



CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH PARKS, BEACHES & RECREATION AGENDA

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 3300 NEWPORT BOULEVARD
TUESDAY, February 5, 2013– 6PM

PB&R Commission Members:

Kathy Hamilton, Chair
Tom Anderson, Vice Chair
Ron Cole
Roy Englebrecht
Phillip Lugar
Marie Marston
Jack Tingley

Staff Members:

Laura Detweiler, Recreation & Senior Services Director
Mark Harmon, Municipal Operations Director
Sean Levin, Recreation Superintendent
Teri Craig, Administrative Assistant

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- 1) **CALL MEETING OF THE PARKS BEACHES AND RECREATION COMMISSION TO ORDER**
 - 2) **ROLL CALL**
 - 3) **PRESENTATION OF PRESIDENTIAL VOLUNTEER AWARD – EVAN DEBOUB**
 - 4) **PRESENTATION TO CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH FLAG FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS**
 - 5) **NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC**

Public comments are invited on agenda items generally considered to be within the subject matter jurisdiction of the PB&R Commission. The City provides a yellow sign-in card to assist in the preparation of the minutes. The completion of the card is not required in order to address the PB&R Commission. Speakers must limit comments to three (3) minutes. Before speaking, we invite, but do not require, you to state your name for the record. The PB&R Commission has the discretion to extend or shorten the speakers' time limit on agenda or non-agenda items, provided the time limit adjustment is applied equally to all speakers. As a courtesy, please turn cell phones off or set them in the silent mode.

- 6) **CONSENT CALENDAR**

All matters listed under **Consent Calendar 6A-6C** are considered by the PB&R Commission to be routine and will all be enacted by one motion in the form listed below. The Commission Members have received detailed staff reports on each of the items recommending approval and there will be no separate discussion of these items prior to the time the Commission votes on the motion unless members of the Commission, staff, or the public request a specific item to be discussed and/or removed from the Consent Calendar for separate action. Members of the public who wish to discuss a Consent Calendar item should come forward to the lectern upon invitation by the Chair.

- A. **Minutes of the December 4, 2012 regular meeting.**

Recommendation: Waive reading of subject minutes, approve and order filed.

- B. **Parks & Operations Division Activity Report.**

Recommendation: Receive/file monthly Activity Report for activities and upcoming projects.

- C. **Recreation & Seniors Services Activity Report.**

Recommendation: Receive/file monthly Activity Report for activities and upcoming projects.

This Parks, Beaches & Recreation Commission is subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act. Among other things, the Brown Act requires that the Parks, Beaches & Recreation Commission agenda be posted at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of each regular meeting and that the public be allowed to comment on agenda items before the Parks, Beaches & Recreation Commission and items not on the agenda but are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Parks, Beaches & Recreation Commission. The Parks, Beaches & Recreation Commission may limit public comments to a reasonable amount of time, generally three (3) minutes per person.

It is the intention of the City of Newport Beach to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA") in all respects. If, as an attendee or a participant at this meeting, you will need special assistance beyond what is normally provided, the City of Newport Beach will attempt to accommodate you in every reasonable manner. If requested, this agenda will be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof. Please contact the Parks, Beaches & Recreation Commission Secretary at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting to inform us of your particular needs and to determine if accommodation is feasible at (949) 644-3151 or recreation@newportbeachca.gov.

7) CURRENT BUSINESS – Staff Report

A. Appeal for Tree Removal at 214 Heliotrope Avenue

Recommendation: Deny appeal of Franklin Vranicar to retain one City Aleppo Pine parkway street tree located at 214 Heliotrope Avenue.

8) PARKS, BEACHES & RECREATION COMMISSION / STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS, UPDATES OR MATTERS WHICH MEMBERS WOULD LIKE PLACED ON A FUTURE AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION, ACTION OR REPORT (NON-DISCUSSION ITEM)

9) PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Public comments are invited on non-agenda items generally considered to be within the subject matter jurisdiction of the PB&R Commission. Speakers must limit comments to three (3) minutes. Before speaking, we invite, but do not require, you to state your name for the record. The PB&R Commission has the discretion to extend or shorten the speakers' time limit on non-agenda items, provided the time limit adjustment is applied equally to all speakers.

10) ADJOURNMENT

CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH

**Parks, Beaches & Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting
December 4, 2012 – 6pm**

1) CALL MEETING TO ORDER – 6:06 p.m.

2) ROLL CALL

Present: Kathy Hamilton, Chair
Tom Anderson, Vice Chair
Ron Cole
Roy Englebrecht
Phillip Lugar
Marie Marston

Absent: Jack Tingley

Staff: Laura Detweiler, Recreation and Senior Services Director
Mark Harmon, Municipal Operations Director
Teri Craig, Administrative Assistant

3) NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

4) CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Minutes of the October 2, 2012 regular meeting.

Recommendation: Waive reading of subject minutes, approve and order filed.

B. Removed by Director Harmon

C. Recreation & Seniors Services Activity Report.

Recommendation: Receive/file monthly Activity Report for activities and upcoming projects.

D. Removed by Director Harmon

Motion by Commissioner Marston to approve Consent Calendar items 4A and 4C. Motion carried by acclamation.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR

B. Parks & Operations Division Activity Report.

Recommendation: Receive/file monthly Activity Report for activities and upcoming projects.

Director Harmon reported that the second page of the report shows the Irvine Avenue median, that the subject has been discussed extensively in the past and that the median is now completed and re-landscaped in conjunction with the City of Costa Mesa. He commended the Public Works Department and noted that numerous compliments had been received on the landscaping of the median. He discussed the reasoning for tying the canopy of the palm trees.

Chair Hamilton opened the public discussion

Jim Mosher requested clarification regarding the current status of Sunset Ridge and Marina Park projects.

Chair Hamilton closed the public discussion

D. Reforestation Request – Harbor View Hills South HOA

Recommendation: Approve request to remove and replace one City Carrotwood tree at 3719 Park Green Drive.

Director Harmon clarified that there are three reforestation requests on the agenda; the reason that this request is listed on the Consent Calendar is that it is part of an ongoing reforestation and addressed previous actions and approvals that the Commission has taken.

Chair Hamilton opened the public discussion; seeing none the public discussion was closed.

Motion by Commissioner Marston, to approve Consent Calendar items 4B and 4D. Motion carried by acclamation.

