

APPROVED

FEB 03 2022

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

BOARD REPORT

NO. 22-027

DATE February 03, 2022

C.D. 4

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: GRIFFITH PARK – LADWP PUMP STATION 115 PROJECT - TREE REMOVAL AND MITIGATION - CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION FROM THE PROVISIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) PURSUANT TO ARTICLE III, SECTION 1, CLASS 4(3) [NEW GARDENING, TREE PLANTING, OR LANDSCAPING] OF CITY CEQA GUIDELINES AND ARTICLE 19, SECTION 15304(b) OF CALIFORNIA CEQA GUIDELINES

AP Diaz	_____	M. Rudnick	_____
H. Fujita	_____ <i>fur</i>	*C. Santo Domingo	_____ <i>DF</i>
J. Kim	_____	N. Williams	_____



 General Manager

Approved X Disapproved _____ Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Approve the removal of one Western Sycamore tree located in Griffith Park, along North Vermont Canyon Road, and installation of eighteen (18) replacement trees in Griffith Park, as described in the Summary of this Report (Project), subject to obtaining all necessary permits and approvals and in accordance with the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) Tree Preservation Policy and Urban Forest Program, as may be amended;
2. Determine that the Project is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 4(3) [New gardening, tree planting, or landscaping] of City CEQA Guidelines and Article 19, Section 15304(b) of California CEQA Guidelines and direct RAP Staff to file a Notice of Exemption (NOE) with the Los Angeles County Clerk;
3. Authorize the Department of Recreation and Parks' (RAP) Chief Accounting Employee to prepare a check in the amount of \$75.00 to the Los Angeles County Clerk for filing an NOE; and,
4. Authorize RAP Staff to make technical corrections as necessary to carry out the intent of this Report.

BOARD REPORT

PG. 2 NO. 22-027

SUMMARY

Griffith Park is located at 4730 Crystal Springs Drive in the Hollywood community of the City. This 4,281.73-acre park provides a wide variety of recreational programs and activities, such as train rides, a merry-go-round, hiking trails, and golf courses, for the local community. Approximately 18,155 City residents live within a one-half (½) mile walking distance of Griffith Park. Due to the facilities, features, programs, and services it provides, Griffith Park meets the standard for a Regional Park as defined in the City's Public Recreation Plan.

GRIFFITH PARK WATER SYSTEM

On June 4, 2003, the Board of Recreation and Parks Commissioners' (Board) approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between RAP and Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) for the transfer of ownership of the water system in Griffith Park to LADWP (Board Report 03-188) (Council File 03-1331).

The goal of the MOU was to ensure reliability and regulatory compliance of the Griffith Park water system while LADWP constructed a replacement Griffith Park water system (New System) that would be owned and operated by LADWP and would relieve RAP from all responsibilities of owning or operating a Public Water System as defined by the State of California Department of Health Services. The MOU detailed the ownership, operational control and responsibility of specific existing water system facilities which were to be transferred to LADWP as well as those existing water system facilities and equipment that would remain with RAP. The MOU stated that RAP would "cooperate fully with the LADWP in its maintenance, repair, and operation of existing New System facilities and in siting and constructing additional facilities" and that "RAP shall grant to the LADWP all permissions necessary to ensure the proper restoration, relocation, upgrade, repair, maintenance, and operation of facilities of the New System."

The Griffith Park water system is fed by one primary source, the River Supply Conduit (RSC), which is supplied by LADWP's Headworks Reservoir. Griffith Park's water system is hydraulically isolated from the larger LADWP distribution system. Water that enters Griffith Park is distributed to services and storage tanks by a series of pump stations and a pipe network located inside Griffith Park. The highest elevation storage tanks, Tanks 151 and 153, can be used to distribute stored water down to all of the services within Griffith Park. If the RSC, or any of the primary pump stations go out of service, sections of Griffith Park could be left without water for consumption or fire suppression.

PUMP STATION 115

Pump Station 115 is located along Vermont Canyon Road, just north of the Greek Theater. Pump Station 115 provides a critical second source of water to the Griffith water system as it connects Griffith Park to the larger LADWP distribution system.

