

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION QUESTIONS

September 8, 2021 MEETING

Item 5.1 – Heritage Tree Appeal 1134 Nilda Avenue

1. The Redwood truck is very wide – clearly an old tree. Why should it be taken out now?

Based on the fast growth rate and size of Redwoods, they are not recommended to be planted under high voltage power lines.

2. There is remodeling taking place at the house; is that driving the removal request?

No, the remodeling is not driving the removal. The main factor is the concerns for safety and potential hazard the tree could pose in relation to the high voltage wires.

3. There are very few trees on that block of Nilda and a very large number of wires. What trees could possibly be planted on that side of the road?

The setbacks on the houses along this street are not very far back so that is a limiting factor in tree selection for the front yard. PG&E publishes a list of appropriate trees for under power lines. Since this location has both primary and secondary power lines staff suggests selecting trees from the city's small tree list for a street tree location. Staff will make an effort to do tree planting outreach on this street.

Item 5.2 – Heritage Tree Appeal – 2443 Tamalpais Street

1. What is the typical root structure of a Eucalyptus in terms of spread and frequency of interference with water/sewer mains?

Eucalyptus trees generally have a standard root system and from staff's experience would not consider them problematic as far as their root systems go. Most trees have the majority of their roots in the top 2 feet of soil and this would hold true for Eucalyptus trees. They are a large and relatively fast growing tree, but in staff's opinion, their roots are not specifically more aggressive or problematic than other large trees. All trees have the potential to interfere with a compromised sewer line and main lines can get pinched or broken by any tree's roots..

Item 5.3 – Shoreline Boulevard Interim Bus Lane and Utility Improvements, Project 18-43 Heritage Tree Removal and Mitigation

1. Do “Coast Redwoods” fall under the general category of “Sequoias” and therefore qualify as Heritage Trees with the reduced circumference threshold of 12” at 54”?

Yes, Coast Redwoods are native to California. Sequoia sempervirens are the genus and species for this tree. Coast Redwood would be one of the common names of the tree. Coast Redwoods become Heritage when they are 12” in circumference at 54” in height up the tree, which they typically reach in size.

2. What is the difference in cost to the City between a 24" box, a 36" box, and a 48" box replacement tree? Are larger replacement trees feasible in the proposed replacement locations for this Bus Land project?

The installed cost can vary depending on the cost of the tree itself but in general a 24" box will run around \$750 for purchase and installation. A 36" box would generally be around \$1,200 to \$2,000 for purchase and installation and a 48" box would generally run \$2500 to \$3000. Please note these are rough numbers and do not include cost savings when bidding multiple trees in close proximity to each other.

3. Given the proximity between some of the proposed tree removals and some of the proposed mitigation locations, is transplanting an option?

Given the size and height of some of the Redwoods, transplanting would not really be an option in staff's opinion for the larger trees. Tree movers generally want 10" to 12" per inch of trunk diameter for the hole of the transplanted tree with a depth of 24" to 36". Given the proximity of the trees in relation to each other and the size of the median itself, capturing enough root mass of the larger trees would not be possible. Some of the smaller trees on the east side of Shoreline on Middlefield could possibly be transplanted but that would be up to a professional tree moving service to determine. Staff would not recommend transplanting the Magnolia trees due to their sensitivity to any root loss and their current condition. The Liquidambar trees are a less desirable tree based on their weak wood and higher potential for limb breakage over the average tree.

4. Are any of the heritage trees proposed for removal suitable for transplanting?

The smaller Redwood trees could be. Staff is answering this question in relation to the latest group list of trees being impacted by the expansion of the turn lane. .

5. Which 16 heritage trees were previously approved for removal by the PRC? All of these trees do not seem to be marked in the field.

Please see Attachment 1 to these PRC Questions.

6. Has the new curb location for the additional left turn lane along Middlefield Road been marking the field? Are the 11 new heritage trees proposed for removal marked in the field?

