

**City of San Diego
Community Forest Advisory Board**

MEETING MINUTES
October 13, 2010
Civic Center Plaza Building

1) **Convene:** Vicki Estrada, Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:45 a.m.

2) **Present:**

Members – Patrick Caughey, Fausto Palafox, Gail Roberts, Robin Rivet, Jon Becker, Karen Davis, Victoria Heithaus, Stephen Lamprides, Craig Jones, Joe Jones, Tershia d’Elgin.

[Not Present] – Mary Johnson, Dan Simpson,

Guests – Guy Pruess (Skyline/Paradise Hills CPG), Eric Wolff (Urban Corps)

City Staff – Drew Potocki, Ken Healy, Tony Gangitano, Alissa Gabriel, Jeff Harkness, Lara Gates (Planning), Theresa Millette, (Planning), Andrea Demich (Storm Water)

3) **Approval of August 2010 Minutes:** Approved [J.Jones/d’Elgin. C.Jones abstained.]

4) **Chair’s Announcements:** CFAB retreat to be held before December. Email topics to Estrada.

5) **Working Group Reports:** none

6) **Discussion Item(s):**

- a. Board should get the word out about *Make a Difference Day*, Oct. 23rd at Roosevelt MS.
- b. Draft Barrio Logan Community Plan Urban Forest Policies and Recommendations – Lara Gates. Conversation covered tree diversity, inclusion of bio-swales to tackle storm water, tree protection, tree quality standards, and maintenance questions.
- c. Otay Mesa Community Plan update – Theresa Millette. Conversation covered district designations, treatment of riparian zones, storm water treatment methods, maintenance questions, and the plan update schedule.
- d. Agenda setting procedures discussed briefly and put off detailed conversation for future board retreat.
- e. Urban Corps report on new street tree planting concepts – Eric Wolff.
 - i) UC has a two-year plan to plant 4,000+ trees in San Diego.
 - ii) Looking for ways to concentrate large planting efforts in neighborhoods.
 - iii) Received a grant to plant 200 native trees on public land in San Diego County – suggestions for locations welcome.

7) **Action Item(s):** none

8) **Reports:** Items *not* already on agenda

- a. Staff Reports
 - Drew Potocki, Street Division Urban Forester – shared information about Water Department’s *Cash for Grass* program.
 - Ken Healy, Code Compliance Officer – report attached
 - Tony Gangitano, Development Services Dept. Senior Planner – Tree removal approval process loophole needs review. Possible topic for retreat?

Community Forest Advisory Board

October 13, 2010

Page 2

9) **Public Comment:** none

10) **Adjourned** at 1:20pm

(CFAB 2010-10-13 Minutes.docx)

**Draft Barrio Logan Community Plan Urban Forest Policies and
Recommendations**
Oct 7, 2010

4.12 Urban Forest

Tree-lined streets enhance a community and leave lasting impressions for anyone who lives, works, or visits the community. Street trees are a significant and highly visual portion of the urban fabric, and are a vital part of the infrastructure system essential to the quality of life in an urban environment. Street trees provide economic, environmental, social and aesthetic benefits. Street trees can give a distinctive character to the community, establish visual harmony and continuity along the street, help to increase property values, enhance civic pride, absorb carbon dioxide, improve health, promote overall well being, reduce storm water runoff and produce oxygen and filter airborne particulates to help reduce air pollution. Shade-producing street trees should be the primary organizing element of the streetscape; restrictions and conflicts with other elements should be minimized to ensure consistent plantings.

Policies:

- A. Incorporate street trees along all streets and roadways.
 - a. Trees should provide a unified theme for the street. Variation of street tree species within any given block is strongly discouraged.
 - b. Optimize tree canopy cover – the optimum canopy cover will vary in accordance with street size, existing infrastructure, community needs, environmental limitations, and aesthetic considerations.
 - c. Provide an appropriate mix of drought-tolerant tree types in order to provide a diverse ecosystem more able to adapt to changing environmental pressures.
 - d. Provide a mixed age tree population. Including a mix of juvenile, young, and mature trees is essential to ensure a constant level of benefits from street trees.
 - e. Include a variety of species of trees throughout Barrio Logan to ensure diversity and distribution.
 - f. Provide varied forms, textures, structure, flowering characteristics and other aesthetic benefits to enhance the types of street environments found in Barrio Logan.
- B. Encourage and support community design and plantings of additional street trees.
- C. Where sidewalks/setbacks exceed a total of 15 feet, a double row of street trees (of the same species) should be provided.
- D. Protect and provide for the necessary care of existing street trees.
- E. Ensure that public agencies and private enterprises impacting street trees operate with common goals and objectives by:
 - a. Coordinating with public agencies and private enterprises impacting street trees to ensure that common goals and objectives are achieved.

- b. Reducing conflicts with existing infrastructure through proper tree selection and through the recognition of street trees as a vital and equal component of the City's infrastructure.

