

MEETING DATE: 5/24/2010

AGENDA ITEM: Consideration of the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission's Rescinded Recommendation to Replace the Bottle Tree in Lieu of the Victorian Box as Recommended in the City's Adopted Street Tree Master Plan Along the 4100 and 4200 Blocks of Baldwin Avenue.

ATTACHMENTS

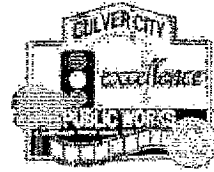
		<u>Pages</u>
1	Survey packet sent to residents/property owners of the 4100 and 4200 blocks of Baldwin Avenue.	1-3
2	Excerpt of the approved Minutes of the April 6, 2010 meeting of the Parks, Recreation & Community Services Commission.	4-11



Culver CITY

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

9770 Culver Boulevard, Culver City, California 90232



Charles D. Herbertson, PE LS
Public Works Director and
City Engineer

(310) 253-5600

FAX (310) 253-5626

February 10, 2010

Subject: Proposed tree replacement on Baldwin Ave

Dear Baldwin Avenue Property Owners:

In June 2009, the Culver City Public Works Department removed 13 Victorian Box and Queensland Pittosporum trees that were identified to be in an advanced state of decline due to excessive defoliation and canopy decline. In December 2009, The Public Works Department made a recommendation to the Parks, Recreation & Community Services Commission (PRCSC) to plant Camphor Trees in lieu of the Victorian Box as recommended by the City's adopted Street Tree Master Plan. The Camphor Tree was recommended in lieu of the Victorian Box due to the poor performance of the Victorian Box at this location. The PRCSC approved Staff's recommendation by unanimous vote. This approved recommendation was then taken to the City Council on January 25, 2010 for their approval. At that meeting, several residents expressed concerns regarding the Camphor tree. The City Council directed Staff to seek input from all the residents of Baldwin Avenue.

Prior to returning to the PRCSC and City Council for final approval, City Staff would like to obtain your opinion on possible tree plantings for Baldwin Avenue. Included in this letter is a survey providing residents with the option of selecting one of three tree choices. The choices include the Camphor Tree, the Jacaranda Tree and the Bottle Tree. All three of these species of trees are currently planted on surrounding streets in the area and are performing quite well and have been determined to be suitable replacements to the Victorian Box. Please indicate your selection on the survey. Additionally, a photograph of each proposed tree is enclosed, as well as, brief characteristic descriptions of each tree (Source: *Street Trees Recommended for Southern California- Second Edition*).

The survey is due no later than **5:00 PM on Thursday, February 25, 2010**. Please return the survey using the self addressed and stamped postcard enclosed for your convenience. Surveys may also be personally dropped off at the return address indicated on the postcard.

The residents of Baldwin Avenue will be notified of Staff's intention to take the matter to the PRCSC and City Council; at which point the results of the survey will be announced and a final recommendation by City Staff will be made.

We greatly appreciate your cooperation and participation in this survey. If you have further questions or need clarification, feel free to contact me at (310) 253-6410.

Thank you,

Eric Mirzaian

Eric Mirzaian
Senior Management Analyst

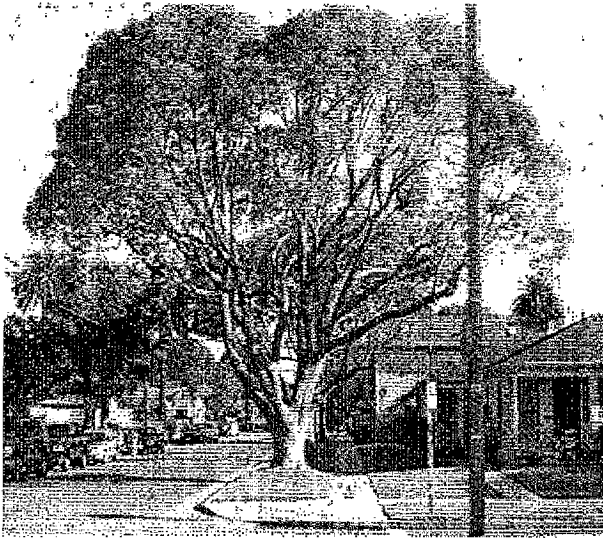
CC: Charles D. Herbertson, Public Works Director & City Engineer
Heustace Lewis, Maintenance Operations Manager
Steve Orozco, Street & Tree Maintenance Supervisor