The new curb line has not been marked yet but staff met with the project team to see where the curb would need to be in proximity to these trees. Because the 11 heritage trees are part of a CIP project, they were marked by Public Works on August 31. Some of the postings became dislodged due to windy conditions and not being laminated. Community Services staff plans to re-post the 11 trees tomorrow September 9th per Community Services department Heritage Tree posting standards. Going forward, Community Services staff will mark all Heritage Trees included in CIP projects per Community Services posting standards.

7. The PRC did not receive the improvement plans for the area where the heritage trees are proposed for removal. Are landscaping plans available?
The area will remain essentially as is with only the addition of trees at the proposed locations.
8. How far away are the mitigation tree replanting locations?
The new tree locations range from 80 feet to 1,000 feet roughly for the turn lane project.
9. Can staff provide a graphic of all the trees (both heritage and non-heritage, both proposed and approved for removal) at this intersection?
Please see Attachment 2 to these PRC Questions.
10. Can staff confirm that the EIR states that the addition of the left turn lanes will still result in significant and unavoidable impacts (page 480 of the draft EIR on the City's website)?
The EIR for the North Bayshore Precise Plan states the addition of the turn lanes would reduce the project (North Bayshore Precise Plan) impact, and identified the additional turn lanes may require removal of trees within the median of W. Middlefield Road and that the turn lanes were included with the Shoreline Bus Lane project. The EIR also identified that the left turn lanes would not improve intersection operation to an acceptable LOS in the PM peak hour, and due to this, still results in a significant and unavoidable impact.
11. If current peak hour delays are between 80 and 95 seconds, what would they be if the additional turn lanes were added?
The existing AM peak hour delays from the EIR for the North Bayshore Precise plan are 80.3 seconds eastbound and 93.6 westbound. The AM peak hour delays with the additional left turn lanes are 63.1 seconds eastbound and 86.1 westbound.
12. If the PRC does not recommend approval of staff's recommendation, what are the next steps?
The next step is to take staff's recommendation to the City Council, noting PRC's recommendation, for a decision.
13. Is this item actually within the purview of the PRC/Urban Forestry Board? This is a development and as I understand the City Ordinance, this is a City Council issue.
The Shoreline Boulevard Interim Bus Lane project is a City capital improvement project and in accordance with Municipal Code Section 32.33, the PRC/Urban Forestry Board's role for City capital projects is to review the recommended mitigation for tree removals, including the number, size, and location of replacement trees. The recommendation of the PRC/Urban Forestry Board will be forwarded to the City Council for their consideration of the Heritage tree removal, mitigation and overall project.

14. It appears from the report that the PRC recommendation in 2018 provided for the removal of 16 heritage trees. Is the 2021 PRC limited to a recommendation on the 11 new heritage trees requests or are we allowed to review the previous recommendation?

In accordance with City Code, the PRC/Urban Forestry Board is reviewing the recommended mitigation for the 11 heritage trees, including the number, size, and location of replacement trees, not previously approved for mitigation. In 2018 the PRC/Urban Forestry Board recommended the mitigation for the 16 heritage trees, and in 2019, the City Council approved the removal and mitigation of those heritage trees. The design, and now construction, incorporates those removals and mitigations.

15. Do you know why the 2018 PRC recommended the removal of the 16 heritage trees (especially the very large redwoods on Middlefield when the EIR report of 2017 noted that there would be no significant improvement to traffic flow with a second left turn lane at a that intersection)?

The mitigation for the 16 heritage trees were recommended by the PRC/Urban Forestry Board to offset the tree removals identified to accommodate various project improvements to enhance pedestrian, bicycle, transit and vehicle mobility for this project. Please refer to the previous response to Question #10 regarding the information identified in the EIR report.

