Minutes: Meeting of September 16, 2010

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Ozonoff, seconded by Robinson.

Approved: 5-0

Commissioner and Staff Comments:

Staff updated the Commission on the first Neighborwoods planting by TREE Davis. 15 Trees were planted in the area near Holmes Junior High.

Staff updated the Commission on the Small Tree Specialist is leaving the City and the hiring process has begun to refill the position.

Public Comments:

Deborah Whitman from Environmental Voices gave a presentation on a proposed study of the trees in Davis. The study would monitor dead and declining trees from alleged atmospheric aerial spraying of heavy metal chemicals. The study would also propose to test a sample of the trees for the targeted metal compounds.

The Commission suggested teaming with UC Davis for help with the monitoring and study methodology. The Commission recommended developing the study parameters more clearly and returning to the commission when the study is better defined.

New Business:

A. Street Tree Removal Requests were discussed with the following actions taken:

Location

1. 2753 GANGES PLACE

Tree Species

Bradford Pear

Moved by: Ozonoff

Seconded by: Osborn

Motion: Remove the tree due to the continuing limb failures and poor tree structure left from past limb failures. Replant a replacement tree.

Motion Passed: 5-0

2. 5136 EL CEMONTE AVENUE Idaho Pink Locust

Moved by: Robinson
Seconded by: Osborn
Motion: Remove the tree due to the extensive mistletoe infestation. Replant a replacement tree.

Motion Passed: 5-0

3. 906 COLBY DRIVE Italian Alder

Moved by: Robinson
Seconded by: Osborn
Motion: Remove the tree due to the poor health and borers. Replant a replacement tree.

Motion Passed: 5-0

4. 2737 BRENTWOOD PLACE Bradford Pear

Moved by: Robinson
Seconded by: Osborn
Motion: Remove the tree due to the structural defects. Replant a replacement tree.

Motion Passed: 5-0

5. 3048 CONCORD PLACE Bradford Pear

Moved by: Osborn
Seconded by: Robinson
Motion: Remove the tree due to the decay in the limbs and structural defects. Replant a replacement tree.

Motion Passed: 5-0

6. 1119 HALIFAX AVENUE Chinese Tallow Tree

Moved by: Robinson
Seconded by: Osborn
Motion: Remove the tree due to the instability from the root pruning. Investigate a possible violation of the tree ordinance. Violation stems from the amount and the damage caused by the severity of the root pruning.

Motion Passed: 5-0

7. 5417 TUFTS STREET Eucalyptus

Moved by: Robinson
Seconded by: Osborn
Motion: Remove the tree due to the structural defects in the main trunk. No replacement trees are necessary as they have been planted due to the 2005 Tree Commission ruling.

Motion Passed: 5-0

8. 3316 MONTE VISTA AVENUE American Sweet Gum

Moved by: Robinson
Seconded by: Ozonoff
Motion: Retain the tree, as it is in good health. Root prune the tree along the driveway; and crown thin to reduce the end weights of the branches. Monitor the tree for future limb failures after pruning.

Motion Passed: 3-0; Westrup/Osborn abstained

B. Informational Only-

Trees removed prior to the Commission meeting due to hazardous or unsafe conditions:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Tree</u>	<u>Reason</u>
1220 Spruce Lane	Chinese Pistache	Split tree
Covell Boulevard at Wright	English Walnut	Dead tree

C. Tree Commission Goals for 2011

The Commission will discuss and bring goals to the November Commission meeting.

Agenda Topics for next Meeting:

- 1) Park Tree inventory update
- 2) 2011 Commission Goals

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm

Next meeting: November 18, 2010

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