



Public Works Department

# MINUTES

## REGULAR MEETING OF THE TREE COMMITTEE

**Monday November 11, 2013 - 7:00 p.m.**

**El Cerrito City Hall**  
Hillside Conference Room  
10890 San Pablo Avenue

**1. Roll Call** at 7:10 p.m. due to door lock problem

**Present:** Committee Members Bleier, Boniello, Charlton, Cheng, Christian, Hittle, Price, Srago. Staff Liaison Stephen Prée also present

**Absent:** Committee Member Lee- Rutherford; Council Liaison Mayor Lyman also absent.

**2. Comments from the Public on non agenda items-** None.

**3. Report from Council Liaison-** None

**4. Action Items-**

- o **Approval of the minutes from October 14, 2013**

Motion: Bleier, second Price; unanimous vote of approval.

**5. Report from the City Arborist-**

Stephen Prée reported on the new tree pruning contract being brought to City Council for approval.

**6. Discussion and appointment of a subcommittee for the Community Tree Planting Grant implementation.**

Ralph Boniello and Mike Charleton volunteered to serve as the subcommittee (Mike Srago and Karen Christian also volunteered to help). The committee inquired about the Complete Streets plan for Avila St. as the east end is vacated by the City to the property owner of 10175 SAN PABLO AVE.

**7. Discussion and appointment of a subcommittee to steer the INVEST FROM THE GROUND UP outreach campaign in El Cerrito.**

The Committee discussed the goals of the outreach- to engage the business community on tree resources and values and agreed to identify what the message is, who the audience is and where the event will be. A committee of volunteers was appointed: Cathy Bleier, Karen Christian, Janet Hittle, Mike Srago.

**8. Update and discussion of the preliminary Tree List recommended for the City Urban Greening Plan.**

The committee raised concerns regarding the consultant creating a street tree list and requested definitions of the Greening Grant terms "Strolling Streets, Creek Interpretation Streets, etc."(Prée has since submitted the request) and asked if the public would have input to the creation of the list. Discussion of form based planning was initiated by Steve Price.

The Committee inquired on the status of the City Approved Tree list. Prée agreed to revisit the criteria list, doodle-poll the committee on a tree selection subcommittee meeting schedule and formally request the consultant to delay plant palette work.

**9. Announcements –**

- Janet Hittle shared an article on Streets named after trees (Prée emailed to committee with December agenda)
- Mike Srago informed the committee about the California Tree Failure Report meeting on January 9 at Filoli (Prée emailed invitation to the committee)

**10. Discussion of future committee actions and agenda items - 8:55**

- Chairman Srago announced that next meeting the Committee should elect new officers
- Ralph Boniello requested that he be given time for an update presentation on the Hillside Natural Area.

**11. Adjournment- 9:15**