BOARD REPORT

PG. 3 NO. 22-027

LADWP is planning to install a new permanent pump skid system, at the Pump Station 115 site, for the park's water distribution system. The purpose of the new pump skid system is to meet the current potable water demand of Griffith Park, to provide fire flow in the area to help protect Griffith Park in the event of a fire, and to improve the resiliency of the Griffith Park's water distribution system by providing redundancy. This new pump skid system would replace a temporary pump skid system that was put into service at the Pump Station 115 site in 2011. The new pump skid system will be larger than the old temporary system and is being designed as a permanent solution for the area

As the new pump skid is planned to be permanent, it needs to be installed on a concrete foundation to properly support the equipment that will be mounted on it. The larger footprint and permanent foundation of this skid will impact the root zone of a Western Sycamore tree that is located adjacent to this site. Therefore, LADWP is requesting approval to remove the impacted Western Sycamore Tree.

Per LADWP, the skid system cannot be relocated to a different location due to the unique hydraulics of the area and the location of existing connections to the water distribution system in the area.

TREES AND SHADE

As previously noted, LADWP's Pump Station 115 Project will result in the removal of 1 existing Western Sycamore tree. The Western Sycamore Tree is listed as a protected tree under Article 6 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code (LAAC). Per RAP's Tree Preservation Policy, the removal of the Western Sycamore will need to be replaced. In addition, the removal will require obtaining a permit from the Board of Public Works (BPW). LADWP applied for a permit in October 2021 and the BPW has approved the removal request. Once the LADWP pays the required permit fees, the tree removal permit can be issued. The proposed tree removal will not proceed until the appropriate permit has been obtained by LADWP and provided to RAP.

LADWP prepared a tree impact report that assessed the trees in the area of Pump Station 115 to evaluate their condition and need for removal (Exhibit No. 1). As discussed in that report, and based on RAP's Tree Preservation Policy, as the Western Sycamore tree is a protected tree it would need to be replaced at a 4:1 ratio. RAP Forestry Division has reviewed the proposed tree removal and concurred with the recommendations in this report.

BOARD REPORT

PG. 4 NO. 22-027

Based on the Cumulative Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) of the Western Sycamore tree, RAP's Forestry Division prepared a recommendation on the selection of tree species and their sizes as part of the required tree replacement. RAP is recommending that the removal of the Western Sycamore be replaced by the planting a total of eighteen (18) trees. The trees would each be "24" box sized and 2" caliper trees. The number and species of the trees would be as follows:

- Six (6) – Island Oaks
- Six (6) – Western Sycamores
- Three (3) – Desert Museum Palo Verdes
- Three (3) – Torrey Pines

RAP Forestry Division recommends that the eighteen (18) replacement trees be placed in the Park Center area of Griffith Park (Exhibit No. 2).

Additionally, LADWP has committed to weed and mulch around the base of each of the eighteen (18) replacement trees for a period of two (2) years.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The proposed Project consists of the removal of a damaged tree and the planting of new trees. According to Exhibit 1, the tree is in fair condition, but "showed signs of stress and invasive shot hole borer (ISHB) activity. [...] A large area of the cambium (bark) layer was missing from the trunk of the tree. That damage extended down past the root buttress of the tree. It was estimated to be less than 20% of the circumference of the trunk. Further investigation uncovered dead or hollow roots stemming from that area of the trunk and root buttress."¹ As specified in the Trees and Shades section of this report, the tree will be replaced following the Cumulative Diameter at Breast Height ratio, in the same general area as the tree to be removed, therefore the overall environmental effect of this removal is minimal.

This site is not within a coastal or a methane zone, so there is no reasonable possibility that the proposed Project may impact on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern or have a significant effect due to unusual circumstances. The removal and replacement of a skid pump is associated with the proposed Project, but the two actions would not involve cumulatively significant impacts, and no future projects would result from the proposed Project. As of January 10, 2021, the State Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) (Envirostor at www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov) has not listed the Project site or any contaminated sites near the Project area (within 500 feet). According to the Caltrans Scenic Highway Map there is no scenic highway located within the vicinity of the project or within the project site. Furthermore, the proposed Project is located in Griffith Park, City of Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monument (HCM #942), however the tree removal and replacement included in the proposed Project will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of the park as a historical resource.

