



MEMORANDUM

Public Works Department

DATE: December 12, 2018

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Andy Chang, Senior Civil Engineer

SUBJECT: **Shoreline Boulevard Bus Lane and Utility Improvements, Project 16-58 – Heritage Tree Removal Mitigation**

RECOMMENDATION

Review the proposed Heritage tree mitigation for Shoreline Boulevard Bus Lane and Utility Improvements, Project 16-58, and forward a recommendation to the City Council to approve the staff-recommended mitigation for removal of five Heritage trees with 2-to-1 tree replacement ratio with 24" box trees.

BACKGROUND

In November 2014, the City Council approved the "Shoreline Boulevard Corridor Study," which provided for a phased program for transportation improvements to accommodate anticipated increases in employment and development in the North Bayshore Area. On September 6, 2016, the City Council approved the conceptual design for the Shoreline Boulevard Bus Lane and Utility Improvements, Project 16-58. The project is the first step in transforming Shoreline Boulevard into a multi-modal corridor as envisioned in the Corridor Study and a strategy crucial to achieve the North Bayshore commute mode-share goals endorsed by the City Council.

The scope of the project includes a 12' wide dedicated center-running reversible bus lane on North Shoreline Boulevard between Middlefield Road and Pear Avenue. The new bus lane will replace the existing two-way left-turn lane or landscaped median. The project will also construct a protected bike lane between Middlefield Road and Terra Bella Avenue. Both the bus lane and the protected bike lane will have a 2' wide raised buffer separating them from the adjacent traffic lanes.

In April 2018, staff presented to, and obtained approval from, the Parks and Recreation Commission (Commission) for removal of 11 Heritage trees. The Commission also passed a motion to have staff ask private property owners if they were interested in the

City mitigating the tree loss by planting new trees on their properties along Shoreline Boulevard. Staff sent letters to property owners along Shoreline Boulevard from Middlefield Road to Highway 101 and has not received any response.

ANALYSIS

Heritage Trees

Due to a design change on the project since the April 2018 Commission meeting, additional street widening is required on the east side of Shoreline Boulevard between Middlefield Road and Terra Bella Avenue. Two Heritage trees are impacted by this additional widening. Three other Heritage trees on the Middlefield Road median on the west side of the Shoreline Boulevard/Middlefield Road intersection may also need to be removed in order to construct an additional left-turn lane. Staff will not be certain of the need to remove the trees on Middlefield Road until determined by the contractor, but are requesting prior approval in case the removal is required.

Table 1 lists the additional five Heritage trees proposed to be removed. Table 2 shows the 11 Heritage trees proposed for removal at the April 2018 Commission meeting. As a result, a total of 16 Heritage trees may be removed by the project.

No.	Tree ID	Tree Diameter at 54" Above Grade	Tree Type
1	123	38.8"	Coast Redwood
2	127	60.9"	Coast Redwood
3	18423	34"	Coast Redwood
4	18424	28"	Coast Redwood
5	18425	25"	Coast Redwood

Table 1 – Additional Heritage Tree Removal

No.	Tree ID	Tree Diameter at 54" Above Grade	Tree Type
1	118	21.6"	Deodar Cedar
2	119	44"	Coast Redwood
3	120	20.2"	Monterey Pine
4	121	24.6"	Peruvian Pepper
5	132	24"	Blackwood Acacia
6	138	20.4"	Mexican Palm
7	139	25.2"	Eucalyptus
8	172	22.7"	Coast Redwood
9	176	15.6"	Norway Maple
10	178	18"	Norway Maple
11	18385	11"	Coast Redwood

Table 2 – Heritage Tree Removal Approved at April 2018 Meeting

Figure 1 shows the project limit. The red line indicates the center-running reversible bus lane. The five additional Heritage trees proposed for removal are indicated by the blue circles. The 11 Heritage trees previously approved for removal are indicated by the green circles.

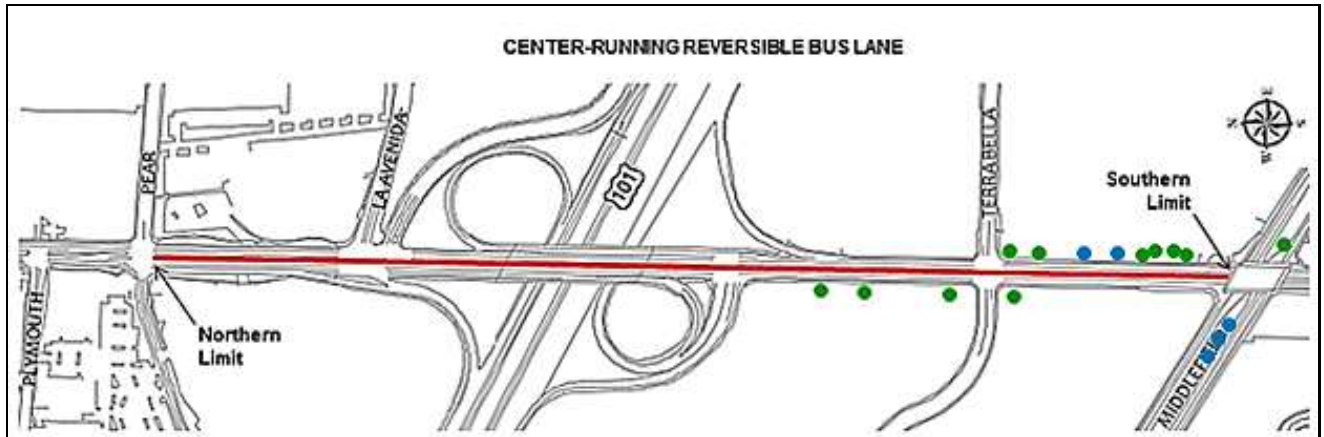


Figure 1 – Project Limit and Locations of Heritage Trees Removal

Figures 2 and 3 below show the five Heritage trees proposed to be removed.



Figure 2— Two Trees on Shoreline Boulevard to be Removed



Figure 3— Three Trees on Middlefield Road to be Removed

Mitigation

Staff recommends replanting at a 2-to-1 ratio with 24" box trees as mitigation for the removal of the five Heritage trees. The project proposes to plant a total of 32 new trees along the project site, which mitigates for the removal of the combined 16 Heritage trees. The species of new trees to be planted include red maple and crepe myrtle.

The Urban Forestry Board's recommendation for Heritage tree mitigation will be forwarded to the City Council with the approval of plans and specifications in spring 2019.

FISCAL IMPACT

The Shoreline Boulevard Bus Lane and Utility Improvements Design, Project 16-58, is funded with \$2,955,000. Construction is funded with Project 18-43 for \$12,164,000. Funding sources for both the design and construction of the project come from the Shoreline Community Fund, Water Fund, and Wastewater Fund.

The tree mitigation measure to plant new trees and install the necessary irrigation system is estimated to cost \$150,000, which will be funded by the Shoreline Boulevard Bus Lane and Utility Phase I Construction, Project 18-43.

PUBLIC NOTICING

In addition to agenda posting, staff posted notices on the Heritage trees proposed to be removed and provided information for attending this meeting. Information related to the tree removal was also posted on the City's Parks Division web page under "Heritage Trees."

AC/LA/2/PWK
913-12-12-18M

cc: CSD, PWD, APWD – Solomon, POSM, PCE – Au, SCE – Chang, File