Item 5.4 – Rengstorff park Aquatics Center Replacement, Design, Project 18-38-Commitment of Park Land Dedication Funds

1. Will the resurfaced parking lot have any net gain or loss in parking spaces?

The parking lot will have a net gain of 3 parking spaces (from 47 to 50 spaces)

2. The Council report detailing the public art indicates 1 wave bench and 2 rotating waterdrop sculptures; this PRC report seems to indicate 2 wave benches and 3 rotating waterdrop sculptures. Is this an update that transpired during the actual Council meeting?

Yes.

If so, would it be correct to assume that the \$75K listed in Table 3 covers the additional bench and waterdrop chair?

Yes.

3. What will the new pool complex look like from the community center side?

The view to the new pool complex will be similar in that the pools and slide will be somewhat visible from the Community Center through new and existing trees and the open stile metal picket fence. With the orientation of the new building, the Community Center patrons will see the side of the new building which houses the large multi-purpose room. (See Elevation below)



3 ELEVATION - WEST - ORTHOGONAL
1/8" = 1'-0"

4. What sort of grading and planting is proposed for the stormwater treatment basins? What sort of planting is proposed for the understory of the large oaks to remain?

The stormwater treatment basins will be graded at a 3:1 ratio with a combination of planting materials. The proposed planting mix is as follows:

75% California Grey Rush (Juncus Patens)

25% Foothill Sedge (Carex Tumulicola)

The understory of the existing large oak tree will be primarily mulch within the open park areas outside of the new Aquatics Center fence line and a combination of high-performance lawn and mulch on the inside of the fence.

5. How many mitigation trees are proposed, what species, and where?

Per the October 27, 2020 Council Meeting, up to nine heritage trees are being removed and replaced with 24" box trees at a 2:1 ratio. Per the final design, there are an additional 25 non-heritage trees being replaced with the 24" box trees.

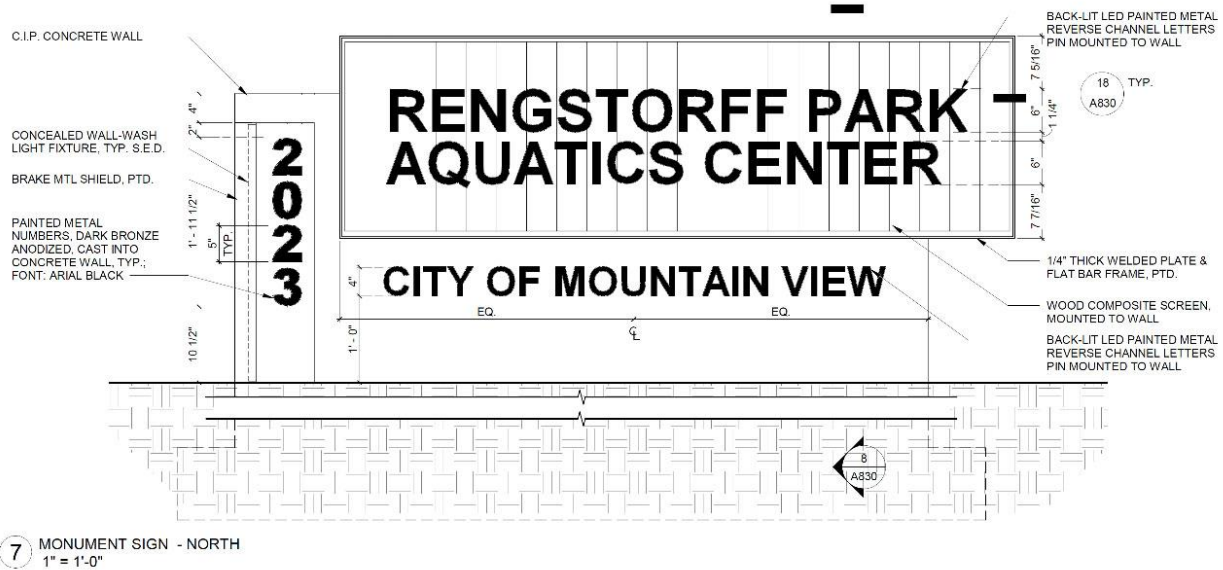
The mix of new trees are as follows:

- 27 London Plane
- 9 Valley Oak
- 7 Live Oak

Please see Attachment 3: Tree Planting and Mitigation Plan for the proposed locations.