5) CURRENT BUSINESS

A. Special Tree Removal – Groves Bike Trail

Recommendation: Recommend removal of 54 Special City Trees – Blue Gum located along the Groves Bike Trail. These trees are listed under Landmark Trees.

Director Harmon presented details of the report including a brief history of the Blue Gum Eucalyptus. He stated that there had been a determination that these 54 trees are diseased and have been rated a high risk for failure. He addressed the notification to residents within 500 feet of the area as well as the HOA's in proximity. He stated that not all of the existing trees will be removed.

Director Harmon addressed the timeline for removal and replacement and noted that the estimated completion should be summer 2013. He added that the remaining healthy Blue Gum Eucalyptus trees will remain. He went on to say that that there will not be a one-for-one replacements but rather determined once the phasing begins.

Discussion followed regarding the number of diseased and healthy trees, and the different variety of trees in the area.

Chair Hamilton opened the public discussion

Jim Mosher commented that this is a major decision affecting a City landmark and felt that the notification may have been inadequate. He stated that he believes that many of the trees seem healthy in appearance and suggested a more measured approach to confirm that the arborist's assessments are correct.

Director Harmon stated that there is no way to determine the state of a tree just by looking at it and that these trees had been reviewed by three certified arborists who all concluded that they are diseased. He addressed the noticing and that staff has done its due diligence and continued with the recommendations as presented. He also commented that trees are not removed until they have been posted for 30 days after approval has been given to remove.

Bob Adams stated he would be in favor of the recommendations if it was proven that those trees were, in fact, diseased. He wondered if there were other investigations that could be conducted to ensure that they are diseased. He also wondered what measures could be taken to ensure that the remaining trees do not become diseased and asked if healthy trees were removed on Irvine Avenue.

Drew Warmington expressed concerns with the timing of notification, commented on the age of the trees and encouraged the Commission to proceed slowly with consideration of the matter.

Chair Hamilton closed the public discussion

Discussion followed regarding noticing requirements and posting notices on the trees thirty days prior to the work starting, removal of trees on Irvine Avenue and the possibility of alternate options.

Director Harmon noted that certified arborists know what to look for in assessing the health of trees. In addition, he reported that the majority of trees removed from Irvine Avenue were diseased with many having roots missing and the same thing occurred on Holiday. He indicated that there may come a time when the remaining healthy trees will need to be removed. He noted that staff will continue with the maintenance process and mitigate as much as possible.

Discussion followed regarding the intertwining of roots and the availability of growth space for the remaining fifty trees. It was noted that this type of tree is not appropriate for that area and discussion followed regarding providing notification.

Director Harmon reported that he had received comments from residents in the neighborhoods who supported the removals.

Motion by Commissioner Englebrecht, to approve the removal of 54 Blue Gum Special City Trees located along the Groves Bike Trail. Motion carried by acclamation.

B. Reforestation Request – Cliff Drive Park

Recommendation: Recommend approval of reforestation request of the applicants of the Cliff Drive Park area and San Bernardino Avenue to remove and replace four City trees of various species within Cliff Drive Park.

Director Harmon presented details of the report noting a request was received for reforestation of trees located in a City Park, and that it involves a view issue for several residents. The applicant obtained support from twenty-five neighbors indicating support for the removal of the trees. He stated that the residents will pay for the removal and the replacement with four new 36" box Water Gum trees.

Discussion followed regarding type of tree and if it is part of the Eucalyptus family, the appropriateness of the recommended tree for the area, the number of residents who initiated the request and related provisions in City Council Policy G-1.

Chair Hamilton opened the public discussion; seeing none the public discussion was closed.

Motion by Commissioner Englebrecht, to approve the reforestation request of the applicants of the Cliff Drive Park area and San Bernardino Avenue to remove and replace four City trees of various species within Cliff Drive Park. Motion carried by acclamation.

C. Reforestation Request – Port Theater

Recommendation: Recommend the reforestation request from the Port Theater to remove and replace a City Hong Kong Orchid tree at 2905 East Coast Highway.

Director Harmon introduced the item and presented details of the report. He addressed the location of the subject tree, consideration and approval of the issue by the BID and noted that the applicant will pay for the removal and replacement of the subject tree. He addressed the proposed replacement tree (King Palm), which will provide a view to the marquee.

Discussion followed regarding over-trimming of the existing tree and other King Palms in the area.

Chair Hamilton opened the public discussion

Jessica Prause representing the Port Theater noted that the only types of trees in the area are Orchid and King Palm trees. She stated that the proposed tree would be consistent with what exists in the area. She asked if the location could be moved to the other side of the theater so that the marquis is not obstructed. She presented pictures of the proposed location.

Director Harmon indicated that staff can work with the applicant to determine an alternate location for the proposed King Palm.

Chair Hamilton closed the public discussion

Motion by Commissioner Lugar, to approve the reforestation request from the Port Theater to remove and replace a City Hong Kong Orchid tree at 2905 East Coast Highway. Motion carried by acclamation.

6) PARKS, BEACHES & RECREATION COMMISSION / STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS, UPDATES OR MATTERS WHICH MEMBERS WOULD LIKE PLACED ON A FUTURE AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION, ACTION OR REPORT (NON-DISCUSSION ITEM)

Director Detweiler provided an update on Sunset Ridge and Marina Parks noting that staff is still waiting for the permit from the Coastal Commission and staff is continuing to work with them to resolve any questions. She stated that the permits should be issued in the near future and that work should begin by April 2013.

She reported completion of the Flag Football season thanked the coaches, staff and participants for their efforts.

She reported that the first Council meeting at the new Civic Center will be next Tuesday but that the Commission will continue to meet at its current venue until the project is complete.

Chair Hamilton commented on the increase in graffiti through the City. Director Harmon explained that staff works closely with the Police Department on this issue. He addressed the process for enforcement.

7) PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Jim Mosher commented that Council Policy G1 is confusing and outdated. He suggested that the Commission place an item on a future agenda to discuss the review the policy.

8) ADJOURNMENT – 7:25pm

Submitted by:

Approved by:

Teri Craig, Admin Asst

Kathy Hamilton, Chair



Municipal Operations Department

PB&R Commission Agenda
Item No. 6B
February 5, 2013

TO: Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission
FROM: Parks and Trees Maintenance Superintendent
SUBJECT: *November/December Parks and Trees Division Activity Report*

Parks Maintenance Division Activities

Parks Maintenance Division staff continues working with the Public Works and the Recreation and Senior Services Departments on numerous projects in the planning and construction phases.