¹ Davey Resource Group, Inc. *Pump Station 115 Replacement Construction Impact Report* (p. 5) prepared for DWP September 2021

BOARD REPORT

PG. 5 NO. 22-027

Based on these considerations, staff recommends that the Board determines that it is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 4(3) of City CEQA Guidelines and Article 19, Section 15304(b) of California CEQA Guidelines. RAP Staff will file a Notice of Exemption with the Los Angeles County Clerk upon Board's approval.

FISCAL IMPACT

The approval of this Project will have no fiscal impact on RAP's General Fund. The costs for the removal of the Western Sycamore and the procurement and planting of the eighteen (18) replacement trees will be paid for by LADWP.

STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVES AND GOALS

Approval of this Board Report advances RAP's Strategic Plan by supporting:

Goal No. 1: Provide Safe and Accessible Parks

Outcome No. 2: All parks are safe and welcoming

Result: LADWP's Pump Station 115 Project will improve the resiliency of Griffith Park's water distribution system and help provide water in case of emergencies. The newly planted trees will eventually provide additional shade in a heavily used area of the park, which would enhance the park users' experience.

This Report was prepared by Darryl Ford, Superintendent, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch.

LIST OF EXHIBITS

- 1) LADWP Tree Removal Report
- 2) Location of Replacement Trees

Tree Replacement Proposal

PUMP STATION 115 REPLACEMENT IN GRIFFITH PARK

Prepared By:



Environmental Affairs

111 North Hope Street, Room 1044

Los Angeles, California 90012

Contents

Project Background.....	2
Project Need.....	2
Tree Impact Report.....	3
Replacement Proposal.....	4
Appendix A	5
Appendix M	6

Project Background

The Griffith Park Water System is fed by one primary source, the River Supply Conduit (RSC), which is supplied by Headworks Reservoir. The Park’s water system is hydraulically isolated from the larger LADWP distribution system. Water that enters the park from the RSC is distributed to services and storage tanks by a series of pump stations (PS) and a pipe network located inside the park. The highest elevation storage tanks, Tanks 151 and 153, can be used to distribute stored water down to all of the services within the park. If the RSC, or any of the primary pump stations go out of service, sections of the park could be left without water for consumption or fire suppression.

Pump Station 115 (PS115) provides a critical second source of water to the Griffith Water System by connecting Griffith Park to the larger LADWP distribution system through the 1030’ zone. The proposed pump skid at PS115 will serve as a permanent solution to provide emergency backup water to the park by pumping water from the 1030’ zone to Tanks 151 and 153 in the park’s 1520’ zone.

Project Need

The proposed pump skid needs to be installed in the existing PS 115 Site (located just north of the Greek Theatre along N. Vermont Canyon Rd) because the skid needs to be connected to both the 1030’ zone and 1520’ zone. The system divide between the 1030’ and 1520’ zones is located under N. Vermont Canyon Rd. just north of the Greek Theatre. Additionally, the PS115 Site has existing infrastructure that can be reused for the new pump skid system to minimize impact to the community during construction of the new station. Reusing the existing PS115 site and the existing infrastructure on site helps reduce the overall cost to the Rate Payers for the project. If the station were to be relocated to a different site further away from the system divide, larger and/or additional pumps would have to be used to meet the unique hydraulic conditions of the park. Larger and/or additional pumps would add to the project cost and overall footprint of the station.

Previous pump stations did not require DWP to remove the sycamore tree because the other temporary skid systems were smaller in footprint and did not require a permanent concrete

foundation since they were deemed to be temporary solutions. Since the proposed skid is planned to be permanent, it needs to be installed on a rigid concrete foundation to properly support the equipment on the skid. Additionally, the pumps on the permanent skid are larger and pump more water to more adequately meet demands from the Griffith park system in the event of a fire. The larger footprint and permanent foundation impede on the critical root zone of the tree based on the arborist report. The proposed new PS115 size has already been reduced to occupy the smallest footprint possible.

This project requires the removal of the California Sycamore tree that is located within the PS115 footprint.