6. What does the new park sign along Crisanto Avenue look like?

The sign is a combination of concrete, metal and composite wood siding to compliment the proposed building materials. Please see the below signage detail.



7. Why is the skateboard bench not being replaced in the vicinity of the skate park?

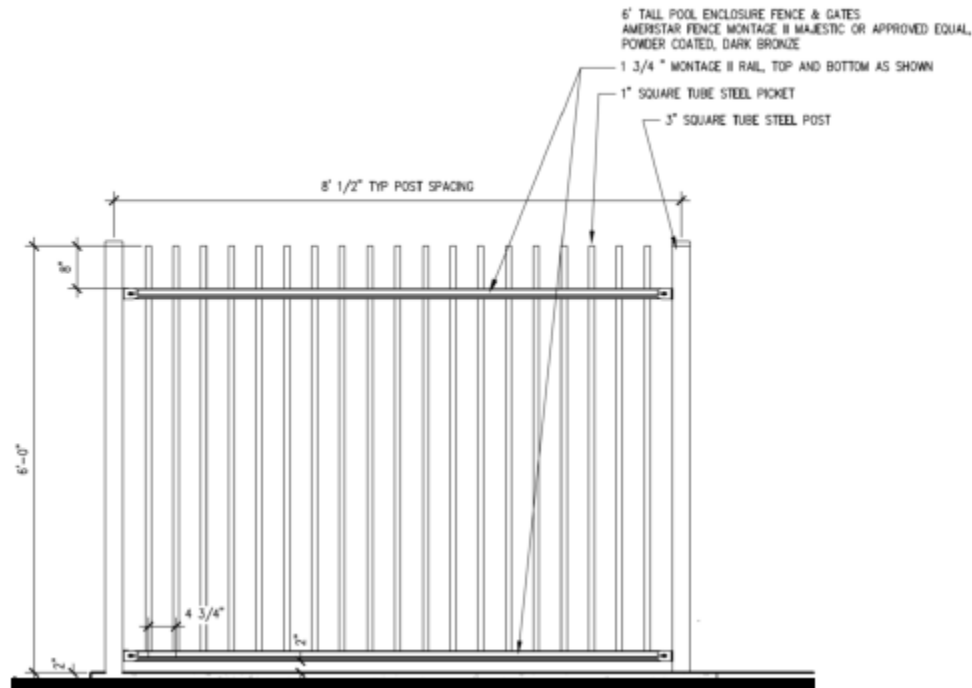
The design intent is to relocate the skateboard bench along the existing park path to the skate park entrance.

8. What will be done with the Castro history sign that will be displaced by the new perimeter fence?

The existing Castro history sign is just outside the new perimeter fence and will not be displaced by the project. Measures will be taken to either protect the sign in place or temporarily remove and reinstall close to its current location if necessary.

9. Is the entire fencing around the center going to be decorative rather than chain link?

The fence is now decorative open metal stile fencing and is no longer chain link. Please see the detail below:



10. Has the date/year always been part of the signage on the exterior wall?

The number on the side of the building facing Crisanto Avenue are the proposed building address, "2023 Crisanto Ave". That number will also be on the monument sign at the west driveway entrance if the address assignment is approved by the Building Department.

11. The proposed new water slide seems to have a much larger footprint than the current one. What would be the effect of the increased footprint on the poolside environment (less unstructured space, for example)?

The proposed alternate slide is larger. However, due to the location of the slide (both the re-used and the proposed alternate), the area behind the plunge pit will only be used as a walkthrough and is not a programmable space.

