



CITY OF SANGER

TREE & LANDSCAPE COMMISSION

August 4, 2008

AGENDA

6:00 PM Regular Meeting
City Hall Council Chambers

- A. CALL TO ORDER
- B. ROLL CALL
- C. FLAG SALUTE - Commissioner Cantu
- D. AGENDA APPROVAL, ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS
- E. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons desiring to address the Commission on any matter not on the agenda and within the area of responsibility of the Commission. It is the policy of the Commission not to answer any questions impromptu and complaints should be referred to the Director's office. Speakers should limit their comments to five minutes.

- G. CONSENT CALENDAR

- 1. Minutes of May 5, 2008

- H. PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

- I. DEPARTMENT REPORTS -

- 1. Staff responds to question concerning replanting an Aptos Blue tree west of Academy and south of Chuck Wagon.
 - 2. Resident request to remove 11 trees near 8th and O Streets.

- J. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS -

- 1. Letter sent to Mr. Gene E. Pico (denial of request)
 - 2. Memorandum sent to Ron Yamabe, City Engineer (conditioned approval of
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*Madlyn Esquer, Commissioner
David Pinuelas, Commissioner*

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*Larry Lihosit
Secretary/Planner*

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*John White
Public Works Director*

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*Raul Cantu, Commissioner
Gail Sergent, Commissioner*

*John Mulligan
Deputy Public Works Director*

S.U.S.D. request)

K. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

L. NEXT (TENTATIVE) MEETING - September 8, 2008

M. ADJOURNMENT



CITY OF SANGER
TREE & LANDSCAPE COMMISSION
MEETING OF AUGUST 4, 2008

CITY OF SANGER
MINUTES OF THE TREE & LANDSCAPE COMMISSION
For May 5, 2008

The regular meeting of the Sanger Tree & Landscape Commission of May 5, 2008 was held in the Sanger City Hall Chamber at 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chairperson Sergent called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL: These Commissioners were present; Madlyn Esquer, David Pinuelas, Raul Cantu, and Gail Sergent. Francisco Villarreal was absent for the third consecutive meeting.

Staff present included Larry Lihosit, Planner.

FLAG SALUTE: Vice Chairperson Sergent led the flag salute.

CEREMONIAL

1. Administration of oath of office to Francisco Villarreal dispensed with (absent).
2. Presentation of service award for "Outstanding dedication & service" to former Tree & Landscape Commissioner and Chairperson Daniel Martinez. Former Commissioner Martinez thanked the Commission for the honor and congratulated the Commissioners for their important work.
3. Election

NOMINATION/CHAIR: Gail Sergent

Motion: Pinuelas

2nd: Cantu

Nominations closed Vote: 4-0

NOMINATION/VICE CHAIR: Madlyn Esquer

Motion: Pinuelas

2nd: Sergent

Nominations closed Vote 4-0

AGENDA APPROVAL: Agenda approved with these additions; add D-3 "Election of Chairperson and/or Vice Chairperson (Daniel Martinez was moved to Planning Commission)" and, add I-4 "S.U.S.D. request to remove 9 trees at southwest corner of 9th Street and Cottle to facilitate the construction of a bus turn-out."

1. Motion to approve: Cantu
2nd: Sergent

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Vote: 4-0 (approved)
None

CONSENT CALENDAR: 1. Minutes, March 3, 2008.
Motion to approve: Cantu
2nd: Sergent
Vote: 4-0 (approved)

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

1. The City Council adopted the recommended Downtown Beautification Plan on March 20, 2008.
2. Concerning Commissioner Sergent's question about what was being done by the city about the 2 large trees cut down on 8th and O Streets after this Commission had denied the request, Lihosit explained that the matter had been forwarded to the City Attorney for a legal opinion. Concerning Commissioner Pinuelas' question whether Santa's House in Brehler Square could be moved somewhere else during the rest of the year, Lihosit explained that the house is not built to be moved. The last time this was attempted, the house had to be rebuilt. Commissioner Pinuelas asked if the house could not be retrofitted with skids for easy removal by fork-lift. Lihosit said that he did not believe so, but would check on it.
3. Mr. Pico, who requested permission to remove 2 trees from R.O.W. contiguous to his home at 420 Greenwood, did not attend the meeting. Staff reviewed the request. After a lengthy discussion, the Commission voted to deny the request.