Tree Impact Report¹

A DRG International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Certified Arborist conducted the initial site assessment of two (2) Los Angeles Recreation and Parks (LARP) trees that may be impacted by construction at approximately 1000 yards north of address 2700 N. Vermont Ave, in Griffith Park, on September 1st, 2021. The trees were assessed for location, size, current condition and overall health, as well as identifying critical and structural root zones to assist with design considerations for the replacement pump to upgrade the park's emergency water system for firefighting efforts. The attached report can be used to make informed decisions about construction planning, and long-term care of the trees.

The survey determined the following:

- Two (2) trees were evaluated. One (1) California Sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*) and One (1) Canary Island pine (*Pinus canariensis*).
- Both trees were in fair condition.
- Both trees were identified as LARP trees in their inventory system, which are regulated by the City of Los Angeles Municipal Code.
- Based on the proposed installation plans, protection efforts are recommended for the (1) Canary Island pine (*Pinus canariensis*), and complete removal is recommended for the (1) California Sycamore

¹ Excerpt from Tree Impact Report Produced from Davey Resource Group. See Appendix A for full report.

Replacement Proposal



Figure 1: Proposed replacement tree planting sites located Northeast of the Griffith Park Merry-Go-Round

Per the Protected Tree Ordinance, the California Sycamore shall be replaced at a 4:1 ratio. The City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) replacement requires that each one-inch D.B.H. of existing tree shall be replaced with a minimum one-inch caliper new tree². RAP requested that the removed California Sycamore be replaced by 18, 24" box, 2" caliper trees of the following species:

- 6 – Island Oaks
- 6 – California Sycamores (includes those required by the Protected Tree Ordinance)
- 3 – Desert Museum Palo Verdes
- 3 – Torrey Pines

RAP has provided an approximate location for all 18 trees to be planted (see Figure 1). RAP will be providing exact locations where the replacement trees will be planted. Additionally, RAP will provide access to the portions of the park for tree planting activities. LADWP will procure and plant the above described 18 trees.

Irrigation for the 18 trees will be met with the existing irrigation infrastructure in this portion of Griffith Park. The automatic irrigation schedule for the area the trees are being planted may need to be adjusted in order to provide enough water for the newly planted 18 trees.

For a period of two years after planting, LADWP will weed and mulch around the base of each of the 18 trees as needed. Tree will be re-staked as needed in this period as necessary.

² Appendix M, Section 6 Policies For "The Installation and Preservation Of Landscaping And Trees On Public Property Of Recreation and Parks Department"

Appendix A



Corporate Headquarters
295 South Water Street, Suite 300
Kent, OH 44240
800-828-8312

Local Office
1020 South Fickett Street
Los Angeles, CA 90023

September 1, 2021

Charles Holloway
111 N. Hope St.
Los Angeles, California 90012

RE: Construction Impact Tree Report for Pump Station 115 Replacement, in Griffith Park, Los Angeles, California

Dear Mr. Holloway,

Thank you for contracting with Davey Resource Group regarding the above project. In support of your objectives, Davey Resource Group (DRG) is pleased to provide you with the attached impact report for the planned project.

A DRG International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Certified Arborist conducted the initial site assessment of two (2) Los Angeles Recreation and Parks (LARP) trees that may be impacted by construction at approximately 1000 yards north of address 2700 N. Vermont Ave, in Griffith Park, on September 1st, 2021. The trees were assessed for location, size, current condition and overall health, as well as identifying critical and structural root zones to assist with design considerations for the replacement pump to upgrade the park's emergency water system for firefighting efforts. The attached report can be used to make informed decisions about construction planning, and long-term care of the trees.