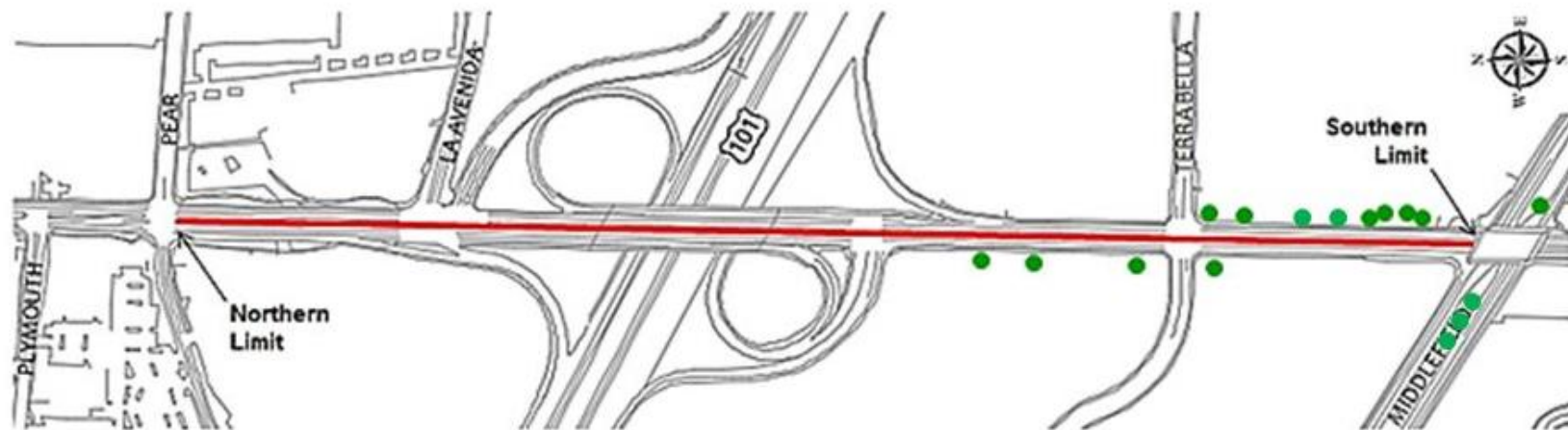
August Monthly Report

1. Does the Recreation Department ever have an event to recognize the volunteers who work on projects during the year throughout the City? (i.e. helping with non-native plant removals, etc.)