Culver City Employees take pride in effectively providing the highest levels of service to enrich the quality of life for the community by building on our tradition of more than seventy-five years of public service, by our present commitment, and by our dedication to meet the challenges of the future.

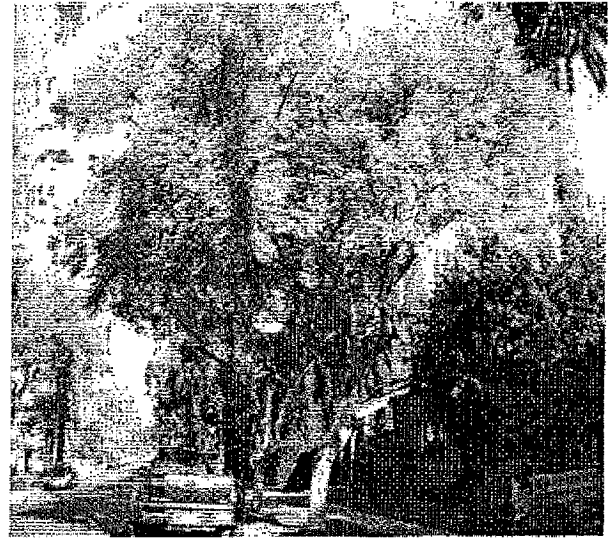
**BALDWIN AVENUE
STREET TREE SURVEY**
(Please Select One)

- _____ CAMPHOR TREE:: Suitable for parkways & utility lines; rapid growth; no significant pest problems; shade tree; maintains existing canopy.
- _____ JACARANDA TREE:: Suitable for parkways & utility lines; moderate growth; spectacular flowering; no significant pest problems; shade tree
- _____ BOTTLE TREE:: Suitable for parkways & utility lines; moderate growth; drought tolerant; no significant pest problems; maintains existing tree canopy

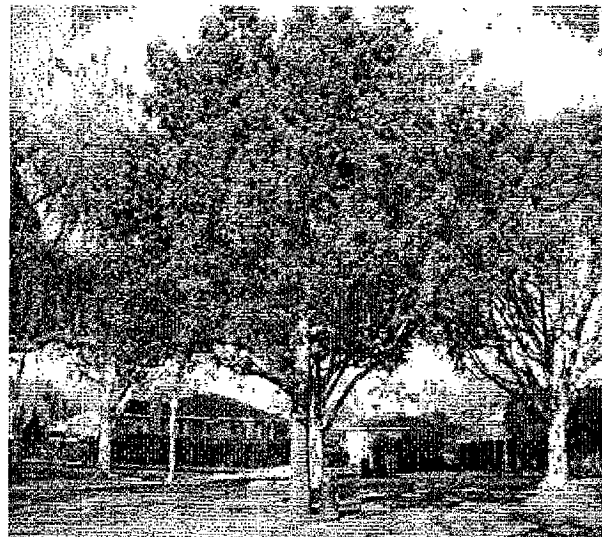
Surveys due no later than 5:00 PM on Thursday February 25, 2010



CAMPHOR TREE
(CINNAMOMUM CAMPHORA)
 Tree in photo located at Farragut & La Salle



JACARANDA TREE
(JACARANDA MIMOSIFOLIA)
 Tree in photo located on Jackson Avenue



BOTTLE TREE
(BRACHYCHITON POPULNEUS)
 Tree in photo located in Carlson Park

-approved minutes -
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
PARKS, RECREATION AND
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION
CITY OF CULVER CITY,
CALIFORNIA

April 6, 2010
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order & Roll Call

The meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission was called to order at 7:02 P.M.