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- Both trees were in fair condition.
- Both trees were identified as LARP trees in their inventory system, which are regulated by the City of Los Angeles Municipal Code.
- Based on the proposed installation plans, mitigation efforts are recommended for the (1) Canary Island pine (*Pinus canariensis*), and complete removal is recommended for the (1) California Sycamore.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like more information or have any questions.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Bova
Area Manager, Southern California
Davey Resource Group, Inc.
Registered Consulting Arborist #549
Michael.Bova@Davey.com
M: 805.286.0181

PUMP STATION 115 REPLACEMENT CONSTRUCTION IMPACT REPORT

Griffith Park
2700 N. Vermont Ave.
Los Angeles, CA
September 2021



Prepared by:

Davey Resource Group, Inc.
1020 South Fickett Street
Los Angeles, CA 90023

Notice of Disclaimer

Inventory data provided by Davey Resource Group is based on visual recording at the time of inspection. Visual records do not include testing or analysis and do not include aerial or subterranean inspection. Davey Resource group is not responsible for discovery or identification of hidden or otherwise non-observable risks. Records may not remain accurate after inspection due to variable deterioration of inventoried material and site disturbance.

Davey Resource Group provides no warranty with respect to the fitness of the urban forest for any use or purpose whatsoever or for future outcomes of the inventoried trees.

Contents

Summary	4
Introduction	4
Background	4
Assignment	4
Limits of Assignment	4
Purpose and Use of Report	4
Observations	5
Methods	5
Site Observations	5
Analysis and Discussion	5
Conclusion and Recommendations	6
Appendix A – Tree Condition Assessment	7
Table 1. Tree Summary	7
Appendix B – Photos	8
Photo 1) Tree site location illustrating utility infrastructure and fencing	8
Photo 2. California Sycamore area of disturbance with the SRZ	9
Photo 3. California Sycamore trunk damage and leader removal	10
Photo 4. California Sycamore Basel and root decay	11
Photo 5) Canary Island Pine area of disturbance	12
Photo 6) Canary Island Pine area of excavation (Estimated 24” deep X 36”Long)	13
Photo 6) Canary Island Pine existing concrete pad being incorporated into plan	14
Appendix C - Property Map & Location	15

Summary

In September 2021, Davey Resource Group (DRG) was contracted by Aspen Environmental to conduct inspections on the trees within the construction zone which may impact the trees health and safety. The request was made to assess the current condition of the trees and to help assist in providing mitigation options if applicable.

On September 1st, 2021, an International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Certified Arborist from Davey Resource Group conducted the evaluation of two (2) street trees on site. The trees were assessed by their location, size, current condition, and overall health. This data was used to calculate the critical root zone (CRZ), and structural root zone (SRZ) of the trees. These calculations will help guide construction options and mitigate potential impacts to the trees.

The trees inspected were in fair condition and are managed by LARP. All inspected trees will be impacted by the proposed construction. As for the Canary Island Pine, steps should be taken to mitigate impacts on the tree and the California Sycamore is recommended for removal. This report can be used in the tree permit application process.

Introduction

Background

The proposed improvements include removal of the existing concrete pad, excavating to a depth of 18 inches, in approximately the same footprint as the current pad sits. The area of disruption is within 4 feet of the base of the California Sycamore tree and within 8 feet of the Canary Island Pine tree. The work to be done may include, grading, digging, trenching and use of large construction equipment.

Assignment

This inspection is the first step in assessing which trees will be impacted by the construction project. This inspection establishes the condition of trees, and the impact construction will have on the viability of these trees after completion of the project. The condition of each tree was visually assessed, and the trees were photographed so that change in condition can be assessed if needed.

Limits of Assignment

Many factors can limit specific and accurate data when performing evaluations of trees, their conditions, and potential for failure or response to site disturbances. No soil or tissue testing was performed. All observations were made from the ground on September 1st, 2021, and no soil excavation to expose roots was performed. The most recent development plan provided by Aspen, were used to assist in determining potential construction impacts. Only two (2) trees were inspected. The determinations and recommendations presented here are based on current data and conditions that existed at the time of the evaluation and cannot be a predictor of the ultimate outcome for the evaluated trees in the future.

Purpose and Use of Report

The purpose of this report is to provide an assessment of all inspected trees within the project area of impact, including an assessment of the current condition, health and the viability for all evaluated trees that may be impacted by the development project. The findings in this report can be used to make informed decisions on construction design planning and be used to guide long-term care of the trees. This report can also be submitted to the City of Los Angeles for permitting purposes.