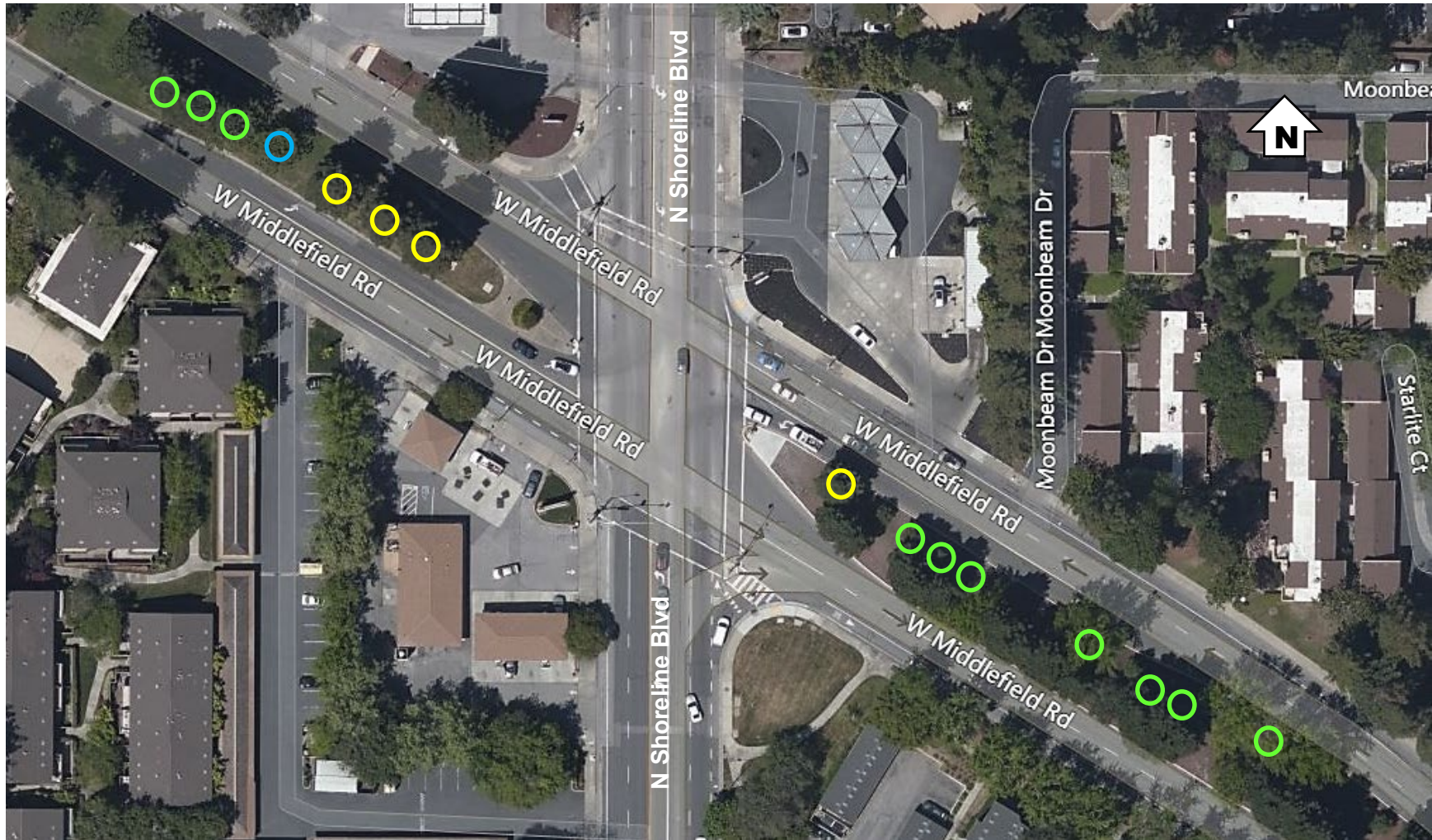
The City of Mountain View, spearheaded by the Recreation Division, recognizes volunteers during Volunteer Appreciation Week in April. During this week, individual departments may plan a volunteer appreciation activity for their volunteers while the Recreation Division provides volunteer appreciation gifts for all volunteers. For example, Senior Center staff typically hosts a breakfast for their front desk volunteers, Deer Hollow

Farm staff host a volunteer potluck at the Farm, and Performing Arts Division staff host a themed volunteer appreciation event at MVCPA for their many volunteers. In addition, the Mayor and City Council recognize volunteer efforts through a Proclamation for Volunteer Appreciation Week. The Volunteer Coordinator position within the Recreation Division is currently vacant as the previous Coordinator has retired. Upon hiring a new employee to fulfill this role, the Recreation Division will re-evaluate volunteer appreciation efforts.

PREVIOUSLY APPROVED HERITAGE TREE REMOVAL
represented by green dots



RESPONSE TO SEPTEMBER 8TH PRC – ITEM 5.3 QUESTION 9



Legend:

- - Heritage Tree Proposed for Removal
- - Heritage Tree Approved for Removal
- - Non-Heritage tree proposed for Removal



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PROJECT:

**RENGSTORFF PARK
AQUATICS CENTER
REPLACEMENT**
MOUNTAIN VIEW, CALIFORNIA

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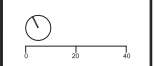
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REVISION	DATE	DESCRIPTION



ISSUE: **PERMIT SET**
DATE: **JUNE 28, 2021**



SHEET TITLE:
**PLANTING
PLAN:
TREES**

SHEET NUMBER:
L500