



City of Santa Barbara California

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA PLANNING COMMISSION

RESOLUTION NO. 001-14

CITY WIDE

RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL ON

URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

JANUARY 16, 2014

URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Parks and Recreation Department (Department) began developing the proposed Urban Forest Management Plan (Plan) in July 2012. The purpose of the Plan is to provide a long-term guide for the preservation and enhancement of trees in Santa Barbara. The Plan was developed in collaboration with a technical advisory committee and staff in the Community Development, Public Works and Fire Departments, and through extensive public input. Public input was gathered through four community meetings, an online survey, individual meetings with stakeholders, and presentations to City Boards and Commissions, including the Single Family Design Board, Historic Landmarks Commission, Architectural Board of Review, Street Tree Advisory Committee, Parks and Recreation Commission and the Planning Commission (April 4, 2013). The Sustainability Council Committee and the City Council also reviewed the draft plan goals, objectives and actions.

In addition to extensive public input, development of the Plan included a review of current urban forest management policies and practices, completion of a city-wide tree canopy assessment, evaluation of other community forest plans, and identification of key urban forest issues. The proposed Plan documents these efforts and outlines a series of goals, objectives and action steps for the City and community to preserve and enhance Santa Barbara's urban forest over the next 30+ years.

There are four primary goals for the Plan, including: 1) Elevate the importance of the urban forest, 2) Continue Santa Barbara's horticultural legacy, 3) Promote a vibrant and healthy community, and 4) Foster awareness and appreciation of trees.

Fifteen Plan objectives are organized under three areas: Tree Resource Management, City Organization and Policy, and Community Involvement. Each objective has a series of actions. Tree Resource Management objectives and implementation actions are primarily focused on the planning, planting, and maintenance of trees as well as maximizing the economic, environmental and aesthetic benefits of the urban forest. City Organization and Policy objectives and implementation actions address enhancing the City's investment in the health and management of the urban forest through funding, inter-departmental coordination, and City policy and planning initiatives. Community Involvement objectives and implementation actions focus on enhancing and expanding community participation and investment in the urban forest through partnerships and education and volunteer programs.

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission has held the required public hearing on the above application, and the Applicant was present.

WHEREAS, no one appeared to speak in favor of the recommendation, and no one appeared to speak in opposition thereto, and the following exhibits were presented for the record:

1. Staff Report with Attachments, January 9, 2014

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Planning Commission:

- I. Recommended to City Council approval of the Urban Forestry Master Plan with the following recommendations:
1. Include neighborhood associations in public/private partnerships.
 2. Develop a resource for the public, similar to the tool guide for Storm Water Management.
 3. Make program a policy level process, rather than ancillary level process.
 4. Correct last item in the chart on page 22 to read "Average Unit-Size Density".
 5. Make sure the 60 foot height limit range in the overlay zone is the most current information.
 6. Clarify solar access versus tree shading.
 7. Include "tree pruning" in the glossary.
 8. Benefits of the Urban Forest should be at the beginning of the document.
 9. Encourage more of the 3,500-7,000 empty tree wells to be filled.
 10. Include Parma Park in the Plan.

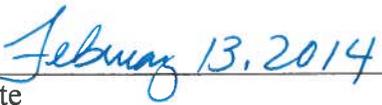
This motion was passed and adopted on the 16th day of January, 2014, by the Planning Commission of the City of Santa Barbara, by the following vote:

AYES: 7 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0

I hereby certify that this Resolution correctly reflects the action taken by the city of Santa Barbara Planning Commission at its meeting of the above date.



Julie Rodriguez, Planning Commission Secretary



Date