

**ALAMEDA COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY  
TREE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

Wednesday, November 16, 2005 3:00 p.m.  
Public Works Building, 951 Turner Court, Hayward  
Conference Room 230

**MINUTES**

Attendees: D. Sheppard, K. Ready, D. Gallagher, I. Brainerd, J. Browne, L. Serrano, S. Jackson, A. Leddell, , George Jensen, Mr. & Mrs. Lacap, Nancy Mitchell, Rick Hernandez, Frank Mitchell (plus wife and daughter)

**I. Public Comment – None**

**II. Announcements**

Don Nelson will not be attending today's meeting. Inta and Lupe request to discuss Agenda item #7 prior to Appeals.

**III. Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2005 approved by all Board members

**IV. Tree Advisory Board Member Recruitment**

Board members' terms are up at the end of December. Lupe drafted a letter to be sent to B.O.S. for nominations or replacements of current board members. On December 7<sup>th</sup>, Sup. Miley & Lai-Bitker will host a recognition event. TAB will be acknowledged and are encouraged to attend.

**V. Appeals**

**15902 Via Conejo**

Ms Yos requests to remove sycamore tree that has damaged foundation and driveway. Upon inspection, Inta found the tree had already been pruned back and didn't see any evidence of cracks or damage to the foundation. No safety issues present. Permit denied. Resident sent letter appealing denial and included new information. Son was riding bike and lost control due to a crack in the sidewalk. Inta referred this to Jim Tarantino, who will pursue property to repair sidewalk. Motioned and carried that appeal for removal is denied.

**15848 Via Alamos**

Virginia Jensen requests to remove a sycamore tree. Permit application indicates the roots have torn up the sidewalk and driveway. Upon Inta's inspection, it appeared that the driveway was expanded, and the concrete is too close to the trunk of the tree. The sidewalk has been fixed (measure b funding). Property owner paid for 15ft of root control barrier so the tree could be preserved. George Jensen (son of owner) – Tree causes them to sneeze and it isn't healthy. Had the sidewalk repaired 2 yrs ago, but roots continue to cause damage. Brother would like to

replace the tree with a myrtle tree and landscape the front yard at his expense. Tree is a constant nuisance and the leaves are clogging gutter. Driveway continues to be raised by roots.

Appeal denied. Motioned and carried that driveway be reconfigured. (Contact Homes Association for specifics). Recommend they be issued a permit for trimming.

## **VI. Violation Hearings**

### **17452 Via Estrella**

Howard Beckman reported that the tree had been pruned back, inquired if there was a permit issued.

Upon inspection, Inta found the tree had been cut back. There was some dieback of the larger limbs. No permit was issued for the work. The Modesto Ash tree has several different health problems.

Mr. Lacap says he trimmed tree back from PG&E wires and from over the house and is afraid of the tree falling down. He works for Davey Tree Service.

Motioned and carried that property owner is required to replace the tree with a 24" box Colombia London Plane tree and pay \$1000 fine.

### **4933 Vannoy Ave.**

During field visit, noticed entire leaf canopy had been removed, larger stubs were left. After sending violation letter, Ms. Mitchell called back. She had a contractor trim the tree because of strain on the roof and dripping sap. She did not know a permit was required. Her family planted the tree 20yrs ago.

Ms. Mitchell said the tree was growing outward and putting a strain on the wires. Called PG&E and they told her they wouldn't trim the tree. Called the county and was told that unless the tree was falling, we wouldn't trim the tree either. She hired an unknown contractor to trim the tree.

Motioned and carried that property owner receives a warning letter. She is required to pay for the removal of tree and stump and replace it with a small tree recommended by the county.

### **1680 Via Sarita**

It was reported that a tree was being trimmed at this location.

Upon inspection, Inta found several large limbs lying in driveway and on the lawn. At that time, a stop work order was issued and tied to the tree advising resident to contact the Public Works Agency. No permit was issued at that time. Mr. Hernandez called back later that day; says he did not know about the ordinance, but was not intending on removing the tree.

Mr. Hernandez indicated he was not aware of the ordinance and that he did stop work immediately. He's willing to hire a licensed contractor to finish the work.

Motioned and carried that property owner is required to hire contractor from the county approved list. Tree to be maintained as a canopy style and issued a fine of \$295.00

### **21806 Meekland Ave.**

Inta was asked to look at this tree in July by Steve Jones. Property owner wanted to remove the tree. Upon inspection, Inta found that there was poor branching. The tree roots had caused damage to a concrete tree well. The tree was generally healthy. Inta gave all the info to Steve Jones who contacted the property owner. It was reported again a few months later the tree had been butchered. Mr. Mitchell was notified of violation. He stated he hired A-1 tree service, they told him they had the appropriate permits to do the work, which they did not.

Mr. Mitchell states tree was a big problem. Branches and leaves were constantly falling out of the tree. Roots causing tripping hazard, sewer line problems and were growing up into the PG&E wires. He never requested the tree be removed, just wanted it trimmed down to a manageable size. Spoke with Inta about planting other trees on the property. Argues that he also did measuring and it's not within the county right of way and he checked this info with the County roads department.

Moved and seconded that this hearing be tabled until the board receives a county surveyors report. If the tree is found to be within the right of way, homeowner will pay for the survey (which will be added to the fine). This item will be put on our next meetings agenda.

### **VII. Follow Up Items**

CV Blvd. Pistache trees: In the process of pruning and identifying which trees will need to be replaced. County will most likely be responsible for watering the new trees.

Appeals status: One appeal heard last meeting. Submitted her permit and is proceeding with work as the board recommended.

Fines status: Haven't rec'd any \$. Checked w/fiscal and they sent out 2<sup>nd</sup> notices stating property owners need to pay the fine or it will go to collections.

### **VIII. Other**

'Stop Work' Order: Inta will work with Kathleen to alter existing County document to suit SLVHA needs.

### **IX. Wrap up and adjourn**

Meeting adjourned 4:43P.M.

Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 15, 2006