Projects currently underway:

Jamboree Road Widening – Phases I and II	Bitterpoint Pump Station
Sidewalk, Curb and Gutter Contract - various locations	Civic Center
Irvine Avenue, Westcliff to Dover Drive	China Cove Slope Stabilization
19 th Street Tide Valve	I Street median

Projects that are in the planning phases:

Sunset Ridge Park	Bristol Street South Landscape
Marina Park	Dover Drive Median
CDM left turn lane adjustments at Marguerite Avenue	Lido Village and existing City Hall site
CDM Entrance at MacArthur Blvd	Balboa Blvd Medians
Irvine Terrace Park CERT storage	Playground donation at Balboa Blvd and Miramar Street
Cypress Street End	Seawall repair at 37 th Street and Lake Avenue
Marine Avenue Bridge Pedestrian Ramp	Redlands Avenue Right-of-Way

Starting last month, the Parks Division coordinated the renovation of athletic fields throughout the City. All fields were aerated, top-dressed, and fertilized. In some cases, leveling of low and uneven areas of the fields with a soil mix was performed. Additionally, select fields had new sod installed or were over-seeded due to badly worn areas from the previous season's activities. In order for the new turf to grow in



properly, field downtime periods were coordinated through the Recreation and Senior Services Department and selected user groups. Fields with more significant renovations include: Arroyo Park, Bonita Creek football field (**pictured below**), Irvine Terrace Park, Coastal Peak Park, and Bonita Canyon Sports Park. A combination of Park's contract specifications and extra funds from the City's various user groups have both helped in keeping costs down and have ensured that these valuable field renovations continue.

Trees Division Activities

Month of:	Trees Trimmed	Trees Removed	Trees Planted
November	1,586	19	19
December	738	19	0

As part of the City's overall grid and annual trimming schedule, the City's tree service contractor pruned trees within the Spyglass Hill and Buffalo Ranch areas. Additionally, annual pruning palm and coral trees are occurring throughout the City.

The attached Tree Activity Report summarizes requests and field activities performed during the past months.

Submitted by:

Dan P. Sereno, Superintendent
Parks and Trees Maintenance

Attachment: Tree Activity Report 2012-2013



Municipal Operations Department

Parks and Trees Division
 Reforestation and Tree Removal Activity Report
 Fiscal Year 2012-2013

	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	Total
Tree Removals	14	5	18	31	19	19							106
Emergency Tree Removals	0	0	0	1	0	1							2
Reforestation Tree Removals *	0	0	7	0	0	0							7
Problem Tree Removals	0	0	0	0	0	0							0
Total Removals													115

Trees Planted	2	0	2	1	19	0							24
Replacement Trees	16	11	20	8	17	0							72
Reforestation Requests	0	0	0	0	0	0							0
Reforestation Approved	0	0	0	0	0	0							0



Municipal Operations Department

Parks and Trees Division Fiscal Year 2012-2013

Problem Tree Removals

Month	# Trees	Location(s)
July-12	0	
August-12	0	
September-12	0	
October-12	0	
November-12	0	
December-12	0	

Reforestation Tree Removals

Month	# Trees	Location(s)
July-12	0	
August-12	0	
September-12	7	Quiet Cove
October-12	0	
November-12	0	
December-12	0	

Replacement Trees

Month	# Trees	Location(s)
July-12	16	
August-12	11	
September-12	20	
October-12	8	
November-12	17	
December-12	0	

**Recreation Services
Monthly Activities Report**

To: Parks, Beaches & Recreation Commission

From: Sean Levin, Recreation Superintendent

Re: Recreation Division Monthly Activities Report



SUNSET RIDGE PARK

Recreation and Public Works staff met with EPT Design in January to review active park elements and refine the tot lot features of Sunset Ridge Park. The plans are nearing completion and the project should begin soon.

NEWPORT COAST COMMUNITY CENTER

On January 15, NCCC staff provided an afternoon training on fire prevention, active shooter scenarios, a CPR refresher and First Aid training for all staff at the facility.

SEAWEED BIODIVERSITY EXPERT WEIGHS IN

During December 2012, the City of Newport Beach, with the support of the Orange County Marine Protected Areas Council (OCMPAC) was fortunate to have Dr. Kathy Ann Miller from the Berkeley Jepson Herbarium spend three days examining the biodiversity of our local seaweeds. Believe it or not, this has never been done before, and no record currently exists of the variety and types of seaweeds living off of our coast!

Dr. Miller toured the intertidal zone at several Orange County locations, including Crystal Cove State Park and Little Corona in Newport Beach, Dana Point, and Treasure Island and Shaw's Cove in Laguna Beach. In addition to spending more than 40 hours in the field during her visit, Dr. Miller spent at least 20 hours in the lab identifying algae and making specimens for the Berkeley Herbarium. The herbarium samples will be scanned into the herbarium database, thus creating a permanent, publicly accessible and documented record of the seaweeds found in Orange County. Dr. Miller also collected several samples for genetic analysis to assist in confirming species identifications.

Dr. Miller and Dr. Jennifer Burnaford of CSU Fullerton continue to collaborate on a planned public exhibit highlighting Orange County Seaweed Biodiversity, which will be developed for the Back Bay Science Center and Crystal Cove State Park.

NEWPORT COAST COMMUNITY CENTER (NCCC)

Over the holiday break new carpets were installed, operable windows were placed in the front office and the floors in the two back rooms were re-surfaced. Twelve rental events took place in November and December including birthday parties, holiday parties, banquets, a trunk show and professional trainings.

AQUATICS

- The Aquatics Division welcomed two new Senior Pool Lifeguards, Brandon Zell and Josh Mirelez. Both have extensive aquatics backgrounds, including supervising and managing pools for other cities. We're excited to have them join our team!
- Interested in working as a pool lifeguard/swim instructor this summer or know someone who is? Recreation will be offering a Pool Lifeguard Training Class on the following dates (all training dates are mandatory) at the Marian Bergeson Aquatic Center at CdmHS.

Thursday	March 7	5-9pm
Friday	March 8	5-9pm
Saturday,	March 9	8-6pm
Sunday	March 10	8-6pm

Participants must be at least 15 years old by the start of the first class; successful completion earns the American Red Cross certifications in Lifeguard Training, First Aid and CPR/AED. Cost of the class is \$150. For more information please contact Leslie Hardy at lhardy@newportbeachca.gov.

