

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION QUESTIONS
FEBRUARY 15, 2023 MEETING**

5.1 Plymouth Street to Space Park Way Realignment, Project 20-40 tree Mitigation

1. Can staff provide information about the Tree Mitigation Fund? Specifically, how long do funds sit in that account, how have those funds been used in past years, and how are decisions made to access those funds?

The Tree Mitigation Fund was created in 2016 as a way to collect tree mitigation and replacement fees. Through the FY17-18 budget process, Council approved an annual expenditure appropriation of \$50,000 from the Tree Mitigation Fund, to be used by the Community Services Department for projects related to the Community Tree Master Plan. Specifically, these funds have typically been used to support street tree planting, plantings in City parks, and the annual Arbor Day tree giveaway. The funds remain in the Tree Mitigation account until spent. Staff may explore additional opportunities to utilize Tree Mitigation funds based the outcomes of the Biodiversity Strategy and Urban Forest Plan.

2. Is Shoreline Boulevard being widened as part of this project? Specifically, can you describe why the trees along the west side of Shoreline, north of the new Plymouth/Shoreline intersection (trees #64 through #69) are on the list for removal? If Shoreline is being widened on that side, is that related to the Cycle Track?

The west side of Shoreline Blvd, north of new Plymouth St, is being widened. This is to accommodate both the transition needed along Shoreline Blvd for the new 13' cycle track south of the new Plymouth/Shoreline intersection and new intersection corner improvements (protected intersection elements and sidewalk). Trees #64 through #69 are being removed to accommodate the widening and new improvements. Additionally, significant excavation for these improvements will be performed in close proximity to these trees, severely impacting the root structure. Preservation of the trees would not be possible due to the resulting instability and potential for tree uproot and falling.

3. Is Plymouth being widened as part of this project? Can you describe why trees on Plymouth, particularly on the south side of Plymouth near the intersection with Joaquin (trees #102 through #107) are on the list for removal? If Plymouth is being widened, about how many feet is it being widened, and is that to support bike lanes?

In the segment of Plymouth Street where Trees #102 through #107 are located, the street is widening approximately 13'-15' to accommodate the multimodal improvements. The improvements include a new bike lane and removing, regrading and replacing the landscape strip and pedestrian sidewalk along Plymouth Street. Trees #102 through #107 are being removed because they are located within road grading limits, and similar to the west side of Shoreline Blvd., are in close proximity to where significant excavation will be

performed, severely impacting the root structure. Preservation of the trees would not be possible due to the resulting instability and potential for tree uproot and falling.