Observations

Methods

A visual inspection was used to develop the findings, conclusions, and recommendations found in this report. For each tree, LARP's digital inventory was referenced and reviewed for this report. The tree's current condition was consistent with the findings in the field. Data collection also included photo documentation of the project site. No physical inspection of the upper canopy, sounding, root crown excavation, resistance drilling, or other technologies were used in the evaluation of the trees.

Site Observations

The location was in Griffith Park, north of the Greek Theater parking lot. **(See Appendix C: Property map & Locations)**
The project location was a small, fenced area measured approximately 25x25 feet within the park boundaries, where existing utilities were established. The trees were in an open unrestricted planting site within the fenced area, with hardscape and utilities within the drip line of the trees. **(See Appendix B: Photo1)**

Tree Observations

Two (2) street trees were assessed within the project area and observed in fair condition. **(See Appendix A: Tree condition)**
The California sycamore showed signs of stress and invasive shot hole borer (ISHB) activity. Deadwood was present within the canopy and the tree had overextended branches reaching beyond the fence project area. The tree had a major leader removed, approximately 12-18 inches in diameter, that reach over the street and sidewalk. A large area of the cambium (bark) layer was missing from the trunk of the tree. That damage extended down past the root buttress of the tree. It was estimated to be less than 20% of the circumference of the trunk. Further investigation uncovered dead or hollow roots stemming from that area of the trunk and root buttress. **(See Appendix B: Photo2-5)**

The Canary Island Pine had a full healthy canopy of foliage that reached beyond the fences project area. Some overextending branches were observed in the canopy and co-dominant leaders towards the upper half of the canopy. No observable defects were observed on the trunk or root area. This tree's location was within 2 feet of the street and sidewalk. Utilities and other infrastructure were within 10 feet of the base of the tree.

Analysis and Discussion

Preliminary designs were provided and reviewed for this Arborist Report. The diameters of the surveyed trees are used to determine the potential critical root zone (CRZ) of each tree. The CRZ can be calculated by multiplying the DBH by 1 foot. For instance, a tree with a DBH of 12 inches has a calculated CRZ of 12 feet radially in any direction. This distance may extend beyond the tree canopy drip line and is normally considered the tree protection zone (TPZ).

Like the CRZ, the structural root zone (SRZ) was also calculated using a commonly accepted method established by Dr. Kim Coder in *Construction Damage Assessments: Trees and Sites*.¹ In this method, the root plate size (i.e. pedestal roots, zone of rapid taper area, and roots under compression) and limit of disruption based upon tree DBH is considered as a minimum distance that any disruption should occur during construction. Significant risk of catastrophic tree failure exists if structural roots within this given radius are destroyed or severely damaged. The SRZ is the area where no disturbance should occur without arborist supervision. **(See Table 1 in Appendix A)**

The location of the California Sycamore will be significantly impacted by the construction project. Needed excavation and estimated area of disturbance is 40 inches from root buttress. The proximity of the tree to the proposed concrete pad is in the range of SRZ and excavation activities will have a negative impact on the tree. Combined with the tree's current condition and defects, it is recommended for complete removal.

¹ Dr. Kim D. Coder, University of Georgia July 1996

The location of the Canary Island Pine and the area of disturbance anticipated, mitigation steps should be taken to help preserve and minimize the impact to this tree. Needed excavation and estimated area of disturbance is 8 feet from the root buttress. There is additional concrete slab within 4 feet of the root buttress, which is being integrated into the new design and no excavation is anticipated. It is recommended to air spade area of excavation and manual root pruning take place, with the following guidelines. Any root 2 inches and less can be cut, any root greater than 2 inches and less than 4 inches should be evaluated and roots greater than 4 inches an alternative plan should be discussed. In addition, a tree protection plan is recommended to help minimize construction damage during the project.

Conclusion and Recommendations

This report is the first step in identifying trees that will be impacted by construction activities, determining if preservation is possible, and outlining general guidelines to preserving the trees aesthetic, health, function, and value on the site during and after development. Trees and green spaces provide benefits and add value to park patrons and visitors. Tree preservation starts with a basic understanding of the health and structure of the trees on the site. The importance of protecting trees that have been selected for preservation should be clearly communicated to contractors, equipment operators, and workers before any land disturbance. The review of the development plans determined the following:

- One (1) California Sycamore will be significantly impacted by the construction plans and complete removal is recommended.
- One (1) Canary Island Pine any excavation, it is recommended to manually excavate with an air spading process and all roots pruned by hand, following the guidelines listed above.

