

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

MEETING MINUTES

September 9, 2015

City Administration Building, Committee Room

1) **Convene.** Anne Fege, Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:50 a.m.

2) **Attendees.**

Members –Chris Drayer, Erin McConkey, Robin Rivet, Troy Murphree, Vince Mikulanic, Anne Fege

Guests – Claude Anthony (Morengo Architects); Guy Preuss (Skyline/Paradise Hills); Mike Palat, (San Diego Regional Urban Forests Council); Carol Emerick (Hillcrest)

City Staff –Lesley Henegar, Jeremy Barrick, Lara Gates, Karen Bucey (Planning); Sergio Arias (Streets); Chris Zirkle and Laura Ball (Parks)

3) **Approval of Minutes.**

4) **Action Items.**

a) Final input for Encanto and Southeast San Diego Community Plan updates

Urban forestry elements and street tree recommendations were summarized by Lara Gates and Karen Bucey. Planning staff will ask the consultant to provide Sergio Arias with the inventories and field notes on current street trees. Recommendations made that the following trees not be planted, with possible alternatives identified (in parenthesis): sweetgum (Chinese pistache) Brazillian pepper (California pepper), plum (redbud ‘Forest pansy’), carrotwood (gold medallion), Myoporum spp., and Ficus spp.

Board members expressed interest in being involved earlier and to a greater extent, in these community plan updates, particularly for updates in the district each represents.

b) Right-of-entry permit to remove Eucalyptus trees in open space

Current processes for reviewing and approving right-of-entry permits, onto City open space were reviewed by Chris Zirkle and Laura Ball. Parks staff are taking additional steps to get community input for requests that have some level of significant impact. Maps and further information were provided for Eucalyptus trees adjacent to 7362 Brodiaea Way in La Jolla. Various native trees were mentioned, to replant instead of retaining the existing Eucalyptus. The responsibilities of CFAB for these right-of-entry permits is not spelled out in City policy, so the Board consideration and discussion is advisory to Parks.

c) Revised Street Tree Selection Guide

The Street Tree Selection list was revised as part of the Urban Forest Management Plan process, but it will be separated from and not approved by Council so that it can be reviewed and revised by City staff (not Council). The list will be reviewed once more (possibly prior to the October 7 meeting of the San Diego Regional Urban Forests

Council) by the group of urban forestry professionals and landscape architects that cooperatively developed the list about a year ago.

- d) Comments on the draft Program Environmental Impact Report on the City's Climate Action Plan need to be submitted by September 28. The Board reviewed a draft response letter, suggested additional comments, and authorized the Board Chair to send the response letter as an official action of the Board.

5) City Staff Reports

- a) Jeremy Barrack was introduced as the newly-hired Urban Forestry Program Manager.
- b) Sergio Arias described draft site criteria for planting Jacaranda trees, with the Figg Fund. The plantings will be focused on large parkways and would not include medians.
- c) Requirements for the City to submit and be designated a "TreeCity USA" were reviewed, and the City meets them. The City held this designation for many years, and has not submitted for about the past five years.

6) Public Comment:

- a) Carol Emerick asked the City to provide clarification on the process for nominating and designating protected trees.

7) Agenda items for next meeting, Wednesday, October 14

- a) Recommendations for Golden Hill, North Park and Uptown community plan updates
- b) Proposed changes to Protected Tree nomination process and form
- c) Processes to enhance CFAB board effectiveness

- 8) **Adjourned** at 1:20 p.m.