

AYES: **Committee Member – Binder, Brower**
NOES: **Committee Member – None**
ABSENT: **Committee Member – Sifuentes**

3. Request for Tree Removal – 1034 Maryhurst Drive

Cari Dillman, Community Services Manager, provided a PowerPoint presentation.

Manager Dillman responded to questions from the Committee regarding whether there are other Brazilian pepper trees on the street, whether the removal of the specific tree would be sufficient to mitigate the allergenic effects on the resident, whether additional trimming would be possible and beneficial, how many pepper trees are planted at the property, and the health of the tree.

Chair Brower invited public comment.

Senior Administrative Assistant Ross announced that no written public comment had been received on this item.

Fred Roth stated that not all trees produce airborne pollen, and he is unsure whether the resident's allergy is to this particular tree.

Marc Wirtz, property owner, acknowledged that removing the tree may not mitigate his daughter's health issues, because there are other Brazilian pepper trees on the street. Due to the severity of her allergies he is advocating for its removal in the chance that it will help, but he is comfortable with the recommendations and appreciates staff's willingness to work with him.

Barnabas Path spoke in support of the recommendation to deny the request for removal.

Unidentified speaker noted that the tree in front of the property is female and produces peppercorns year-round. Because not all of the trees produce berries, her daughter wouldn't be allergic to all of the trees in the neighborhood. The resident also cited previous property damage to the water line, due to the placement of the tree.

There were no additional requests to speak.

Chair Brower closed public comment.

The Committee discussed the traits of male versus female trees of the species, airborne versus contact exposure, the health of the trees on the street, and the criteria for removal.

Committee Member Binder moved to recommend that the Community and Human Services Commission approve the request for the removal of the tree at 1034 Maryhurst Drive and the replanting of two trees, as required by the Tree Policies and Guidelines Manual, at the property owner's expense, for a total cost of \$1,820.

The motion died for lack of a second.

Committee Member Binder moved to recommend that the Community and Human Services Commission review the request for removal of the Brazilian pepper tree at 1034 Maryhurst Drive, seconded by Chair Brower, and carried on a roll call vote as follows:

AYES: ***Committee Member – Binder, Brower***
NOES: ***Committee Member – None***
ABSENT: ***Committee Member – Sifuentes***

4. Request for Tree Removal – 2475 Michigan Drive

Cari Dillman, Community Services Manager, provided a PowerPoint presentation.

Manager Dillman and Jeremy Swan, Community Services Director, responded to questions from the Committee regarding previous claims for damages that the City has settled, the possibility of future claims, and how the City considers mitigating future payouts.

Chair Brower invited public comment.

Senior Administrative Assistant Ross announced that one written public comment had been received on this item.

Barnabas Path stated that the *Tree Policies and Guidelines Manual* was created to provide a logical approach to how decisions are made. Because trees are public assets, the policies give consideration to the community, not the individual. Mr. Path also noted that replacement costs don't cover the value of the tree being removed.

Fred Roth spoke regarding risk factors for tree failure and tree behavior in winds.

Marc Wirtz asked if non-residents are allowed to make public comment.

There were no additional requests to speak.

Chair Brower closed public comment.

Director Swan responded that, as a Brown Act committee, Tree Committee Meetings are open to the public and that anyone may speak under public comment.

Chair Brower moved to recommend that the Community and Human Services Commission deny the request for the removal of two Canary Island pine trees at 2475 Michigan Drive, seconded by Committee Member Binder, and carried on a roll call vote as follows:

AYES: ***Committee Member – Binder, Brower***
NOES: ***Committee Member – None***
ABSENT: ***Committee Member – Sifuentes***