



Public Works Department

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE TREE COMMITTEE

Monday August 11, 2014 7:00 p.m.
El Cerrito City Hall
Hillside Conference Room
10890 San Pablo Avenue

1. Roll Call

Present: Committee Members Bleier, Cheng, Charlton, Christian, Hittle, Price,
and Staff Liaison Stephen Prée also present

Absent: Committee Members Boniello, Srago

2. Comments from the Public on non agenda items- none

3. Action Items-

- o Approval of the minutes from June 9, 2014 Motion- Bleier, 2nd-Christian, unanimous
- o Approval of the minutes from July 14, 2014 Motion- Price, 2nd-Charlton, unanimous

4. Report from the City Arborist- Prée distributed a staff report to City Council regarding the 2014/15 City tree pruning and removal contract with West Coast Arborists including an Urban Forestry budget summary for 2014/15. He reported on the new City tree planting program where for \$ 150 plus a refundable \$80 permit fee, residents can have an approved City tree planted in the PROW; the resident is responsible for watering the tree for the 2 year establishment period after which time the tree is inspected for health and if successful the permit fee is refunded. He gave an update on the removal of a large dead Italian Stone Pine at Poinsett Park.

5. Update from the San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan subcommittee – Prée thanked the subcommittee (Ralph Boniello, Janet Hittle, Steve Price) for the work they did providing useful and timely comments which he submitted to the City Planning Department on July 21. Committee member Price said that the Tree Committee could show support for the Plan at the upcoming public hearing in September. Prée agreed to notify the Tree Committee of the date of the hearing (September 22).

6. Summary of activities on the Invest from the Ground Up business outreach campaign

Committee member Janet Hittle discussed using a list of businesses provided by the City to further distribute the brochure .Sheauchi Cheng volunteered to assist in organizing the list. Prée said he would inquire about having the brochure included in mailings to new businesses from the Environmental Services Division.

7. Tree Committee 2014/15 Action Plan review and update – The committee discussed minor changes to the plan; Cathy Bleier will make final updates to the Work Plan before presentation to City Council on November 18.

8. Revisiting the Approved City Tree List- The committee discussed the time commitment required for the subcommittee and how the list could be organized. Ralph Boniello, Sheauchi Cheng, Janet Hittle

and Steve Price agreed to be on the subcommittee. Chair Hittle inquired regarding how the Tree Committee will define a signature tree.

9. Announcements- none

10. Discussion of future committee actions and agenda items

- Measure R update
- Tree pruning door hanger progress
- Tree Committee content on the City website or web presence in general
- 10 minute Tree Care updates for Tree Committee continuing education
- Action Plan update

11. Adjournment- 9:15