

**CITY OF REDLANDS
STREET TREE COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
September 28, 2015**

1. Call to Order at 5:32 pm – Attendance

Present: Don Buchanan, Chair
Chris Sedmack
Janet Ward
Andy Hoder
Roy Mannickarottu
Linda Richards

City Council: CC Paul Barich
QOL Staff: Erik Reeves

Redlands Community
Foundation liaison: Absent

Visitors: Olivia Crowley, Community Relations
Coordinator
Bill Cunningham

- 2. Public Comments** – Bill Cunningham voiced his concerns around what is happening with the City's Parkway Trees. While driving around Redlands, seeing damaged, dead and dying city parkway trees. The City Council and staff need to make our city concerned over the lack of water to the city parkway trees. CC Barich stated that the State has said that water for trees and city parkways is considered waste. There is a \$300,000 grant to study watering trees and city parkways, and the Planning Commission wants to build more houses since new houses have better water efficient appliances. Mr. Cunningham said we need to get more water to our trees, that mature trees require the same amount of water even in the drought. The City of Redlands needs to be made aware of the importance of trees to Redlands and our community. Jim Rock commented and passed around photos on Sequoias, (Coastal redwoods) located on the 600 block of Valley View Ave which are surrounded by a cactus environment and gravel and will soon die. CC Barich stated that the state told Redlands to cut back water use by 36%. CC Barich will send Jim Rock's photos to Code Enforcement. SOFA reports that an average citizen uses 40 gallons of gray water a day, but the current City Municipal Code does not allow the city to use gray water. Don Buchanan commented that he and Chris Sedmack are on the Redland's Drought Task Force and at the last meeting they are preparing paperwork to change our City Municipal Code. Mr. Cunningham stated that the city has two choices for additional water – Gray Water and non-potable water sources which could be used for parks/school grounds/Sylvan Park/Prospect Park/Cemetery/Country Club, etc. Non-potable water is NOT counted in the States 36% water reduction figure. There are current pipes around Redlands, which, with minor hook ups, could be used for non-potable water. There is a current pipe for non-potable water from Colton to 6th St, and Bear Valley has a line on San Bernardino Ave. Mr. Cunningham wants to create dialogue between all city divisions for any of their inputs on using gray/non-potable water.

Redlands has sufficient amounts of water for irrigation and it is unfair the state is requiring us to cut our water usage. The City of Riverside has sued the State over this issue. CC Barich will check into this matter and will get in touch with Mr. Cunningham. The City needs to get out more press releases to encourage homeowners to water their trees and the value trees have to their homes as well as to the City. CC Barich and Carl Baker will do publicity and possible Letter to the Editor in The Facts. Homeowners can contact Quality of Life if they see people not watering their parkway trees. Need to stress ***STRESSED TREES DROP BRANCHES***.

Olivia Crowley, Community Relations Coordinator, commented on future Construction Project of repairing Redlands broken sidewalks. The city is actively installing new pipes for non-potable water supplies when possible. One is already in place from State Street from Orange to Redlands Blvd, and they are designing these water pipes into future projects. They have \$450,000 for sidewalk repairs and will prioritize repairs with Senior Centers, dense areas, schools, parks, bus stops and areas with greater than 1” sidewalk lift first.

Erik Reeves commented that the trees mainly affected by the new sidewalk repair project will be Liquid Ambers and he is coordinating these trees to be removed when the new sidewalks go in. He will provide the STC a list of the locations, or general areas, for the new sidewalks and parkway trees affected.

Andy Hoder passed around letter about a leaning Camphor Tree located at 230 S. Center St, cross streets Olive/Clark Ave. Tree is leaning across sidewalk by McKinley Elementary School. Erik Reeves to check on tree. Mr. Hoder also commented on all of the fallen Palm fronds in the roads. Sometimes for weeks at a time. Erik Reeves reported that it is impossible for their crew to pick up all of the fallen Palm fronds since there are 18,000 palms in the city of Redlands, but the QOL is doing the best they can. The Made-In-The-Shade Program is still in limbo and is tied to the new city tree budget having to go out for new bids for the new city fiscal year. Currently under review. Mr. Hoder handed out copies of newspaper and/or internet articles of tree topics which illustrate the loss of our tree heritage across the country.

3. **Approval of Minutes** – Approval of Minutes for August 27, 2015. Chris Sedmack motioned to approve the minutes, Janet Ward seconded. Unanimously approved (Don Buchanan, Chris Sedmack, Janet Ward, Andy Hoder, Roy Mannickarottu, Linda Richards).
4. **New Business**
 - a. Discussion and recommendation concerning the city’s Municipal Code as it affects Street Trees and trimming criteria of trees – (Andy Hoder) – Andy Hoder discussed Code Enforcement Conflict between 12.12.110 (Streets and Sidewalk Use) and 12.52.120 (Trees & Tree Protection) with regards to two references in the Redlands Municipal Code which do not match each other. Both sections need to be folded into one and have one Code number. The Redlands website also needs to be corrected to match the correct Code number in the Redlands Municipal Code.

Andy Hoder motioned “City review the Redlands Municipal Codes (12.12.110 and 12/52/120) be changed so all references to trees and tree maintenance be consistent.” Linda Richards seconded. Motion passed unanimously (Don Buchanan, Chris Sedmack, Janet Ward, Andy Hoder, Roy Mannickarottu, Linda Richards).

- b. Discussion and possible recommendation for utility bill insert information pertaining to street tree care – (Don Buchanan) – Don Buchanan and Tim Sullivan to meet this week. Tabled until next STC meeting.
- c. Discussion pertaining to the 2015 STC Goals and the 2014 STC Accomplishments and possible recommendation to submit lists of Goals and Accomplishments to City Council – (Chris Sedmack) – Chris Sedmack stated the previously STC approved 2014 STC Accomplishments and the 2015 STC Goals be recalled and the corrected ones dated September 28, 2015 be approved. Janet Ward motioned, Andy Hoder seconded. Motion passed unanimously. (Don Buchanan, Chris Sedmack, Janet Ward, Andy Hoder, Roy Mannickarottu, Linda Richards).
- d. Discussion of amendments to the Street Policy Protection Guidelines Manual with possible recommendation to City Council – (Janet Ward) – Janet Ward motioned to submit to the City Council the letter to amend the City Council approved Street Tree Policy and Protection Guidelines Manual in two areas – Section 10.4 and Section 10.6.” Linda Richards seconded. Motion passed unanimously (Don Buchanan, Chris Sedmack, Janet Ward, Andy Hoder, Roy Mannickarottu, Linda Richards).
- e. Discussion and possible recommendation on designation of Landmark Trees, Heritage Tree Rows, and Scenic Preservation Trees – (Janet Ward and Chris Sedmack) – Having a designated Landmark Trees, Heritage Tree Tows, and Scenic Preservation Trees program is used throughout the country. Redlands currently does not have one in place. Tabled.

7. Agenda items for Next Meeting

- a. Add to New Business every month, Palm Tree Issues to include trimming/maintenance/selling of Endangered Palms.
- b. Discussion on City using non-potable water and gray water to irrigate city parkways, schools, city parks, Country Club, etc.
- c. Discussion on new City Project concerning repairing damaged city sidewalks.
- d. Discussion on city parkway trees not being watered.

8. Adjournment at 6:50 pm to next Regular Meeting, October 22, 2015

Submitted by Chris Sedmack, Secretary