



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT

AGENDA DATE: January 23, 2013
TO: Parks and Recreation Commission
FROM: Parks Division, Parks and Recreation Department
SUBJECT: Street Tree Advisory Committee Recommendations

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission:

A. Deny the following Street Tree removal request.

1. 2122 Chapala St. – Pinus halepensis, Aleppo Pine – Chrys Kokino

The Committee recommends that the Commission deny the removal. The Committee determined the reasons provided by the applicant are insufficient to justify the removal. The Committee determined there are no high voltage lines in proximity to this tree.

B. Conditionally approve the following Street Tree removal requests.

1. 2234 Chapala St. – Liquidambar styraciflua, American Sweetgum – Lois A. Pigg

The Committee recommends that the Commission approve the removal on the condition the applicant replaces the tree with the designated street tree, Ginko, Maiden Hair Tree. The Liquidambar tree is under high voltage lines, and the upright growth habit of this tree requires frequent pruning by Southern California Edison to maintain the lines. Additionally, the tree cannot develop a proper canopy due to this pruning. The Committee determined the removal and replacement would be beneficial to the state of the urban forest.

2. 80 Skyline Circle – Schinus terebinthifolius, Brazilian Pepper – Andrew Lee

The Committee recommends that the Commission approve the removal on the condition the applicant replaces the tree with a broadleaf evergreen or deciduous tree in the front yard setback that can achieve 25' minimum height. Skyline Circle is a very narrow street that does not have improved parkways. Due to the configuration of this street, the site is not conducive to street trees. The Committee determined the removal and replacement, within the setback, would

allow for flexibility in the proposed landscaping, and be beneficial to the urban forest overall.

C. Conditionally approve the following Setback Tree removal requests.

1. 223 W. Islay St. – Tipuana tipu, Tipu – Brigitte Guehr

The Committee recommends that the Commission approve the removal on the condition the applicant replaces the tree with a broadleaf evergreen or deciduous tree in the front yard setback that can achieve 25' minimum height. The Committee determined the tree was too large for its current space.

2. 229 La Jolla Dr. – Pinus radiata, Monterey Pine – Quality Tree Care for Lisa Carosella

The Commission reviewed this application at the December 19, 2012, meeting. At that meeting, the Commission voted to deny the removal request without prejudice and encouraged the owner to submit additional information. The owners' tree care company submitted additional information about the condition of the tree. The Committee did not find that the new information was sufficient to support removal. However, the Committee recommends approval due to the fact that any remedy such as cabling would place an undue burden on the applicant, and the remedy might not have the desired result of retaining the tree.

The Committee recommends that the Commission approve the removal on the condition the applicant replaces the tree with a broadleaf evergreen or deciduous tree in the front yard setback that can achieve 30' in height.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 2122 Chapala St.
2. 2234 Chapala St.
3. 80 Skyline Circle
4. 223 W. Islay St.
5. 229 La Jolla Dr.

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