- A survey was sent to all participants who enrolled in the summer *Learn-To-Swim* program. On a 4-point scale, with 4 being the highest, the amount of fun by the participants received an average score of 3.71, and the amount of improvement seen in skills received an average score of 3.48. Of those who responded to the survey, 93.5% reported that the program either met or exceeded their expectations. Most importantly, 87.1% of responses indicated that they intend on bringing their child back next summer for more lessons which are currently being planned!

NEWPORT BEACH FLAG FOOTBALL CHAMPS!

Youth Flag Football Finals were played in December. Newport Heights took home all the glory in both divisions! In the C division, Newport Heights (coached by first-year coach Evan Daboub) defeated Harbor Day 1 (coached by Ethan Machado) in a highly contested game with the final score of 12-6. In the B Division, Newport Heights (coached by Program Coordinator Angie Ernst) won handily 36-0 against the Lincoln 1 team (coached by second-year coach Aaron Hogue). NBTV was there to catch all the action, look for the show. The top two C Division teams and the Champion in the B Division competed in the Southern California Championship Tournaments December 8-9.

Another great season of Football was completed! Congratulations to all coaches, teams, competitors, and weekly spectators!



COME AND VISIT THE BACK BAY SCIENCE CENTER!

The Back Bay Science Center is open to the public every Sunday from 10am-2pm during "Community Day" which was featured on the front page of *The Current*. Additionally, an educational opportunity is offered the first Monday of each month with the "Orange County Natural History Lecture Series." Community Day at the Back Bay Science Center gives Orange County residents and visitors a chance to tour the facility that is otherwise closed to the general public. Take a moment to walk through the teaching lab and view the native bay and tidepool organisms in the aquaria, spend some time getting to know the seastars, sea cucumbers, and urchins in the outdoor touch tank, stroll along the nature trail and soak in the view, let your artistic side shine with some sponge painting. City of Newport Beach staff members are available every Sunday to answer questions and educate visitors about the beautiful natural habitat surrounding the Center.

In January, the City of Newport Beach and ExplorOcean began their partnership to bring weekly activities to Community Day. These activities relate to the seven principles of ocean literacy which take an ocean-oriented approach to teaching science standards. Staff and volunteers from ExplorOcean are focusing on ocean literacy principles each month through June 2013. Community Day is free so come visit us any Sunday from 10am-2pm at 600 Shellmaker Road, Newport Beach, CA 92660. If you have any questions about this program please contact Michelle Clemente mclemente@newportbeachca.gov.

the Current

NEWPORT BEACH & COSTA MESA

FRIDAY, NOV. 16, 2012

Go under the sea at Back Bay

By BRIANA GORSKI
FOR THE CURRENT

The Back Bay Science Center is located on Shellmaker Island off Back Bay Drive near Newport Dunes. It sits at the start of the 752-acre Upper Newport Bay Ecological Reserve, and welcomes students and the public to explore and find out how important the estuary is. While it doesn't have a Visitor's Center like the Peter and Mary Muth Interpretive Center, it's open every Sunday from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. for "Community Day." Staff members are available to answer questions at the open house-style setting, where you can tour the facility, view aquaria featuring native marine species, and walk the loop trail which offers a spectacular view of the reserve. You can even touch a variety of marine life, including bat rays and starfish, among many others, in their designated touch tanks.

The Back Bay estuary is created by the watershed, or rain and runoff trick-



A two-spotted octopus shows off its tentacles in the Back Bay Science Center's

ling down from the mountains, meeting the tide coming in from the Pacific Ocean. It's a unique ecosystem where freshwater meets saltwater, and its animals have adapted to live in this habitat. The Upper Newport Bay Ecological Reserve is designated as such to be set aside for the sanctuary and preserva-

tion of its special fish and including many endangered species and some plants. It is an important fish nursery, while sports fishing in the ocean. I the opportunities for the pul

SEE SCIENCE PAGE

FRIDAY, NOV. 16, 2012

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SCIENCE

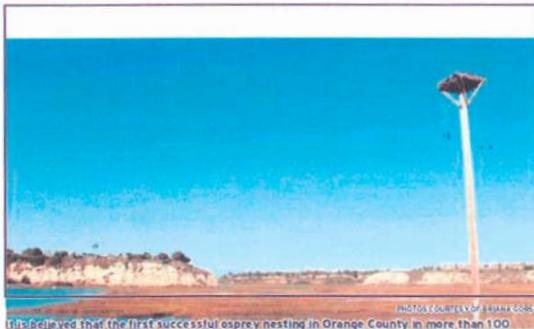
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wildlife - whether fishing, canoeing, or through photography - however, the recreation aspect is secondary to its ecological preservation.

The ecological reserve is home to four endangered birds, including the light-footed clapper rail, which requires tall cord grass to weave in its unique floating nest, that rises and falls with the ebb and flow of the tide. The other species which make their home in the estuary are the California Least Tern, the Belding's Savannah Sparrow and the Least Bell's Vireo.

During winter months, the Bay serves as home to up to 30,000 birds which migrate south from Canada and Alaska. The preservation of the reserve is also important as a sanctuary for tired and hungry birds which migrate from the south during the spring and summer to nest, as well as the year-round inhabitants.

The center holds a monthly Saturday "Marine Life Inventory," with the exact date based on the "perfect" tide levels, weather and other factors. Participants rotate through three stations, examining creatures that live in the middle of the bay, those that live near shore, as well as a "mud grab" which detects the many organisms that live in the mud, and microscopic plants and animals that live in the bay. They invite teachers to bring their classes, grades 7th-12th, to participate in the inventory, and to keep track of the research which they



The first successful osprey nesting in Orange County in more than 100 years occurred at the Upper Newport Bay Ecological Reserve in 2006.

were a part of collecting. One plan, according to Robin Madrid, the Education Program Coordinator who works for the Department of Fish and Game at the Center, "is to turn it into a project for students," involving, "critical thinking, (and) even problem solving." The Marine Life Inventory is also a source of community service for high-school level students.

The "Shellmaker Discovery Tour" which takes place the same day as the Marine Life Inventory, is also available for those who want to learn more about the plants, birds and animals of the area, and is led by a trained docent.