Given the age of the inspected trees, they have adapted to the environment conditions and add great value to the parks systems urban canopy. It is unfortunate that alternative options are not available and the importance of upgrading the park emergency water pumping system is paramount to public safety.

Appendix A – Tree Condition Assessment

Table 1. Tree Summary

Site ID	Species	DSH	Overall Condition	Height (FT)	CRZ (FT)	SRZ (FT)	Heritage	Historic
73107	California sycamore (Platanus racemosa)	35	Fair 41-60%	51-75	35	16	No	No
1000800	Canary Island pine (Pinus canariensis)	31	Fair 41-60%	76+	31	15	No	No

Information from LARP inventory data base and root zones calculated based on DSH

Appendix B – Photos

Photo 1) Tree site location illustrating utility infrastructure and fencing



(Area of disturbance marked in red)

Photo 2. California Sycamore area of disturbance with the SRZ

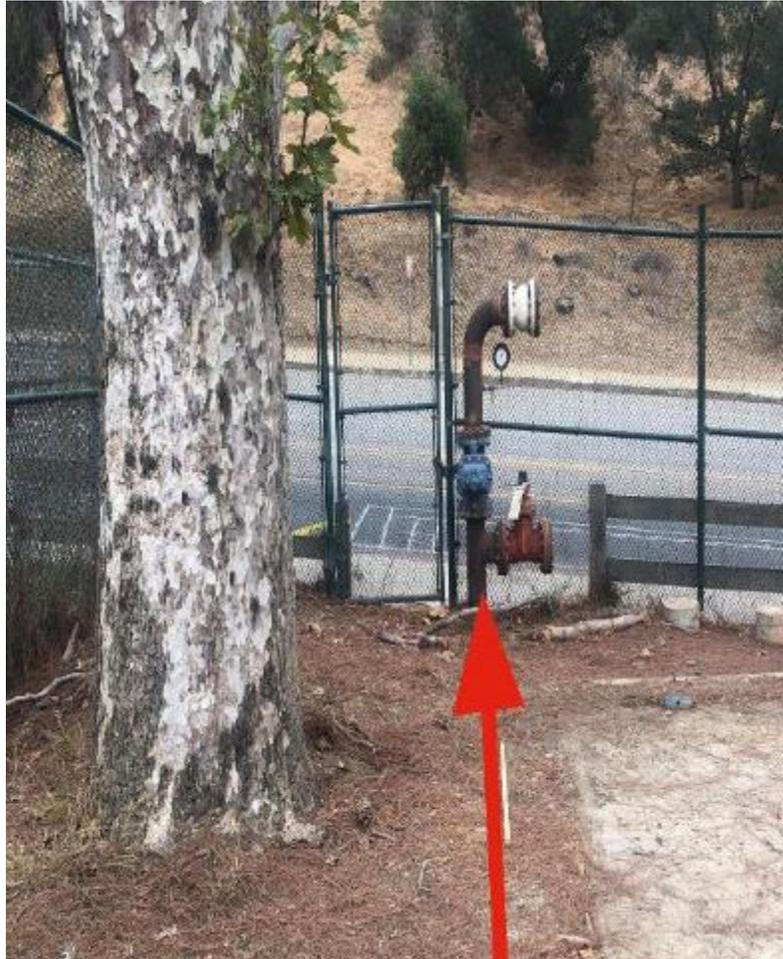


Photo 3. California Sycamore trunk damage and leader removal



Photo 4. California Sycamore Basel and root decay



Photo 5) Canary Island Pine area of disturbance



Photo 6) Canary Island Pine area of excavation (Estimated 24" deep X 36" Long)