Motion to deny: Pinuelas
2nd: Cantu
Vote: 4-0 (to deny)

4. Commissioner Sergent asked if the Commission could condition approval. Lihosit responded that it could. There was a discussion about whether irrigation should be mentioned. Lihosit responded that the school site already had an irrigation system, that it would be modified if the bus turn-out were approved and for that reason, additional irrigation was not necessary. There was a discussion about whether the city should request tree replacement and if it did, whether 9 new trees would actually fit in the new scheme. Consensus was to condition approval thus: That the applicant replant a 15 gallon tree for each mature tree removed in accordance with city approved guidelines. The replanted tree species will be selected by the school district from the city approved tree list and if planted within 10 feet of any paved surface, will include city approved root barriers. In the event that the project engineer and/or architect deems those areas contiguous to the bus turn-out too small for all the replanted trees, those remaining will be planted somewhere else on the school property.

Motion to conditionally approve: Pinuelas
2nd: Esquer

Vote:

4-0 (to approve)

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS: None.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:

1. Commissioner Sergent Will speak to the mayor about Mr. Villareal's 3 consecutive absences.
2. Commissioner Esquer None
3. Commissioner Pinuelas None.
4. Commissioner Cantu When the large tree near Chuck Wagon was removed, the Commission was told that it would be replaced with an Aptos Blue. When will this happen?

NEXT MEETING: June 2, 2008 at 6 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Motion to adjourn:

Pinuelas

2nd:

Cantu

Vote:

4-0 (adjourn)



CITY OF SANGER
TREE AND LANDSCAPE COMMISSION
MEETING OF AUGUST 4, 2008

TO: TREE AND LANDSCAPE COMMISSION
FROM: LAWRENCE F. LIHOSIT, PLANNER *FL*
SUBJECT: REPLANTING AN APTOS BLUE TREE NEAR THE CHUCK WAGON
RESTAURANT (ANNADALE & ACADEMY)

During the May 5th meeting, the Commission requested information about a replanting schedule for the aptos blue tree near the Chuck Wagon restaurant. It is scheduled for replanting prior to Halloween.

Prepared by: Lawrence F. Lihosit, Planner

REVIEW: John White, Public Works Director

TYPE OF ITEM: Department Report information only

FILE: NR/DEV SERV/FILES/TREE&LANDS/TLC2007/STAFFREPORTS/STAFFREPT080408



CITY OF SANGER
 TREE AND LANDSCAPE COMMISSION
 MEETING OF AUGUST 4, 2008

TO: TREE AND LANDSCAPE COMMISSION
FROM: LAWRENCE F. LIHOSIT, PLANNER *LL*
SUBJECT: RESIDENT REQUEST TO REMOVE TREES WITHIN RIGHT-OF-WAY NEAR THE INTERSECTION OF 8TH AND O STREETS

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

To conditionally approve the request (removal of 11 trees), requiring that the resident grind all existing and proposed tree stumps to ground level, replace each removed tree with a minimum 15 gallon size tree selected from the approved City Tree List, and plant in accordance with City approved standards (including root barriers).

DISCUSSION:

On December 4, 2006, this Commission denied a resident request to remove eleven Sycamore trees located within public right-of-way and contiguous to 803 O Street (staff and arborist's reports attached). The mature trees, all over one eighty feet in height, are believed to be at least fifty years old. For the December, 2006 meeting, the Commission had not yet recommended a city tree list or tree planting standards to the City Council.

On March 15, 2007 the City Council approved Landscape Standards and a Street Tree list (Resolution 3941). Part of the logic for approval of this list and standards was to avoid root damage to public infrastructure like curbs, gutters, sidewalk, roads, and underground water and sewer lines. The mentioned eleven Sycamore trees have already caused considerable damage to curbs and gutters. There has also been some pavement uplifting. If removed and replaced with trees from the city approved list and planted with root barriers, additional damage will be avoided.

During 2007 the resident/owner contracted for the removal of several of the mature trees. Given that permission had not been granted by this Commission, the owner was advised to cease and desist. Attached is a recent letter from the owner requesting permission for tree removal, a letter from an arborist, and a copy of a billing statement for tree removal. Also attached are photos which illustrate tree trunks with significant damage.

Attachments:

- Applicant supplied photos
- Applicant letter and attachments
- 12/04/06 Staff Report

Prepared by: Lawrence F. Lihosit, Planner

REVIEW: John White, Public Works Director *J White*

TYPE OF ITEM: Department Report APPROVE APPROVED/REVISED DENIED

July 9, 2008

COPY COUNCIL
& RETURN TO ME



To Whom It May Concern:

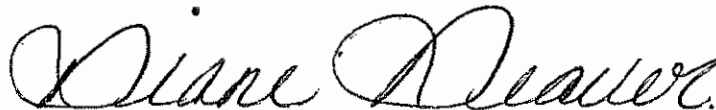
I live on Property 803 O Street in the city of Sanger California, and around my house there are eleven sycamore trees. I have complained several times to the city of Sanger Public Works of the damages that these trees have done to my house.