The Back Bay Science Center hosts students, repeat teachers and instructors, generally from the 7th-12th grade, for field trips, but also welcomes college-level research and interns, with

many from University of California at Irvine, one of the Center's four operating partners" Madrid said. The other three partners are the City of Newport Beach, the California Department of Fish and Game, and the County of Orange Health Care Agency. The four partners oversee and jointly manage the property.

The County's Health Care agency is involved in water testing for public safety at the center. They monitor the 42 miles of Orange County coastline, with the Back Bay Science Center serving as a "centralized location ... and their lab is located on-site. They measure for toxic levels of bacteria that can cause people to get sick, (and then) can close beaches," Madrid explained.

Because the center is more research based, scheduled appointments and pro-



A burgundy sea star in one of the tanks at the Back Bay Science Center.

Back Bay Science Center

For more information, visit the Back Bay Science Center at backbaysciencecenter.org, or attend a Community Day every Sunday from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at 600 Shellmaker Road, Newport Beach.

grams are more appropriate than having open hours; the educated staff conducts a variety of hands-on experiences. Madrid reasons that without the staff, many people "are not going to know what they're looking at."

Some of the Center's supporting partners include the Newport Aquatic Center, the California Coastal Commission, the OC Coastkeeper, the Newport Sea Base, the Newport Bay Conservancy and MJOcean.

During the summer, the Center runs summer camps including "Shark Camp," and other daily programs, which Madrid admits are "really popular, (as) kids really enjoy it."

Other special event days include participation with 52 Orange County sites in Coastal Cleanup Day, Earth Day, Estuary Awareness Day in May or June, and a monthly lectures series.

PARK PATROL

Requested calls are assigned visits by staff or schedule or phone requests. Customer Contacts are the number of times they stopped and spoke to customers other than requested calls. Due to the timing of the meeting, these monthly summaries will be two months behind (i.e. in June you will receive April summary). During the month of **November/December**, Park Patrol had the following number of contacts:

1. Requested Calls

- 96 with Youth Sports Groups
- 51 Field related issues/checks
- 10 Park/Picnic/reservation issues/checks
- 130 Community Center issues/checks
- 121 Playground checks
- 65 other

2. CDM Beach Contacts

- 2 BBQ's

3. Event Checks

- 3 Pre-event check
- 1 Post-event check

4. Public Contacts

- 229 education
- 13 alcohol
- 251 dog related

NOV Written Warnings Issued – 11 parking violations

Citations Issued – 2 citations issued for parking violations

FACILITY RENTALS & SPECIAL EVENT PERMITS

During the period of Nov 16, 2012 – Jan 15, 2013 there were:

- 56 Picnic/Park Area Rentals
- 32 Room Rentals
- 11 Field Rentals
- 13 Gym Rentals

As of January 15, 2013, there were 18 Special Event Permits processed and issued for the year.

Those events of note for this period are:

CdM Christmas Walk: CdM Beach, December 2, 2012 - Attendance: 5000

Christmas Boat Parade: Newport Harbor, December 19-23, 2012 - Attendance: 1 million

**Senior Services
Monthly Activities Report**

To: Parks, Beaches & Recreation Commission

From: Celeste Jardine-Haug, Senior Services Manager

Re: Senior Services Division Monthly Activities Report

OASIS SENIOR CENTER

The Center is back in the swing of things with new classes and activities. With all the New Year's resolutions, many people have joined the fitness center and exercise classes. A group of students from Sage Hill High School Dance team visit once a month and perform and teach the audience the dance; this last month was the *Cha Cha*. These performances are free of charge and part of the students' service learning project. The "Let's go Trippin" group provided a fantastic presentation on Bali, Borneo and beyond. This group meets once a month on a Wednesday evening.

Sign-ups for income tax preparation began January with over 50 appointments made on the first day. This is a popular service with nine volunteer tax counselors preparing taxes every Friday beginning February 1. The taxes are completed on computers in the computer lab. The income guideline for being eligible to use the service is \$75,000.

FACILITY RENTALS

During the period of Nov 16, 2012 – Jan 15, 2013 there were:

3 rentals of the Event Center

6 rentals of classrooms

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2012 OASIS UTILIZATION REPORT

PARTICIPANTS ATTENDING **25,234 CUSTOMERS**

RECREATIONAL CLASSES **3,909 CUSTOMERS**

FITNESS CENTER **10,836 CUSTOMERS**

PERSONALIZED SERVICES PROVIDED **3,667 CUSTOMERS**

Includes:

Blood Pressure	95	Rental Inquiries	46
Counseling-persons	120	Rentals (Paid)	12
Eldercare	0	Senior Assessment(hrs)	80
Employment	35	Telephone Reassurance	370
HICAP	103	Visual Screening	5
Housing counseling	50	Taxes (Seasonal)	
Information and Referral	2739		
Legal Assistance	12		

SENIORS RECEIVING TRANSPORTATION SERVICES **1,870 RIDERS**

Care-A-Van/Shuttle

CUSTOMERS RECEIVING NOON MEALS @ THE CENTE **3,677 CUSTOMERS**

*includes meals on wheels

VOLUNTEER SERVICES PROVIDED AT THE CENTER **2,001 HOURS**

Includes:	Kitchen & Home Delivered Meals	(*equiv. to 9 full-time employees)
Front Office	Travel Office	
Gift Shop	Library	
Instructors	President	
Treasurer	Vice President	
Bookkeeper	Taxes	

PARTICIPANTS IN FRIENDS OF OASIS TRAVEL **222 CUSTOMERS**

Day Trips

Viejas Casino	51
Palm Springs Follies	36
Cleopatra Exhibit	44
LACMA	34

Long Trips

Central Coast by Rail	5
Golden Nugget- Las Vegas	52

SPECIAL EVENTS/SCREENINGS/LECTURES **1,053 PERSONS**

Trail Trekkies	17	Thanksgiving Luncheon	208
OASIS Golfers	232	Movie "The Big Miracle"	70
Computer Friends	45	Piano Concert	50
Let's Go Trippin'	105	HOAG Stroke Lecture	45
Big Band Seminar	115	Bone Density Screening	42
Holiday Luncheon	200	UCI Lecture: Dizziness	75
Movie "Joyeux Noel"	25		
Line Dancing Social	97		
Cookies and Cocoa	100		



Municipal Operations Department

PB&R Commission Agenda
Item No. 7A
February 5, 2013

TO: Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission
FROM: Municipal Operations Director
SUBJECT: *Appeal for Tree Removal at 214 Heliotrope Avenue*

Recommendation

That the Commission deny the appeal to retain one City Aleppo Pine parkway street tree located at 214 Heliotrope Avenue, Corona del Mar.

