

Agenda Report

DATE: September 27, 2004

TO: CITY COUNCIL

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: AMENDMENTS TO THE MASTER STREET TREE PLAN

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council approve the following amendments to the Master Street Tree Plan (MSTP):

1. Amend the MSTP on South Raymond Avenue between Del Mar Avenue and Glenarm Street to change the species from *Lagerstroemia indica*, Crape Myrtle, to the *Quercus suber*, Cork Oak.
2. Amend the MSTP on Del Mar Avenue between Arroyo Parkway and Raymond Street to change the species from the *podocarpus macrophyllus*, Yew Pine, to the *Jacaranda mimosifolia*, Jacaranda.
3. Amend the MSTP on Raymond Avenue at the Del Mar Station only, to allow for the planting of *Washingtonia filifera*, Mexican Fan Palm.

RECOMMENDATION FROM URBAN FORESTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

At its regular meeting of April 21, 2004, the Urban Forestry Advisory Committee recommended the City Council approve an amendment to the MSTP that would designate the *Quercus suber*, Cork Oak, as the street tree for South Raymond.

At its special meeting of July 31, 2002 the Urban Forestry Advisory Committee recommended the City Council approve an amendment the MSTP to add the *Jacaranda mimosifolia*, Jacaranda, as an alternate street tree species on Del Mar Boulevard, between Arroyo Parkway and Raymond Street.

At a special meeting held on July 31, 2002, the Urban Forestry Advisory Committee recommended the City Council approve an amendment to the MSTP to add the *Washingtonia filifera*, California Fan Palm, as an alternate street tree species on Raymond Avenue at the western entrance to the Del Mar Station.

RECOMMENDATION FROM DESIGN COMMISSION

At its regular meeting of September 13, 2004, the Design Commission recommended the City Council approve an amendment to the MSTP that would designate the *Quercus suber*, Cork Oak, as the street tree for South Raymond.

At its regular meeting of September 13, 2004, the Design Commission recommended the City Council approve an amendment to the MSTP to add the *Jacaranda mimosifolia*, Jacaranda, as an alternate street tree species on Del Mar Boulevard, between Arroyo Parkway and Raymond Street.

At its regular meeting held on September 13, 2004, the Design Commission recommended the City Council approve an amendment to the Master Street Tree Plan to add the *Washingtonia filifera*, California Fan Palm, as an alternate street tree species on Raymond Avenue at the western entrance to the Del Mar Station.

BACKGROUND

Raymond Ave:

On March 10, 2004, the Urban Forestry Advisory Committee, (UFAC) reviewed the Raymond Avenue street widening project, one of the 710 Mitigation projects. The MSTP currently designates the *Lagerstroemia indica*, Crape Myrtle tree as the street tree for this location. The UFAC entertained a lengthy discussion seeking a street tree that provides a greater canopy. This discussion resulted in a recommendation to change the species.

The South Fair Oaks Specific Plan has three large shade trees that are included in the planting palette approved by the City Council. The three approved trees are the California Sycamore, Coast Live Oak, and the Cork Oak. The California Sycamore tree requires heavy irrigation, which will be difficult in a commercial area where business owners are not as likely to consistently water the trees. The inconsistent water pattern in this area also creates problems with the Coast Live Oak in that excessive water can lead to oak root fungus and other diseases. The Cork Oak is adaptable to drought conditions and watering conditions. In addition, the Cork Oaks are deep rooted and will grow well in a narrow parkway. They are also favorable because they do not tend to cause hardscape damage to the surrounding sidewalk and curbs. Finally, staff will be undergrounding the utilities as part of the widening project, so the trees will be able to grow without being damaged by line trimming.

The following recommendations are part of the Del Mar station development project:

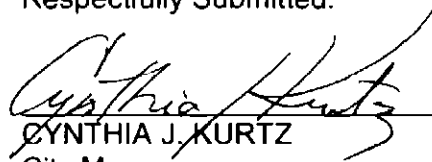
Del Mar Station:

- a) Amending the MSTP at the southern boundary of the Del Mar Station, on Del Mar Blvd, between Arroyo Parkway and Raymond Street, to add the *Jacaranda mimosifolia*, Jacaranda, as an alternate street tree will extend the Jacarandas from east Del Mar Ave to the western portion of Del Mar Blvd. The MSTP currently calls for *Podocarpus macrophyllus*, Yew Pine. This recommendation has been reviewed by the UFAC who also found that amending the MSTP would provide for consistency with the existing trees along the eastern portion of Del Mar Blvd.
- b) Staff is recommending amending the MSTP at the western boundary, on Raymond Avenue to include the *Washingtonia filifera*, California Fan Palm to be planted only at the western entrance only preserving the Del Mar Station original plantings on both sides of the station.


FISCAL IMPACT

The change in species for South Raymond will not incur any additional installation or maintenance costs. The cost of new trees and maintenance for three years for the Del Mar Station will be borne by the developer.


Respectfully Submitted:


CYNTHIA J. KURTZ
City Manager

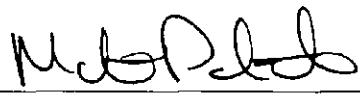
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