Branches are constantly falling; I have proof of these damages. I have broken windows and this is the second time I have replaced three windows. They damaged my roof, all the front porch lifting up my cement. I also had a certified arborist come out and look at these trees, and he said all eleven sycamore trees are no good. I am attaching a copy of the letter I received from John Mulligan when he came out with the Arborist. The letter states that out of the eleven trees only one was decayed. That is not true my family and I have spend a lot of money replacing the damages these trees are dangerous. All I ask is if you could please have some consideration and give me a permit to remove these trees. I appreciate if you please respond to me soon before I take it to law action.

If you have any concerns regarding this letter you can contact me at (559) 875-0891 or (559) 630-1396.

Thank you,

Diane Deaver





2427 S. Orange
Sno, California 93725

Ph: 559-237-8733
Fx: 559-237-3919

mail:cgctree@aol.com



CONTRACTORS
LICENSE NO. 773961

June 21, 2006

Mr. John Mulligan
City of Sanger, Public Works Department
1700 7th Street
Sanger, CA 93657

Re: Platanus (Sycamore) Trees
803 O Street, Sanger, CA

Dear John:

At your request, I have inspected eleven sycamore trees at the above address. I understand some of the property owners have complained that the trees are losing limbs and producing excessive leaf and bark litter. There are two varieties of this species at the location and this is a normal course of events in the life of these trees. The one exception is the tree at the far south end on the east side which is decayed to a point that I recommend immediate removal. The remaining ten trees only need a regular maintenance program to reduce the limb loss and litter problems.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding this report.

Sincerely,

Charles C. Duncan, Certified Arborist #WE0303A
President and Chief Executive Officer

CCD:ms



**California
Growing
Concern Inc.**

CALIFORNIA GROWING CONCERN, INC.

2427 S. Orange
Fresno, California 93725
CONTRACTORS LICENSE NO. 773961

• FRESNO (559) 237-8733
• FAX (559) 237-3919
• E-mail: cgcitree@aol.com



SPECIALIZING IN

COMPLETE TREE CARE • CONSULTATION & APPRAISAL • STUMP REMOVAL

Customer's Name CITY OF SANGER Date 6/2/06
Address ATTN: JOHN MULLIGAN 1700 7th ST. Phone 876-6300 X1210
City SANGER CA 93657 Fax _____

JOB LOCATION	JOB #	AMOUNT
830 "D" ST, SANGER		
WORK DESCRIPTION		
①. REMOVE WITH STUMP (1) DYING SYCAMORE AND REMOVE DEADWOOD, LIGHTEN & THIN (10) ADDITIONAL SYCAMORES - OR -		2,700.00
② REMOVE WITH STUMPS ALL (11) ABOVE SYCAMORES		5,900.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Remove from site all wood, brush & debris generated by above work		
<input type="checkbox"/> Cut & leave wood in 12" - 18" lengths		
<input type="checkbox"/> Chip brush & leave on site		
TOTAL PRICE		

THIS ESTIMATE IS FIRM FOR 60 DAYS.

CONDITIONS: We assume no responsibility for any hidden hazards of which we are not informed such as sprinklers or utility pipes, or for damage to sidewalks, drives, etc. in which you request us to cross in the process of our work, nor from the claims arising from a question of ownership of trees or work involved. We cannot be responsible for any hazardous waste materials which may be contaminated in any debris we are contracted to handle. It is customers responsibility to inform us of this prior to start of work.

TERMS: Net cash upon receipt of invoice unless otherwise noted. Invoices not paid within 30 days are subject to a minimum of .50 finance charge or 1 1/2% interest rate for every month past due. In the event of a court settlement, the customer is responsible for all fees due to settle the claim.

INSURANCE: We certify that we carry a valid workman's compensation policy as well as comprehensive bodily injury and property damage policy. Certificates will be mailed upon request.

John Mulligan



For the Meeting of: December 4, 2006

Agenda Item No. _____

CITY OF SANGER

TREE AND LANDSCAPE COMMISSION

TO: Sanger Tree and Landscape Commission

FROM: John A. White, Public Works Director

SUBJECT: RESIDENT REQUEST TO REMOVE STREET TREES AT THE CORNER OF 8TH STREET AND O STREET AT 803 O STREET

RECOMMENDATION

That the tree and landscape commission approve the homeowners request to remove eleven street trees at the corner of 8th Street and O Street at 803 O Street; that the homeowner shall be required to remove and grind the tree stumps that were removed; that the homeowner purchase and install nine trees that are a minimum of 24 inch box sized trees that are similar to the street trees on 8th Street just north of 803 O Street; and that the homeowner shall pay the entire cost to remove, grind and replace the trees.

