

ITEM REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Tree Committee Meeting Minutes of March 20, 2024

Committee Member Binder asked what the procedure is for responding to written public comment and what information appears in the minutes when public comment is submitted in writing.

Director Swan stated that if the Committee wishes to discuss issues raised during public comment, an item addressing those issues would need to be placed on the agenda for a future meeting. The only reference to written public comment that appears in the minutes is the total number of comments received.

Chair Brower invited public comment.

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

There were no requests to speak.

Committee Member Sifuentes moved to approve the regular Tree Committee meeting minutes of March 20, 2024, seconded by Committee Member Brower, and carried on a roll call vote as follows:

AYES: **Committee Member – Binder, Brower, Sifuentes**

NOES: **Committee Member – None**

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

2. Urban Forest Update

Cari Dillman, Community Services Manager, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the current status of the urban forest.

Staff responded to questions from the Committee regarding the source of the City's urban forest data, future plans for public access to tree data, the City's past and current approaches to treatment and maintenance of trees affected by pests, possible proactive measures to prevent infestation, the efficacy of pest control treatments, the possibility of City assistance with watering, planting policies according to residents' willingness to maintain trees, and next steps for the Tree Policies and Guidelines Manual Update process.

Chair Brower invited public comment.

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

Fred Roth commented that pine bark beetle is a general term and clarified which beetles affect which species. Adequate irrigation/rain mitigates the effects of the beetles, and trees don't necessarily need to be removed.

There were no additional requests to speak.

Committee Member Sifuentes moved to recommend that the Community and Human Services Commission receive and file the report, seconded by Committee Member Binder, and carried on a roll call vote as follows:

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

3. Semi-Annual Reporting of Urban Forest Maintenance Activities

Cari Dillman, Community Services Manager, gave a PowerPoint presentation on urban forest maintenance activities for the period of July–December 2023.

Manager Dillman responded to questions from the Committee regarding data points to include in charts and graphs and which trees are removed by staff as opposed to the contractor.

Chair Brower invited public comment.

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

Fred Roth suggested that categories for removal should be in concert with the policy manual as it exists. More description should be provided for the category of “greater good,” and a diagnosis should accompany “diseased.” Dr. Roth also suggested greater observance of tree quality when planting.

There were no additional requests to speak.

Staff responded to questions from the Committee regarding determining viability and quality of planted trees, responsibility for quality control, young tree care, clarification of the term “volunteer” as it relates to reason for removal, reasons for removal as they appear in the current Tree Policies and Guidelines Manual, and proposed revisions to the reasons for removal in the updated Manual.

Committee Member Sifuentes moved to recommend that the Community and Human Services Commission receive and file the report, seconded by Committee Member Brower, and carried on a roll call vote as follows:

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