Discussion

Municipal Operations staff met with property owners Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Vranicar on November 15, 2012 at their home located at 214 Heliotrope Avenue. Staff included the Department Director Mark Harmon and Parks & Trees Superintendent Dan Sereno. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss staff's recommendation to remove a City parkway tree due to evidence of severe root pruning and decay. The property owner opposes the removal and has requested retention of the tree. His opinion is the tree is safe; staff disagreed with Mr. Vranicar, and the appeal process was explained to Mr. Vranicar.

The tree was inspected by the Urban Forester and Parks & Trees Superintendent in August. They determined that the tree met the criteria for removal as stated in City Council Policy G-1, Retention or Removal of City Trees. In order for a City tree to be eligible for removal, the Policy requires a "repeated history of damaging public or private sewers", and is "dead, diseased, dying, or hazardous, and presents a liability to the City" (Attachment C). Staff's finding was forwarded for review to the Department Director, Risk Manager, and City Manager, all who concurred with the determination (Attachments A & B).

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Vranicar are requesting an appeal of the tree removal before the Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission. The Vranicars, the adjacent property owner Danette Fenstermacher (who resides at 218 Heliotrope), and Council Member Nancy Gardner have received a copy of this report and a notice of the Commission meeting.

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Harmon", written over a horizontal line.

Mark Harmon

Attachments: (A) Tree Removal Review – Potential Liability
(B) Tree Removal Inspection Report
(C) Council Policy G-1, Retention or Removal of City Trees, pages 4-6
(D) Tree Removal Letter, dated September 25, 2012



Municipal Operations Department

MOD

August 21, 2012

TO: Municipal Operations Deputy Director

2012 8 21 2012

Human Resources

FROM: Parks and Trees Superintendent and Urban Forester

Received

Received by OML

SUBJECT: *Tree Removal Review - Potential Liability*

PROPERTY OWNER(S)
INFORMATION:

Name: **Franklin Vranicar**
Tree Location: **214 Heliotrope Avenue
Front 1**

The resident at 218 Heliotrope Avenue is requesting removal of a City Aleppo Pine tree due to concern of the tree size which may jeopardize the foundation of the home.

A field inspection determined the tree has evidence of severe root pruning on both sides.

Staff recommends removal of the City tree.

REPLACEMENT TREE: YES NO

DESIGNATED TREE: Magnolia grandiflora 'Little Gem' - Little Gem Magnolia

MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Tree has been root pruned severely, and sidewalk necessitates repair. Remove

Signature: *[Signature]*

Date: *9-10-12*

RISK MANAGER'S COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Rick Hymel concurs with tree removal

Signature: *[Signature]*

Date: *9/12/12*

CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

OK

City Manager: *[Signature]*

Date: *9/24/12*

Attachments

*WCA notified 9-25-12
R*



Municipal Operations Department

TREE INSPECTION REPORT

Property Owner: Franklin Vranicar

Tree Location: 214 Heliotrope Avenue / Front 1

Request: The resident at 218 Heliotrope Avenue is requesting removal of a City Aleppo Pine due to concern of the tree size which may jeopardize the foundation of the home.

Tree Species: Pinus halepensis – Aleppo Pine

Designated Street Tree: Magnolia grandiflora 'Little Gem' – Little Gem Magnolia or Howea forsteriana – Kentia Palm

Estimated Tree Value: \$6,080.00

Damage: N/A

Work History: The Field Maintenance Division has the following work history recorded for this site:

- 2005 – Curb/Gutter Repairs
- 2008 – Sidewalk Repairs

Parkway: Concrete Brick Turf (X) Other

Comments: A field inspection determined the tree has evidence of severe root pruning on both sides. Staff recommends the tree be removed.

Inspected by: John Conway **Date:** August 21, 2012
John Conway, Urban Forester

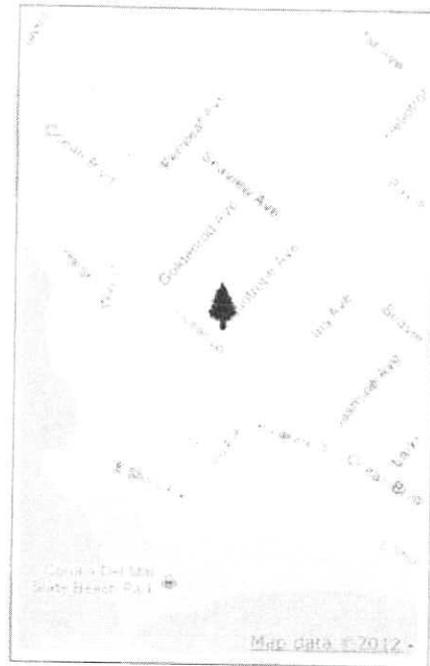
Recommendation: Remove the City tree to mitigate potential liability.

Reviewed by: Dan P. Sereno **Date:** August 21, 2012
Dan P. Sereno, Parks and Trees Superintendent

Show/Hide Map Print Report

Inventory Detail

ID: 12
 Address: 314 HELIX DRIVE AV
 Pct. Type: No
 Location: Front-1
 Ct. Address: 314 HELIX DRIVE AV
 Species: PINK BARK OAK - 2' DBH - 100%
 DBH/Height: 19-24 / 15-30
 Parkway Size: 99
 Utility Obstruction: No
 Sidewalk Damage: No
 Recommended Maintenance: Grid Trim
 Estimated Value: \$6,086



WCA Work History

Date	Work Type	Amount	Job#
6-12-2010	Grid Trimming	\$39.00	11194
8-26-2007	Grid Trimming	\$39.00	11160
7-12-2004	Grid Trimming	\$39.00	11134
1/6/2003	Grid Trimming	\$39.00	11124
2-13-2001	Grid Trimming	\$39.00	11131
12/7,1999	Grid Trimming	\$39.00	11105

Other Work History

Date	Work Type	Crew	Acct#	Min
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proposed, if applicable, of the intent to remove a Problem Tree. The decision by the City Manager to remove a problem tree is final unless called up by at least one Councilperson. The Urban Forester shall report the removal of Problem Trees on a monthly basis to the Commission. The cost to remove and replace Problem Trees will be the sole responsibility of the City based on availability of funding, with the exception of Category C (view), which is the sole responsibility of the applicant.

