

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION QUESTIONS**  
**February 10, 2021 MEETING**

**Item 5.1 – Heritage Tree Appeal: 615 Cuesta Drive, Cuesta Park**

1. How many mature trees (by species, if possible) have been lost at Cuesta Park in the last 8-10 years?

*Staff would need to check with our GIS group to see if that information is available or extractable from our current systems. From my own recollection we have lost about 20 Monterey Pines from Turpentine beetle/pine pitch canker. We have lost around 6 Stone Pines from root plate or catastrophic failures in the last 5 years. Two Redwood trees, one died the other had a codominant leader and split. Three Alder trees and a few misc. small trees. In an effort to help replace the canopy that was lost by the removal of these trees over the past 10 years we have held approximately 7 tree planting events at Cuesta and planted approximately 70 trees.*

2. What was the condition in Tree ID#8403 that cause it to be more immediate threat to public safety than Tree ID#8402?

*Tree 8403 had an active separation between the two codominant stems where you could see into a cavity. Staff was able to insert a 12" screw driver along the seam of the separation indicating decay and weak wood to a point where in staff estimation the trunk had at most ¼ of the holding wood for a trunk that weighed several thousand pounds. Water actively leaked out of the screwdriver location indicating water was also actively getting into the cavity and filling the gap likely contributing to decay.*

3. What species was planted to replace Tree ID #8403? (Was that the Mayors Tree Planting"?)

*A 24" box Quercus lobata, Valley Oak was planted to replace tree #8403 and it was the Mayors Planting.*

4. If this current pine tree (#8402) were removed, what would be the replacement recommendation?

*Possibly a second Quercus lobata, staff would review the area before choosing a replacement to see how much room etc. there is before making a selection.*

5. In the event that the tree is removed, what replacement trees is staff considering? Same question actually for the tree that has already been removed.

*See questions 3 & 4 above.*

6. Would there be any way to mitigate the risk posed by the tree through cutting off the large branch that leans over the driveway? I see that some major pruning was done on a side branch of that tree at some time in the past.

*Pruning could help to some degree with the weight of the canopies and the forces being imposed on the attachments of the trunks but a large portion of the weight is in the trunks*

*themselves. In addition if you were to remove one of the three large trunks the canopy would still be lopsided and the tree will still have a substantial lean that in itself is problematic to the tree remaining upright long term. Another issue is by removing the large lateral trunk closest to the driveway we might actually remove some of the holding wood that the other two trunks may be relying on. Wind dynamics are also a factor and a lopsided leaning tree are more subject to wind forces than a full consistent canopy without a lean. The aesthetics of the remaining tree would also be of concern. If the decision is to accept the risk and allow the tree to remain the tree would be pruned for end weights to the limited degree possible.*

## **Item 5.2 – Update to Community Tree Master Plan**

1. Would it be possible to see or be shown an example of the TreeKeeper Canopy webtool, and the output it generates (perhaps from another City or entity's data if available)? (This could be shown at the PRC meeting, or provided as a link for advanced viewing). Similarly, would it be possible to view an example of StoryMap?

*Davey will do a brief demonstration of both the TreeKeeper Canopy webtool and the StoryMap. Here is a link to Yuba City's StoryMap as an example:  
<https://gis.davey.caom/storymap/yubacity/>*

*Davey and staff would like to provide the demo of the TreeKeeper software at the meeting and then provide the link afterwards to the PRC. It is a robust tool and a review of it first will help focusing questions.*

## **January Monthly Report**

1. How does Canopy advertise and recruit volunteers for its tree planting events?

*Canopy recruits volunteers in many ways. For tree planting, they work with their contacts to recruit volunteers from the local community and community volunteer groups. During COVID, due to limitations on the number of people they are allowed to engage, they share their calendar of events with individual groups and volunteers from the area they are working in, largely through email. Prior to COVID, they would regularly advertise through their online newsletter and on their websites calendar of events. In Mountain View, they have worked with their board members to recruit volunteers from the local neighborhood associations and volunteer groups, making sure there is community buy-in and engagement. Canopy also has a Community Engagement Manager to direct these efforts.*

2. What is the year-to-date Golf Course revenue versus budget? Same question for Michaels?

*January financials have not been officially closed out and audited. Therefore the below numbers are through December 2020 as a mid-year, six month update. For the Golf Course, budgeted net revenue was negative \$38,300. The actual net revenue came in at \$122,000. For the Restaurant, budgeted net revenue was \$86,400. The actual net revenue came in at negative \$190,200 due to shelter-in-place restrictions. On page 13 and 14 of the Midyear*

*Budget Update that was provided to City Council on February 9, there is a more extensive explanation of the Golf and Restaurant budgets along with their end of year estimates. At the end of FY20-21, it is anticipated that the Golf and Restaurant Fund will transfer \$100,000 to the General Operating Fund.*