Recommendations

- A. Street trees should be spaced no further than 30’ on center in planting strips, or parkways, between curbs and sidewalks to achieve a continuous canopy.
- B. Street trees within parkways should be planted at a minimum 36” box size. Other trees within setbacks and open spaces within the public right-of-way should be a minimum 24” box.
- C. Along residential streets, contiguous tree-lined parkways are preferred.
- D. Along retail or commercial streets, large trees in tree grates should be provided in lieu of contiguous parkways.

Small and Upright Trees

The following trees are recommended for 2 foot-wide or larger parkways, and 3’X3’ cutouts. These trees ideally should be used as accents or on streets such as Sigsbee Street, Beardsley Street, Evans Street, Sicard Street where there is minimal right-of-way. See City’s Street Tree Selection Guide for further details.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Height	Spread	Type	Form
Crape Myrtle	Lagerstroemia indica	-20	-20	Deciduous Flowering	Small Canopy
Lemon Bottlebrush	Callistemon citrinus	-25	20+	Evergreen Flowering	Upright Canopy
Silk Tree	Albizia julibrissin	30+	-25	Deciduous Flowering	Small Canopy

Medium Trees

The following trees are recommended for 4 to 7 foot parkways and larger or 5’X5’ cutouts. These trees ideally should be used on streets such as Logan Avenue, National Avenue, Newton Avenue, Main Street, Cesar E. Chavez Parkway, Sampson Street, Boston Avenue, 28th Street and 32nd Street. See City’s Street Tree Selection Guide for further details.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Height	Spread	Type	Form
Chinese Pistach	Pistacia chinensis	40+	40+	Deciduous	Large Canopy
Firewheel Tree	Stenocarpus sinuatus	30+	15	Evergreen Flowering	Upright Canopy
Gold	Cassia	-30	-25	Deciduous	Small

Medallion	leptophylla			Flowering	Canopy
Jacaranda	Jacaranda mimosifolia	40+	-40	Deciduous	Large Canopy
New Zealand Christmas	Metrosideros excelsus	-20	-20	Evergreen Flowering	Small Canopy
Purple Leaf Plum	Prunus cerasifera	25+	-25	Deciduous Flowering	Small Canopy
Marina Madrone	Arbutus marina	35	30	Evergreen Flowering	Medium Canopy
Holly Oak	Quercus ilex	-50	-50	Evergreen	Large Canopy

Large Trees

The following trees are recommended for 7 to 10 foot parkways and minimum 40 square foot cutouts. These trees ideally should be used on streets such as Harbor Drive, 28th Street and the linear park along Boston Avenue. See City's Street Tree Selection Guide for further details.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Height	Spread	Type	Form
Chinese Lantern	Koelreuteria bipinnata	-40	-40	Deciduous Flowering	Large Canopy
Golden Rain Tree	Koelreuteria paniculata	-40	-40	Deciduous Flowering	Large Canopy
Tipu Tree	Tipuana tipu	40+	40+	Deciduous Flowering	Large Canopy
African Fern Pine	Podocarpus gracilior	40+	-40	Evergreen	Large Canopy
California Sycamore	Plantanus racemosa	60+	40+	Deciduous	Large Canopy
London Plane Tree "Bloodgood"	Platanus acerfolia	40+	40+	Deciduous	Large Canopy
Olive "fruitless"	Olea europaea	-40	-25	Evergreen	Small Canopy

Otay Mesa Community Plan Street Tree List

	Botanical Name/Common Name		T	H	CS	S	PS	DT	N
Community Corridor Tree List									
Otay Mesa Road and Siempre Viva Rd.									
	Tristania conferta/Brisbane Box	Theme	E.	20-40	20-40	30-35	4-6	Yes	
	Fraxinus oxycarpa/Raywood Ash	Alt	D.	20-40	20-40	30-35	3-4	Yes	
	Pinus pinea/Italian Stone Pine	Alt	C.	40+	40+	35-40	6-8	Yes	
Britannia Blvd. and La Media Rd.									
	Calocedrus decurrens/Incense Cedar	Theme	E.	40+	40+	30-35	8+	Yes	Yes
	Brachychiton acerifolius/Flame tree	Alt	D.	40+	40+	35-40	6-8	Yes	
	Fraxinus oxycarpa/Raywood Ash	Alt	D.	20-40	20-40	30-35	3-4	Yes	
Airway Road									
	Koelreuteria paniculata/Golden Rain	Theme	D.	20-40	20-40	30-35	6-8	Yes	
	Albizia julibrissin/Silk Tree	Alt	D.	20-40	20-40	35-40	4-6	Yes	
	Archontophoenix cunninghamiana/King Palm	Accent	P.	40+	20-30	25-30	3-4	Yes	
Cactus Rd., Heritage Rd. south of I-905									
	Geijera parvifolia/Australian Willow	Theme	E.	20-40	20-40	30-35	6-8	Yes	
	Albizia julibrissin/Silk Tree	Alt	D.	20-40	20-40	35-40	4-6	Yes	
Neighborhoods/Districts Tree List									
Northwest									
	Agonis flexuosa/Peppermint		C.	20-40	20-40	35-40	4-6	Yes	
	Albizia julibrissin/Silk Tree		D.	20-40	20-40	35-40	4-6	Yes	