ALL OTHER CITY TREES

A City tree which is not designated as a Special or Problem Tree is designated as an All Other Tree. It is the City's policy to retain All Other Trees unless removal is necessary for one of the following reasons:

- A. The City tree has had a repeated history of damaging public or private sewers, water mains, roadways, sidewalks, curbs, walls, fences, underground utilities, or foundations based on City records or other competent and reliable authority. Water or sewer stoppage that results from tree roots and causes significant public or private property damage (greater than \$500) shall be sufficient criterion for tree removal.
- B. The City tree has had a repeated history - of significant interference with street or sidewalk drainage.
- C. The City tree is dead, diseased, dying, or hazardous, and presents a liability to the City. A dead tree is one that has been assessed by the Urban Forester and found to have deceased. Diseased trees are defined as those trees that cannot be cured by current arboricultural methods, are in an advanced state of decline, and have no prospect of recovery. Dying trees are those that have no prospect of recovery. Hazardous trees are defined as those that are defective, have a potential to fail, and would cause damage to persons and property upon failure. The Urban Forester will perform a hazard assessment whenever a tree is identified as hazardous. The assessment will identify: structural defects of the tree, parts of the tree most likely to fail, targets where imminent personal injury or property damage may result with tree failure, and procedures or actions necessary to abate the hazard. After assessment, the Urban Forester will expeditiously convey his written findings and recommendations to the Risk Manager for evaluation. If the Risk Manager agrees with the Urban Forester findings to remove a tree, the hazardous tree will be removed without further delay. In the case of imminent tree failure, the Parks and Trees Maintenance

Superintendent or the Urban Forester shall have the authority to direct the removal of a hazardous tree.

- D. The tree(s) have been requested to be removed in conjunction with a City Council-approved City, commercial, neighborhood, or community association beautification program.
- E. The City Manager, upon the advice of the General Services Director, City Attorney, Risk Manager or the Traffic Engineer, shall have the authority to remove individual Problem or All Other Trees to resolve claims or safety issues.

REMOVAL OF CITY TREES

The initiation to remove (Special or All Other) City tree(s) may be made by the staff of the General Services, and/or Public Works Departments, a legally established community association, or a private property owner by making application to the General Services Director, utilizing the City tree removal form. The provisions and procedures of this Section of the Policy do not apply to the Problem Tree nor Reforestation tree removal processes, which are described in other sections of this Policy. Special Trees may be considered for removal under the provisions of this Section provided a special report by the General Services Director is provided to the Commission detailing the necessity of removal and any specific previous treatment of the tree.

After receipt of the application, a Tree Inspection Report shall be prepared by the City's Urban Forester (Attachment 2) to determine if the tree(s) meets the criteria outlined in the above All Other City Trees section for consideration for removal. Simultaneously, the Urban Forester shall provide a notice of the proposed tree removal to the adjacent property owner (if not the applicant), the private property owners immediately adjacent to the applicant's property, and the appropriate community association if applicable, (not applicable to the emergency removal of hazardous trees under Item C nor to trees that meet the criteria of Item E in the preceding All Other City Trees section). The Urban Forester shall determine whether in his/her judgment additional specific treatment can be initiated to retain the tree provided the costs are reasonable. If a tree(s) is to be removed, the tree(s) will be posted at least 30 days prior to the removal with a sign notifying the public that they have the right of appeal. The sign shall also note a staff contact. Once a recommendation is made by the Urban Forester and the Parks and Trees Maintenance Superintendent to the General Services Director and the General Services Director or designee concurs, then the applicant, the adjoining owners,

private property owners on either side of the street within 500' in each direction of the tree location and a legally established community association, if applicable, shall be notified of the decision to remove or retain the tree within 30 days of the proposed removal. A legally established community association is responsible for notification of all association members pursuant to their established procedure. The General Services Director, or a designee, shall prepare a staff report for a regularly scheduled PB&R Commission meeting of all trees recommended for removal, except for those trees categorized in Paragraph C. (dead, diseased, or dying trees) or Paragraph E (claims and safety issues) in the preceding section on All Other City Trees. Only an applicant, an adjoining property owner, or a legally established community association, the City Manager, a PB&R Commissioner, or a Councilmember may appeal the decision of the General Services Director not to remove a tree to the Commission. The Commission, in considering any appeal, shall determine whether the removal meets the criteria outlined in this Policy, as well as any unique factors which may be pertinent to the removal or retention of tree(s). The decision of the Commission will be considered final unless called up by at least one Councilmember or the City Manager.

The General Services Department will delay any tree removal(s) for at least 14 calendar days following the date of the Commission decision in order to allow time for a Councilmember or the City Manager to call the item.

The City will replace all trees removed in accordance with the All Other City Trees removal criteria on a one for one basis. Replacement trees will be a minimum of a 36" boxed size. If 36" boxed trees are not available, or funding, or space constraints prevent planting of a large tree, then a minimum of a 24" boxed tree will be planted. The full costs of removal and replacement of Special or All Other Tree(s) will be the sole responsibility of the City, unless an applicant voluntarily pays for a new tree(s).

REFORESTATION OF CITY TREES

The concept of systematically replacing Problem or All Other Trees which are creating hardscape and/or view problems and cannot be properly trimmed, pruned or modified to alleviate the problem(s) they create, or those which have reached their full life, and are declining in health, or are simply the wrong species of trees for the planted location is referred to as reforestation. The Urban Forester shall make a finding for the latter category of inappropriate tree species for a specific location. His determination may be appealed to the General Services Director whose decision will be final.



CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH
MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT

September 25, 2012

Franklin Vranicar
214 Heliotrope Avenue
Corona del Mar, CA 92625

Subject: *City Tree Removal*

Dear Mr. Vranicar,

On July 16, 2012 a request was made to remove a City Aleppo Pine tree that is adjacent to your residence. The City's Urban Forester determined the tree has evidence of severe root pruning on both sides which is creating a potential liability.

In accordance with the removal criteria of City Council Policy G-1, Retention or Removal of City Trees, the City Manager, Risk Manager and Municipal Operations Deputy Director authorized the removal of the City tree in order to mitigate a potential liability. Please refer to Policy G-1 at the City's website: <http://www.newportbeachca.gov>, City Government, City Council, Council Policy Manual.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact John Conway, Urban Forester at (949) 644-3083 or email jconway@newportbeachca.gov.

