

AGENDA

ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

TREE COMMITTEE MEETING

RUSH PARK
Administration Building
3001 Blume Drive
Rossmoor, California

Wednesday, May 31, 2017
4:00 p.m.

A. ORGANIZATION

1. CALL TO ORDER: 4:00 p.m.
2. ROLL CALL: Directors DeMarco, Nitikman
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
4. PRESENTATIONS: None

B. PUBLIC FORUM

Any person may address the members of the Tree Committee at this time upon any subject within the jurisdiction of the Tree Committee of the Rossmoor Community Services District.

C. REGULAR CALENDAR

1. COUNTY OF ORANGE REQUEST TO REMOVE PARKWAY TREE
2. RUSH PARK PARKING LOT PROJECT – REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT OF FICUS TREES

D. ADJOURNMENT

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING

I hereby certify that the attached Agenda for the Wednesday, May 31, 2017, 4:00 p.m. Rossmoor Tree Committee Meeting of the Rossmoor Community Services District was posted at least 24 hours prior to the time of the meeting.

ATTEST:



JAMES D. RUTH
General Manager

Date 5/24/17_____

ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

AGENDA ITEM C-1

Date: May 31, 2017
To: Tree Committee
From: General Manager
Subject: County of Orange request to remove the parkway tree at 3212 Ruth Elaine Drive

RECOMMENDATION:

After thorough review staff concurs that the tree located at 3212 Ruth Elaine Drive should not be removed and the County should be notified accordingly.

BACKGROUND:

On April 17, 2017 Rossmoor Tree Consultant Mary Kingman was contacted by Orange County Public Works Construction Inspector Dean Capalety regarding the tree located in the parkway at 3212 Ruth Elaine Dr. Mr. Capalety was at the location performing an inspection related to a home remodel construction project when he noticed the following: **“the curb and gutter cracked and separating along with the drive approach has lifted to about two inches”**. After subsequent inspections by Orange County Public Works inspectors, that agency recommended and requested removal of the tree due to what they found as **“major damage to our sidewalk, curb, and resident drive approach due to the expansive root system of the tree at the subject address.”**

RCSD TREE CONSULTANT OBSERVATIONS:

The tree in question is a mature *Platanus racemosa*, or California Sycamore. It is approximately 60' tall with a trunk diameter of 35" and a value of \$17,220. The tree appears to be healthy with no health issues observed in the trunk, crown or root area. The tree does have a large root system that extends out several feet from the trunk base, which is typical for a tree of its age, size and species. The tree is one of the original planting in Rossmoor, having been planted when the neighborhood was built and has an age of approximately 60 years.

The value of the tree is based on it being a large specimen that provides aesthetic, environmental, social and economic value to the homeowner and the community. The tree is a California native specimen, its species currently under attack from a devastating pest/disease complex that is affecting trees throughout the region. Root pruning is not an option for this tree, as the large, above-ground roots are located in extremely close proximity to the trunk base and pruning these roots could undermine the structural integrity of the tree.

OTHER OBSERVATIONS:

- The sidewalk has been repaired and/or replaced in recent years and there is no current uplifting or damage to the sidewalk
- The curb is pushed out by the tree root system along the gutter, causing cracks at two different locations with a 2" separation at each point
- The bottom edge of the driveway approach is 1-1.5" higher than the curb. Due to the fairly uniform height of the separation, it cannot be confirmed that tree roots are the cause.

Mary Kingman spoke with the homeowner Ricardo Banos on May 24, 2017 and he confirmed that it was his desire that the tree not be removed. He indicated that County Inspector Dean Capalety informed him during his construction inspection that the driveway approach was lifting and causing a trip hazard and that this was the reason the tree would need to be removed.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Photos of tree located at 3212 Ruth Elaine Drive in Rossmoor.

Agenda Item C-1: 3212 Ruth Elaine Dr.



ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

AGENDA ITEM C-2

Date: May 31, 2017
To: Tree Committee
From: General Manager
Subject: Rush Park Parking Lot - Removal and Replacement of Ficus Trees

RECOMMENDATION:

District Tree Consultant Recommendations:

1. Remove middle two Indian Laurel Fig (Ficus) trees from planter between parking lot and sidewalk. These trees are in decline with a limited lifespan and would likely not withstand root pruning on parking lot side.
2. Replace the two trees with an attractive species that will provide beauty, evergreen foliage and shade to the community and parking area while also reducing the 'heat island effect' of the parking lot. Replacement trees will be aesthetically compatible with remaining trees. Tree replacement selection attached. Irrigation should be installed in parkway to insure newly trees adequate water. If irrigation installation proves to be impractical then watering with RCSD water truck would be sufficient. Drought tolerant species will be planted. Mulch should be applied to planter to hold in moisture, control soil temperatures and prevent soil compaction and weeds.
3. Leave in place two Indian Laurel Fig (Ficus) trees at end of planter. Trees are healthy enough that they should react favorably to root pruning on parking lot side and will be monitored thereafter for any signs of stress.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Photos and specifications of suggested tree species to replace Ficus Trees located in Rush Park Parking Lot

Tree Species to Replace Ficus Trees in Rush Park Parking Lot

Arbutus 'Marina' – Marina Strawberry Tree

- 20-40' x 10-30'
- Evergreen
- Low root damage potential
- Low water
- Low pest/disease occurrence