Present: Chair Vicki Daly Redholtz
 Vice Chair Rick Hudson
 Commissioner Mary Ann Greene
 Commissioner Laura Stuart
 Commissioner Marianne Kim

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Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Dawn Beal.

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PRESENTATIONS

Item P-1

Update on the Annual Egg Hunt

Dave Morrison, Senior Recreation Leader, reported on the successful annual event.

Pam Robertson, Interim Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services, expressed thanks to the Kiwanis Club for their help with the event and with other City events.

The Commission posed for pictures with Kiwanis and K Kids representatives.

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR HUDSON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GREENE, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO ADJOURN IN MEMORY OF GENEVIEVE GALLAGHER.

Chair Daly Redholtz announced Bill La Pointe's retirement as Director of Parks, Recreation, and Community Services

and welcomed Interim Director Pam Robinson.

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Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

Arames White, Recreation Coordinator, discussed publicity efforts for Global Youth Service Day on April 24 at the Culver City Teen Center.

Discussion between the Commission and staff included: the number of spots available; thanks to staff for their efforts; the event as helping meet the goal of involving youth in government; and a request for an event schedule.

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CONSENT CALENDAR

Item C-1

Agenda Posting

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR HUDSON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STUART, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED THAT THE PARKS, RECREATION, AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION RECEIVE AND FILE THE SECRETARY'S REPORT ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA.

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Item C-2

Approval of Meeting Minutes - March 2, 2010

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER GREENE AND SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR HUDSON THAT THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 2, 2010. THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: Daly Redholtz, Greene, Hudson, Stuart
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: Kim

A discussion between staff and the Commission followed regarding whether a Commissioner should vote on minutes for a meeting that they were not present for.

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Action Items

Item A-1

(1) Rescind the Recommendation Approved in Agenda Item Number A-2 for the Meeting Date of December 1, 2009 to Plant the Camphor Tree in Place of the Victorian Box Tree along the 4100 and 4200 Blocks of Baldwin Avenue; and, (2) Consider Recommending the Bottle Tree as the Replacement Tree Species in the Area

Staff, including Eric Mizaian, Sr. Management Analyst in Public Works, provided a summary of the material of record.

Discussion between staff and the Commission included: public notification; the survey process; neighborhood concerns with the Camphor tree; what constitutes a consensus; Commission consideration before Council consideration; effects of the plantings on the area; continuity; and education and making informed decisions.

Steven Orosco, Maintenance Supervisor, discussed difficulties with Victorian Box trees.

Further discussion between staff and the Commission included: additional information to help with decision making; the City Council directive to consider determinations regarding trees; reliance on staff expertise; the Tree Master Plan; educating the community about their tree options; retaining the canopy; the survey process, criteria and the bottomline; the lack of consensus; survey response rates; and a request to agendaize a discussion on the process.

Commissioner Stuart moved the staff recommendation.
Commissioner Kim seconded the motion.

Commissioner Greene requested that the following be added to the motion: "staff recommendation is based on resident/property owner input", so it will be clear that the recommendation was based on a survey of the community.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER STUART, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER KIM,

AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED THAT THE PARKS, RECREATION AND
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION:

1. RESCIND THE RECOMMENDATION APPROVED IN AGENDA ITEM
NUMBER A-2 FOR THE MEETING DATE OF DECEMBER 1, 2009 TO
PLANT THE CAMPHOR TREE IN PLACE OF THE VICTORIAN BOX TREE
ALONG THE 4100 AND 4200 BLOCKS OF BALDWIN AVENUE;

AND

2. (STAFF RECOMMENDATION BASED ON RESIDENT/PROPERTY OWNER
INPUT) RECOMMEND THE BOTTLE TREE AS THE REPLACEMENT TREE
SPECIES ALONG THE 4100 AND 4200 BLOCKS OF BALDWIN AVENUE.