Sincerely,

Dan P. Sereno
Parks and Trees Superintendent

cc: Mayor Nancy Gardner

Comments on February 5, 2013 PB&R Agenda Items

from: Jim Mosher (jimmosher@yahoo.com), 2210 Private Road, Newport Beach 92660 (949-548-6229)

6) CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Minutes of the December 4, 2012 regular meeting.

I noticed two very minor typos in the draft minutes (corrections indicated by strike-out):

1. On page 4, at the end of the three-sentence paragraph under “**C. Reforestation Request – Port Theater**”: “... which will provide a view to the ~~marquis~~ marquee.”
2. On page 5 , under “**7) Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items**”: “He suggested that the Commission place ~~in an~~ item on a future agenda ...”

With regard to the Port Theater item, although not a correction to minutes, I might note that I attended the January 24, 2013 meeting of the Corona del Mar Business Improvement District. Their Board has some authority over the PCH streetscape and had approved this item prior to PB&R, but several Directors were quite unhappy with what they regarded as a gross distortion of their approval. As indicated by their minutes found in the December PB&R agenda packet, they were willing to consent to the Port Theater’s request *only* if a tree were maintained at the existing location *and* if the existing Orchid tree could be relocated to a location missing a tree on PCH. Yet without reporting back to them, staff apparently determined (as it reported to PB&R) that relocation was not feasible, cut the existing tree off near ground level and appears to plan to put a new tree at a different location, unreviewed by the BID. As one Director indicated, the City seems “anti-tree,” and it seemed pointless to ask the BID to deliberate and make a carefully thought out recommendation (they were particularly concerned about setting a precedent whereby every merchant claiming interference with sign visibility could have a tree removed) if every aspect of it was to be ignored.

B. Parks & Operations Division Activity Report.

With regard to the **Parks Maintenance Division Activities** report, I am surprised to not see among the projects listed the removal of 54 trees from the Groves Bike Trail as authorized by the Commission at its December meeting. Although the minutes of that meeting mention only an expected Summer 2013 completion date, I seem to recall Director Harmon saying that pursuant to the noticing requirement found at the bottom of page 5 of Policy G-1, the first trees to be removed would be tagged shortly after Christmas with removal beginning in January, after expiration of the 30 day post-tagging appeal period specified there. I have seen no tags, so it would seem useful to update the Commission on the status of this project – one of the very few major projects to have come before PB&R in recent months. Although that possibility has not been mentioned by staff, I suspect the Groves Bike Trail tree removal project may require a Coastal Development Permit before it can proceed, for even though the blue gum eucalyptus is not native to California, I believe similarly situated trees at Bolsa Chica have been protected as an important part of the wetland ecosystem, and the California Coastal Act seems clear that any

removal of major vegetation for other than agricultural or timber harvesting purposes requires review and permitting (see definition of "Development" in California Public Resources Code Section 30106).

With regard to the other activities listed, it seems appropriate to remind the Commission of the remaining powers and duties of government assigned directly to it by the people of Newport Beach through Section 709 of the City Charter as modified in last November's election:

There shall be a Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission consisting of seven members which shall have the power and be required to:

(a) Act in an advisory capacity to the City Council in all matters pertaining to parks, beaches, recreation, parkways and street trees.

(b) Assist in the planning of parks and recreation programs for the inhabitants of the City, promote and stimulate public interest therein, and to that end solicit to the fullest extent possible the cooperation of school authorities and other public and private agencies interested therein.

(c) Establish policies for the acquisition, development and improvement of parks, beaches and playgrounds and for the planting, care and removal of trees and shrubs in all parks, playgrounds and streets, subject to the rights and powers of the City Council.

(d) Perform such other duties as may be prescribed by ordinance not inconsistent with the provisions of this Charter.

Under the terms of the Charter, the following projects listed in the report would seem to have required advice from the Commission, and consistency with its policies, prior to action – yet, to the best of my knowledge, none of these have been reviewed or commented on by PB&R:

- Balboa Blvd Medians
- Bristol Street South Landscape
- CdM Entrance at MacArthur Blvd
- Civic Center Park
- China Cove Slope
- Dover Drive Median
- I Street Median
- Lido Village and existing City Hall site
- Playground donation at Balboa Blvd and Miramar Street
- Redlands Avenue Right-of-Way

The **Tree Division Activities** report sadly suggests little change to the recent pattern of the City removing more trees than it replaces.

8) PARKS, BEACHES & RECREATION COMMISSION / STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS, UPDATES OR MATTERS WHICH MEMBERS WOULD LIKE PLACED ON A FUTURE AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION, ACTION OR REPORT

Reviewing past PB&R agendas, I notice there used to be an item consisting of reports from various standing committees of the Commission. As of October 4, 2011 they consisted of:

- **Park Development** – Anderson, Lugar, Marston
- **Recreation/Senior Activities** – Anderson, Hamilton, Lugar
- **Budget** – Lugar, Marston, Tingley
- **Community Service Award** – Englebrecht, Cole, Hamilton
- **Youth Sports Liaison** – Anderson, Englebrecht

When the Commission reconvened on January 3, 2012, these committees seemed to have disappeared, and reports were agendized from just two Ad Hoc Committees, which have since completed their work:

- **Fire Rings**
- **Bench Donation Process**

Although the stripping of PB&R of its budget oversight role by Charter Measure EE in November 2012 has made the “Budget” Committee irrelevant, it is unclear to me what the status of the other committees might be. As best I can tell, none of them have been heard from for more than a year. Should they be resurrected, it is important to note that the meetings of standing governmental committees are fully subject to the Brown Act regardless of how many (or few) members they have.

9) PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

At the City Council’s January 12, 2013 Saturday Planning Session I commented on what I view as the increasing marginalization of PB&R. Reviewing the remaining obligations enumerated in the Charter Section highlighted on the previous page, with the exception of occasional tree removal requests, the current Council seems to be short-circuiting each and every responsibility of PB&R. For example, the Council has appointed separate “Citizens Advisory Panels” to review plans for landscaping, and unilaterally accepted park donations with no PB&R advice or review. Similarly, major initiatives regarding bicycle infrastructure and tidelands/beach management seem slated to go forward, apparently with no input from the Commission.

I believe PB&R needs to be pro-active in reasserting its rightful role.