

*DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ENCINITAS URBAN FOREST ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 23, 2023, 5:30 P.M., POINSETTIA ROOM @ 505 S. VULCAN AVE*

CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS

Committee Chair Mark Jenne called the meeting to order at 5:38 P.M.

Present: Committee Chair Mark Jenne; Committee Members Brian Bishop, Tony Gurnoe, Christina Simokat

Absent: Committee Member Carol Parker

Also, Present: Chris Kallstrand, Dudek; Sofia Barbosa, City of Encinitas; Sheila Cameron, Resident.

There being a quorum present, the meeting was in order.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS / NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Sheila Cameron asked if comments will be allowed after each topic presentation and discussion. City Contract Arborist, Chris Kallstrand, acknowledged the opportunity for anyone to speak and mentioned that pink Speaker Slips are available to fill out and complete.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

City Contract Arborist, Chris Kallstrand, stated that there are no updates for Item #5, "Native Plant Policy Update" and requested Item #4 "Eucalyptus Evaluations on Vulcan Avenue" be discussed prior to Item #3 "Ficus Tree Pruning Recommendation Presentation." City Contract Arborist, Chris Kallstrand, mentioned that Item #3 "Ficus Tree Pruning Recommendation Presentation" will consist of not a presentation but of recent collected data along with an overview of an older version of a Ficus Tree Pruning Recommendation Presentation.

AGENDA

1. **REVIEW AND APPROVE MEETING MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 23, 2023**

SPEAKERS:

None

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Committee Chair Mark Jenne suggested the Arbor Day event date of April 22, 2023, be added to the meeting minutes. Committee Chair Mark Jenne moved to approve the meeting minutes from February 23, 2023. Committee member Gurnoe seconded. Motion carried. Ayes:3; Nays:0; Absent:1 (Parker), Abstain: 1 (Simokat)

2. EUCALYPTUS EVALUATIONS ON VULCAN AVENUE

SPEAKERS:

None

City Contract Arborist, Chris Kallstrand, explained that the Eucalyptus Tree Evaluations on Vulcan Avenue began as a concern from Mayor Tony Kranz when a Eucalyptus Tree on North Vulcan Avenue between La Costa Avenue and Leucadia Boulevard, died without any known cause between the months of October and November of last year. As a result, he was asked to evaluate the Eucalyptus Trees along Vulcan Avenue and perform tree risk assessments that include to determine the level of decay and look for sulfur fungus. The presentation today is to review the Eucalyptus Trees evaluation, recent data findings and set recommendations. In addition, to share tree root tissue sample results taken from two Eucalyptus trees located on Highway 101 that fell during the recent storm.

City Contract Arborist, Chris Kallstrand, shared and explained a power point presentation that includes the evaluation of 10 Blue Gum Eucalyptus Trees located on the East side of Vulcan Avenue. City Contract Arborist, Chris Kallstrand, mentions that tree industry evaluation standards were used to evaluate each Eucalyptus Tree that include sonic tomography, ground level visual inspection and also identify any potential targets should a tree failure occur.

Tree 82424E is a single stem tree, approximately 40 inches in diameter, in fair health with no major external issues and no defects were observed on the crown. However, inside the tree, 32 percent damaged wood was detected at 3 inches above ground. Based on the level of the decay, the size of the tree and location within the landscape, it has been given a HIGH RISK rating.

Tree 8247E is as single stem tree, 48 inches in diameter, 65 feet tall, fair health. Damage was observed on structural roots. 53 percent of internal decay and damaged wood at 6 inches above ground level was detected. It has been given a HIGH RISK rating with a recommendation of removal.

Tree 8258E is 46 inch diameter tree, 60 feet high and with fair health. Decay is also internal with 60 percent damaged wood. Based on this information, location, it has been given a significant risk or HIGH RISK rating.