Otay Mesa Community Plan Street Tree List

(Site visit required to determine predominate existing species)								
South/Industrial								
	Brachychiton acerifolius/Flame tree	D.	40+	40+	35-40	6-8	Yes	
	Fraxinus oxycarpa/Raywood Ash	D.	20-40	20-40	30-35	3-4	Yes	
	Metrosideros excelsus/New Zealand Christmas	E.	-20	-20	25-30	3-4	Yes	
	Cercis occidentalis/Western Redbud	D.	-20	-20	25-30	3-4	Yes	Yes
	Tabebuia ipi/Pink Trumpet	D.	20-40	20-40	30-35	3-4		

TYPE
C.=Conifer
D.=Deciduous
E.=Evergreen
P= Palm

Characteristics
H=Height
CS=Crown Spread
S=Spacing
PS=Parkway Size
DT=Drought Tolerant
N=Native

4.8 Street Trees

Tree-lined streets enhance a community and leave lasting impressions for anyone who lives, works, or visits the community. Street Trees are a significant and highly visual portion of the urban fabric, and are a vital part of the infrastructure system essential to the quality of life in an urban environment. Street trees provide economic, environmental and aesthetic benefits. Street trees can give a distinctive character to the community, establish visual harmony and continuity along the street, help to increase property values, enhance civic pride, absorb carbon dioxide, and produce oxygen and filter airborne particulates to help reduce air pollution.

POLICIES AND ACTIONS

4.8.1 Incorporate street trees along all streets and roadways.

- a. Refer to the street tree plan in Appendix ___ for a list of shade trees and locations.
- b. Street trees should be spaced no further than 30' on center in planting strips, or parkways, between curbs and sidewalks.
- c. Create a unified theme for the street, provide effective canopy, and minimize water consumption.
- d. Optimize tree canopy cover – the optimum canopy cover will vary in accordance with street size, existing infrastructure,

community needs, environmental limitations, and aesthetic considerations.

- e. Refer to the Street Tree Plan for species and planting techniques.

4.8-2 Provide an appropriate mix of tree types (evergreen and deciduous), in order to provide a diverse ecosystem more able to adapt to changing environmental pressures.

- a. Provide a mixed age tree population, adequate species diversity and distribution – a mix of juvenile, young, and mature trees is essential to ensure a constant level of benefits from street trees.
- b. Provide varied forms, textures, structure, flowering characteristics and other aesthetic benefits to enhance the types of street environments found in Otay Mesa.
- c. Encourage and support community design and plantings of additional Street Trees.
- d. Protect and provide for the necessary care of existing Street Trees.
- e. Utilize consistent, approved state-of-the-art standards for planting, pruning, management and removal of trees along the public streets.

4.8-3 Ensure that public agencies and private enterprises impacting Street Trees operate with common goals and objectives.



Urban Design Element

- a. Coordinate with public agencies and private enterprises impacting Street Trees to ensure that common goals and objectives are achieved
- b. Reduce conflicts with existing infrastructure through proper tree selection and through the recognition of street trees as a vital and equal component of the City's infrastructure.

INTERNAL DRAFT



Community Forest Advisory Board

General Services- Staff Report

Submitted by: Ken Healy

October 13, 2010



Current Activities

- Help plant 1000 trees in One Day/Saturday October 23rd/ Links at United Voices or Urban Corps Of San Diego
- Tree trimming budget still limited to 8' clearance for pedestrians and 14' 6" for vehicles.
- Street Division staff will revise applications and permits to emphasize property owner's liability.
- More budget cuts headed our way.

Cost Recovery for Tree Damage FY2010

This program allows for the city to recover costs associated with damage to trees due to accidents. The following is a summary of investigations for March through June of 2009.

- 52 investigations
- 22 determined to be recoverable

Cost Recovery Demand Amount: **\$48,035.00**

Tree Planting Markings & Permits (Urban Corps) FY2010

- District1—3
- District2—97
- District3—650
- District4—111
- District5—5
- District6—306
- District7—135
- District8—399

Total trees permitted and marked out and permitted for Urban Corps of San Diego. **1706 trees!**

Individual Plant Permits

- 132

Business Improvement District Planting

- Pacific Beach—6 trees
- Adams Avenue-17 trees
- Little Italy-----27 trees
- SanYsidro-----4 trees
- Old Town-----14 trees
- College Area-----5 trees
- Hillcrest-----19 trees
- E.C. Blvd-----55 trees

Total trees marked out and permitted for FY 2010.

Total- 1985 trees

Removal Permits pending

40+

Thank you for all that were involved in a very successful year of planting trees amongst many financial barriers. Keep up the good work.

Never hesitate to call me with tree code compliance issues.

Ken Healy
Streets Division
Code Compliance/ Tree Warden
O-(619) 527-3130
E-khealy@sandiego.gov