BACKGROUND

Diane Deaver has requested that the eleven sycamore street trees located on the corner of O Street and 8th Street at 803 O Street be removed because the street tree roots may cause significant damage to the foundation of the Victorian house that was built in 1926. Diane is also concerned that the trees are losing limbs, producing excessive leaf and bark litter and is preventing the growth of her grass. An aerial photo is attached showing the location of the house and trees.

Staff retained the services of California Growing Concern Inc. to evaluate the trees. The certified arborist recommended removal of one decaying tree and that the other ten trees should be trimmed to reduce the limb loss and litter problems. A copy of the arborist's report is attached.

The arborist opinion did not take into consideration that the tree roots are under the house and could cause foundation problems.



City of Sanger, California

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
1700 Seventh Street
Sanger, California 93657-7515
Telephone: (559) 876-6300 ext. 1230
Fax: (559) 876-6335

Mr. Gene E. Pico
420 Greenwood Avenue
Sanger, CA 93657
Re: TREE & LANDSCAPE COMMISSION DECISION

May 6, 2008

Dear Mr. Pico:

Thank you for your recent letter. The Commission expressed its regret that you could not be present at their open and publicized regular meeting held last night. At the meeting, the Commission considered your request to remove two trees located within public right of way and contiguous to your property at 420 Greenwood Avenue, recent photographs of the trees and the neighborhood, heard from staff, and subsequently held a lengthy discussion before voting unanimously to deny the request.

Salient points supporting the denial include the following.

1. The mature trees are not diseased nor do they pose any hazard.
2. The sidewalk upheaval is extremely minimal (less than one half inch) and poses no significant hazard.
3. The seeds dropped by the tree do not pose any nuisance in regards to storm drainage inlets nor do they pose a significant hazard to pedestrians.
4. The conservation of trees within the City of Sanger not only improves the quality of life but conserves energy by lowering ground temperatures from the shade apportioned.

In your letter, you mentioned past incidents. City Code regarding trees and landscaping was revised in June of 2006. If you have questions about the new laws or wish a copy of them, please call me at 875-1792.

Cordially yours,

Lawrence F. Lihosit
Planner/Secretary for the Tree & Landscape Commission

cc: Tree & Landscape Commission
John Mulligan, Deputy Public Works Director

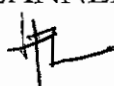


City of Sanger, California

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
1700 Seventh Street
Sanger, California 93657-7515
Telephone: (559) 876-6300 ext. 1230
Fax: (559) 876-6335

MEMORANDUM

TO: RON YAMABE, CITY ENGINEER

FROM: LAWRENCE F. LIHOSIT, PLANNER/SECRETARY OF TREE
& LANDSCAPE COMMISSION 

DATE: 05/06/2008

RE: TREE REMOVAL ON SW CORNER OF 9TH STREET & COTTLE
TO FACILITATE CONSTRUCTION OF A SCHOOL BUS TURN-
OUT

At last night's open and publicized regular meeting, the Tree and Landscape Commission considered the Sanger Unified School District's request to remove nine mature trees located within or immediately adjacent to public right of way on the southwest corner of 9th Street and Cottle. The request is based upon the schools district's desire to construct a school bus turn-out. The Commission unanimously and conditionally approved the request based upon the following salient points.

1. Installation of the bus turn-out will improve safety for boarding and disboarding students.
2. Installation of the bus turn-out will improve traffic efficiency.
3. The existing bus stop (in the street) is injurious to the operation of the public street system and particularly hazardous to pedestrians (City Code, Chapter 58, Article IV, Section 58-78).

The conditions of approval are as follows.

1. The applicant (S.U.S.D.) will replant a 15 gallon tree for each mature tree removed in accordance with city approved guidelines. The replanted trees species will be selected by the school district from the approved city tree list and if planted within ten feet of any paved surface, will include city approved root barriers.
2. In the event that the project engineer and/or architect deems those areas contiguous to the bus turn-out too small for all the replanted trees, those remaining will be planted somewhere else on the school property.

Please do not approve the plans and/or issue an Encroachment Permit until the school district has submitted landscape plans which satisfy these two conditions.

