

**PARKS & GENERAL SERVICES**

23 Russell Boulevard – Davis, California 95616  
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**Tree Commission Minutes  
Davis Police Department  
2600 Fifth Street  
Thursday August 20, 2009  
6:00 p.m.**

Commissioners Present: Dan Nagle-Vice-Chair, Marijane Osborn, David Robinson, George Rooks, Mike Ozonoff, Rainbow Vogt-Alternate

Commissioners Absent: Hila 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. 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: 7-0

### **Approval of Minutes: Meeting of June 18, 2009**

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

Approved: 7-0

### **Commissioner and Staff Comments**

Staff updated the commission on the park tree inventory project. Data collection is going to start up again as the grant funds have been unfrozen by the State.

### **Public Comments**

No public comments were made.

### **New Business:**

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

##### **Location**

**1. 926 PLUM LANE**

##### **Tree Species**

**Moraine Ash**

Moved by: Robinson

Seconded by: Nagle

Motion: Remove due to mistletoe infestation and declining health. Plant replacement tree.

Motion Passed: 6-1; Vogt abstained

**2. 1300 ESTABAN COURT**

**London Plane**

Moved by: Ozonoff  
Seconded by: Robinson  
Motion: Remove due to the crowded growing conditions. No replacement required as the area has an adequate number of trees in the area

Motion Passed: 4-3 Westrup, G. Rooks, and Vogt nay

**3. 2740 RUBICON AVENUE**

**Raywood Ash**

Moved by: Nagle  
Seconded by: Rooks, G  
Motion: Remove the tree due to declining health and mistletoe infestation. Plant replacement tree.

Motion Passed: 6-1; Vogt abstained

**4. 616 11TH STREET**

**Chinese Hackberry**

Moved by: Nagle  
Seconded by: Osborn  
Motion: Remove the tree due to continuing decline in tree health and adopt existing Valley Oak. If Valley Oak is not adopted due to its existing location, replant with another tree in the same area.

Motion Passed: 5-2; G. Rooks and Vogt nay

**5. 1307 F STREET**

**Bradford Pear**

Moved by: Robinson  
Seconded by: Rooks, G  
Motion: Remove due to the structural defects and decay in old limb failures. Replant area with two replacement trees. Replants are to be one large shade tree and one small.

Motion Passed: 6-1, Vogt abstained

**6. 1319 CAMPHOR LANE**

**Chinese Tallow Tree**

Moved by: Robinson  
Seconded by: Nagle  
Motion: Remove the tree due to the root pruning of the tree would compromise the stability of the tree. Replant the tree with one replacement.

Motion Passed: 5-2; G. Rooks and Vogt nay

**7. 1631 LA HABRA COURT**

**Shamel Ash**

Moved by: Rooks, G  
Seconded by: Vogt  
Motion: Retain and reevaluate the tree in six months, due to health concerns from borer infestations.

Motion Passed: 7-0

**8. 1406 DUKE DRIVE**

**Modesto Ash**

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

Motion Passed: 6-1; Vogt abstained

**9. 1424 Union Drive**

**Shademaster Honey Locust**

Moved by: Nagle  
Seconded by: Robinson  
Motion: Remove due to the structural decay in the main stem. Replace the tree.

Motion Passed: 7-0

**10. 1931 SYCAMORE LANE**

**South African Sumac**

Moved by: Rooks, G

Seconded by: Vogt

Motion: Retain the tree and plant two new trees on the site and reevaluate the tree in six months due to the root pruning performed on the tree at the water line installation. Bring tree back to the Commission at September meeting to reconsider removal.

Motion Passed: 5-1; Nagle abstained

**11. L STREET**

**River She Oak**

Moved by: Nagle

Seconded by: Robinson

Motion: Remove the tree due to continued limb failures and decay on scaffold branches. Replant the replacement tree in area further away from the sewer line.

Motion Passed: 6-1; Vogt nay

**12. 1008 SNYDER DRIVE**

**Modesto Ash**

Moved by: Rooks, G

Seconded by: Osborn

Motion: Remove due to the structural decay in the main scaffold branches. Plant a replacement tree.

Motion Passed: 6-1, Vogt abstained

**13. 619 LESSLEY PLACE**

**Modesto Ash**

Moved by: Rooks, G  
Seconded by: Robinson  
Motion: Remove the tree due to structural defects. Do not replant as a replacement tree is already in place.

Motion Passed: 6-1; Vogt abstained

**14. 2740 RUBICON AVENUE**

**Moraine Ash**

Moved by: Nagle  
Seconded by: Rooks, G  
Motion: Remove the tree due to declining health and mistletoe infestation. Plant a replacement tree.

Motion Passed: 6-1; Vogt 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>
5 <sup>th</sup> Street streetscape	Aristocrat Pear (5)	Dead tree
125 Jalisco Place	Moraine Ash	Hazard tree
5 <sup>th</sup> Street streetscape	Black Acacia	Dead tree
316 I Street	Little Leaf Linden	Hazard tree
331 K Street	Golden Rain Tree	Dead tree
337 D Street	Golden Rain Tree	Dead tree
651 C Street	London Plane	Dead tree
748 Elmwood Drive	Chinese Pistache	Tree failure
5068 Glide Drive	White Alder	Dead tree

**C. Landmark Tree Designation and Protection**

The commission deferred this topic to the October meeting when two absent commissioners will return and the Council liaison will be in attendance.

**D. Tree Commission Appeals process**

The Commission deferred this topic to the October meeting when the Council liaison is present to discuss the appeals process.

### **E. Oeste Manor Pagoda Removals**

Staff presented the removal plan for this phase of the Japanese Pagoda tree removal and replacement in the Oeste Manor subdivision. 14 trees were proposed for removal after the evaluations on the Pagoda trees for this two year period.

Discussion centered on the two trees that were rated as number 2 on the rating scale of 1-5, with one being the poorest rating. The residents at one of tree locations expressed interest in retaining the tree due to the amount of afternoon shade the tree provides. Other residents wanted to know more information regarding the overall replacement plan for the Pagoda trees and how to care for the healthier trees to extend their functional life in the urban forest. Staff informed them of the evaluation process and a meeting was scheduled with the Oeste Neighborhood Association on August 31 to further explain the plan.

The Commission moved to approve 12 of the 14 trees, retain the two trees at 640 Amherst and 841 Oeste Drive, and re-evaluate the two trees for a later Commission meeting.

Motion made by Ozonoff, seconded by Robinson.  
Motion passed: 6-1; Vogt nay

### **Agenda Topics for next Meeting**

- 1) Davis Manor Modesto ash removal and replacement
- 2) Condition rating for tree evaluations
- 3) Language regarding sewer lines in the opening statement

### **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm

**Next meeting:** September 17, 2009

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