Tree 8259E is a single stem tree, 46 inch diameter and 60 feet high with fair health structure. 17 percent damaged wood at 3 inches above ground level was detected. This is given and ELEVATED RISK and will continue to monitor and track its progression of decay over time.

The next tree is 36 inch diameter, 70 feet tall with fair external health structure. 7 percent decay detected at 6 inches above ground level which are early levels of decay. This tree is recommended for monitoring over time and minor crown reduction.

Tree 8310E is a single stem, 44 inch diameter, 65 feet tall with minimal decay. 6 percent internal damage at 6 inches above ground. This is given a LOW RISK and is recommended for track and monitoring over time.

Tree 8304E is a single stem, 46 inch diameter and 70 feet tall. 75 percent decay detected, is a SIGNIFICANT RISK and recommended for removal.

Next tree is 80 feet tall, 44 inch diameter and has 75 percent damage as well.

Following is a tree that has a 36 inch diameter, 60 feet, fair health structural condition. No major external concerns. 28 percent damaged wood and is given an ELEVATED RISK recommended for track and monitoring in the next year.

Last tree has 29 percent decay, is given an ELEVATED RISK and recommended for track and monitoring.

City Contract Arborist, Chris Kallstrand, explains that in Blue Gum Eucalyptus Trees, the decay or damage works its way up the root system. Sulfur Fungus is the main cause of decay once there is damage within the trees. It is a Brown Rot that dehydrates the tree making the trees dry and fragile reducing the weight of the tree. No treatment exists, currently.

City Contract Arborist, Chris Kallstrand, continues with presenting pictures of the two large Blue Gum Trees located on Highway 101 that fell with the recent storms. One tree was located on the west side of the railroad tracks and the other on the East side of Highway 101. Each of these trees failed affecting the adjacent railway causing delays in railroad track service. City Contract Arborist, Chris Kallstrand, mentions that West Coast Arborist did a great job to clear the track with an approximate response time of 40 minutes. He pointed out that a sample was taken from the roots of these trees which results showed the Sulfur Fungus pathogen making the trees unstable in their landscape.

COMMENT:

Sheila Cameron requested the physical addresses of the Blue Gum Trees shared on the presentation and the date of when the trees recommended for removal will take place. City Contract Arborist, Chris Kallstrand, advised that the addresses of the mentioned trees will be posted on the City's Website, but he can also send them to her via email. He also relayed that the 2 week City Tree Removal Notice will be posted on the City's website, on the tree itself, and door to door notices will be passed out within that tree removal area. Sheila Cameron commented on her concern for the health of the trees and suggested certain trees for replanting. City Contract Arborist, Chris Kallstrand, acknowledged her concerns and reassured that the trees that will be replanted will be trees appropriate for the location that will maximize the life of that tree.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

No Committee action required on this item.

3. FICUS TREE PRUNING RECOMMENDATION PRESENTATION

SPEAKERS:

None

City Contract Arborist, Chris Kallstrand, presented an overview of the original Downtown Ficus Tree Pilot Pruning Program with analysis for a historical perspective only. UFAC was given the task to evaluate the effectiveness of the Downtown Ficus Tree Pilot Pruning Program, provide recommendations to expand the program and guidance. The outcome decision was to not to apply the program to the remaining trees and that the trees should be evaluated individually on a case by case basis.

COMMENT:

Sheila Cameron expressed her concerns about the Ficus Trees on Second St that they are beautiful, should continue to be kept and trimmed but not cut. The UFAC panel agreed.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

No Committee action required on this item.

4. ARBOR DAY OVERVIEW

SPEAKERS:

None

City Contract Arborist, Chris Kallstrand, states there are no updates for Arbor Day. Invited everyone to come to Arbor Day April 22, 2023, at Leucadia Oaks Park.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

No Committee action required on this item.

5. **AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETING – NEXT MEETING APRIL 27, 2023**

- Ficus Tree Evaluations
- Mature Tree Ordinance follow-up
- Arbor Day planning re-cap
- Native Plant Policy Update

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

DRAFT