Alameda County Public Works Agency Tree Advisory Board Meeting

Wednesday, August 17, 2005 3:00p.m. Public Works Building, 951 Turner Court, Hayward Conference Room 230

Minutes

Attendees: D. Nelson, D. Sheppard, K. Ready, D. Gallagher, I. Brainerd, S. Jones, S. Jackson, J. Browne, R. Ruiz, L. Serrano, Valerie Lee, Mr. and Mrs. Maman, Mr. and Mrs. Martinez, Yuriy Zherebnenkov, Demetri Zherebnenkov

I. Public Comment- None

II. Announcements - None

III. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from May 18, 2005 approved by all Board members.

IV. Violation Hearings

2789 Castro Valley Blvd., Castro Valley

Business owner not present, out of state and denies all claims. He also stated that he sold the property back in May. County has no recourse if this is the case. Inta to verify that property was actually sold.

4206 Somerset Ave., Castro Valley

Application was submitted for tree removal. A letter dated 8/26/04 was sent stating the application was denied. It was suggested that the resident reapply for a permit to trim the tree (no additional application fee). The family misunderstood the letter and proceeded to prune the tree. A field visit some time after revealed that the tree had been topped. A violation letter was sent to the resident. The resident stated that the tree was diseased, so he cut the tree.

Board recommendation:

- 1. Have a licensed contractor remove the tree and the stump
- 2. Assess a fine upon the owner
- 3. Replace the tree with a larger size tree (36 in. box tree, species to be determined by the county)
- 4. Dan G. suggested 10% of the appraised value of the tree as a penalty ~ \$700
- 5. Don N. suggested a \$500.00 fine would be more appropriate.

Motion carried. Letter to go out stating specifics; owner to choose a contractor

17350 Via Del Rey, San Lorenzo

A work request was generated on 4/20/04. Resident asked for tree to be inspected because it was possibly dead. Tree was inspected on 4/29/04. The owner, Monica Martinez, was notified by phone that the tree was generally healthy.

Resident states that they trimmed the tree for safety reasons. Large branches/limbs were falling onto property. Inta states that some of the falling limbs may have been a result of root damage due to the installation of a new driveway.

Board recommendation:

- 1. Monitor tree for health
- 2. Require regular restorative pruning by a licensed contractor and a fine of \$500
- 3. County will oversee and monitor; owners will be notified of outcome by mail Motion carried

17333 Via Alamitos, San Lorenzo

Violation was reported to the county by a citizen in the neighborhood. Violation letter sent. Est. tree life is 50yrs.

Resident hired an individual who works for Davy Tree to trim the tree. There were dry twigs and leaves constantly falling from the tree.

Board recommendation:

- 1. Owner to have the tree removed
- 2. Replace with a standard 15 gallon tree
- 3. Tree to be maintained as a permanent part of the landscape

Motion carried. A letter will go out with permit application and list of contractors to do the work. The permit fee will be waived.

17452 Via Estrella, San Lorenzo

Hearing postponed at the request of the owner

V. Appeals

15958 Paseo Del Campo, San Lorenzo

Resident requested to remove Deodar tree. Per Inta, the tree was healthy and didn't qualify under the ordinance requirements and didn't pose any public safety issues. Application for removal was denied.

Resident states the tree is ruining her roof, the tree debris is all over her property and ruining vehicles parked near the tree.

Board recommendation:

- 1. Remove the tree and grind stump.
- 2. Replace with a 15 gal. London Plane tree.

Motion carried. A letter will be sent out with specifics.

15902 Via Conejo, San Lorenzo

Postponed at the request of the property owner

VI. Follow Up Items: (Items that need to be reported back to the TAB)

Mr. Bobe at 16111 Berkshire Rd., San Lorenzo replaced the tree and sold the house.

VII. Tree Advisory Board

Member recruitment – Dan G. recommends Laura Alber from District 5, Oakland Tree Advisory Board retreat to be scheduled in January.

VIII. Other

None

IX. Wrap up and adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 5:00p.m. Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, November 16, 2005