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Item A-2

**Upcoming Items to be Considered by the Parks, Recreation
and Community Services (PRCS) Commission**

Chair Daly Redholtz clarified that the item had been moved
from the usual place on the Consent Calendar as the Interim
Director wanted to hear what items the Commission wanted
considered and which were priorities.

Chair Daly Redholtz discussed a recommendation for an
annual meeting with the Council subcommittee to consider
priority items to work on for the year.

Commission discussion included: an update on Global Youth
Services Day; roles of the Commission and the Parks,
Recreation and Community Services department; an update on
the effects of budget cutbacks on services provided; the
park maintenance tour; community gardens; dog park
lighting; 501c3 funding strategies; the scenic overlook
trail; a discussion on the oil land; a review of the Master
Plan; the role of the Commission in permit enforcement and
fee waivers; park regulations and ordinances; having the
Master Plan subcommittee consider tree issues, the tree
process, possibly have a study session; presentations: the
Parks Department; School Board and Council participation in
the biannual parks tour; ordinance changes; park memorials;
the resident ID card concept; the pooch path in Blanco
Park; and restructuring committees.

Pam Robinson, Interim Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services, indicated that many of the items could be addressed with an update to the Commission and she clarified that the main priority for staff for the next few months would be the budget.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER KIM, SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR HUDSON, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED THAT THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION RECEIVE AND FILE THE REPORT.

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Item A-3

Roles and Responsibilities of the Parks, Recreation and Community Services (PRCS) Commission

Pam Robinson, Interim Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services, provided a summary of the material of record and discussed the City Council meeting of April 5, 2010.

The Commission discussed the liaison subcommittee and whether to keep the item on the agenda each month.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER STUART, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GREENE, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED THAT THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION RECEIVE AND FILE THE REPORT.

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Item A-4

Informational Report on the Committee of Permits and Licenses

Pam Robinson, Interim Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services, provided a summary of the material of record.

Discussion between staff and the Commission included: Commission involvement; the existing code; commercial events for parks and a policy for that; the public comment

process; the relationship between the size of the park and the size of the event; the draft commercial policy; guidelines for various parks; confusion with some of the required permits; notification regarding committee meetings, permit requirements and opportunity for public comment; waivers; enforcement; special events permits; whether money is charged or goods are sold; simplifying the process; administrative vs. advisory committee; and unpermitted events.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER GREENE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER KIM, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED THAT THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION RECEIVE AND FILE THE REPORT.

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Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

None.

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Receipt of Correspondence

None.

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Items From Staff

None.

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Items From Commissioners

Commissioner Kim encouraged participation in the senior driving program; she discussed transit training for seniors; and subcommittee meetings.

Brianna Frazier, Senior Management Analyst, reported that staff was available to help with senior transit training.

Vice Chair Hudson reported requests to make Buckingham Parkway a quiet zone on Saturday and Sunday mornings.

Dave McCarthy, City Attorney Liaison, reported reluctance from Public Works regarding the quiet zone request but noted that the Police Department had been very responsive to noise complaints.

Vice Chair Hudson received clarification that the pool was open and an update on the leveling project for the Little League fields.

Commissioner Kim asked about the installation of a cross walk at Fox Hills Park.

Chair Daly Redholtz received information regarding the Gardens of Gratitude Event on April 24, 2010; she asked for a report from the new Animal Services officer; and she encouraged everyone to vote on April 13.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 9:21 P.M., the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission adjourned its meeting in memory of Genevieve Gallagher to a Regular Meeting to be held at 7:00 P.M. on May 4, 2010 in the Mike Balkman Chambers.

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Eugene Paulish
SECRETARY of the Parks, Recreation and Community Services
Commission

APPROVED _____

Vicki Daly Redholtz
CHAIR of the PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES
COMMISSION
City of Culver City, California

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the
State of California that, on the date below written, these
minutes were filed in the Office of the City Clerk, City of
Culver City, California and constitute the Official Minutes
of said meeting.

Martin R. Cole
CITY CLERK

Date

By: _____
Ela Valladares
Deputy City Clerk

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