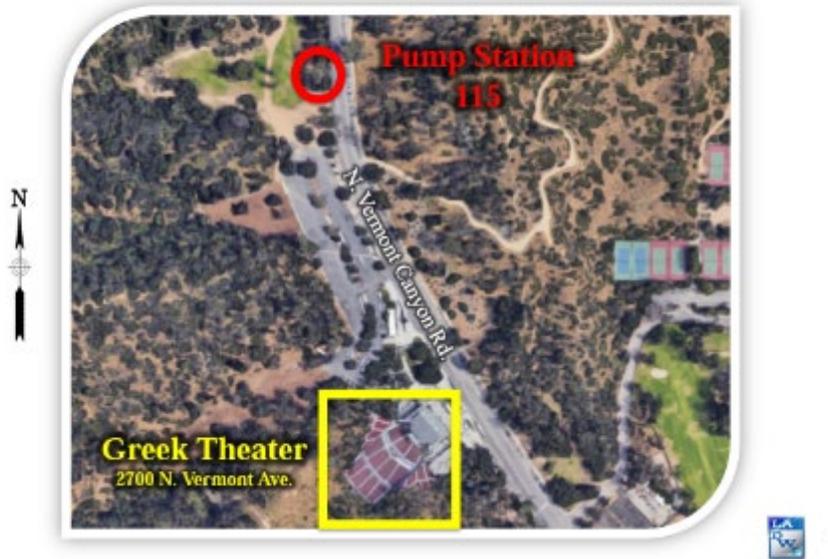


Photo 6) Canary Island Pine existing concrete pad being incorporated into plan



Appendix C - Property Map & Location

PS 115 - Site Map



Appendix M

**POLICIES FOR THE INSTALLATION AND PRESERVATION
OF LANDSCAPING AND TREES ON PUBLIC PROPERTY
Of Recreation and Parks Department**

Adopted by City Council, September 21, 1971; amended January 10, 1972 (Council File Nos. 70-1899; 132989 S-1 & S-2; and 145282 S-1)

1. GENERAL OBJECTIVES

The urban forest is recognized as a vital infrastructure system essential to the quality of life in the City of Los Angeles. Tree canopy and landscaping are important factors in every neighborhood, enhancing aesthetics, mitigating the heat island effect, improving air quality, reducing stormwater runoff, providing economic, psychological and sociological benefits to all inhabitants. Therefore, planting new trees, which will develop broad canopies, as well as the preservation of mature tree canopy, and landscaping shall be considered to be a priority on all public property.

2. PROPOSED IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

All proposed improvement projects shall be planned to *provide* the optimum *tree cover* and landscaping required for conformance to the above general objectives. This shall apply to all improvement projects undertaken by the City, by other public agencies, or by the private sector.

Trees and landscaping shall be provided in or adjacent all parkways, on slopes adjacent streets, in isolated land remnants, in or adjacent all street frontages abutting public buildings or structures, in median and traffic islands, and on the grounds of public buildings.

In addition, priority shall be given to shading hardscape features such as parking lots, roofs, plazas, etc. An adequate number of trees shall be planted so that 50% of the parking stall area in parking lots will be shaded within ten years. The only exception is to be when a conflicting use is planned, and implementation is to be within the next 10 years.

During construction, if any portion of construction, its lay down areas, or its staging areas affects existing landscaping, detailed guidelines for tree preservation and protection during construction shall be implemented.

3. FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

The installation of landscaping and trees which provide wide-spread general benefits to the public—may be paid for by the City, except that landscaping, other than trees, in parkway areas is generally provided by the abutting property owners. The benefiting property owners, community groups, or other parties may pay for landscaping and trees in parks.

4. AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

a. Within the Recreation and Parks land

The Recreation and Parks Department is responsible for approving and maintaining trees and landscaping in all Recreation and Parks properties.

The Recreation and Parks' Planning and Construction Division is responsible for the preparation of improvement plans for landscaping and park tree installation within Recreation and Parks land.

Appendix M

b. Adjacent Public Buildings and within Their Grounds, Including Parking Lots

The *Department of General Services* has *primary* responsibility for the landscaping and trees related to public buildings, their grounds *and parking lots* as well as the public ways immediately contiguous thereto, and for the preparation of related improvement plans.

5. REMOVAL

The cutting down or removal of structurally sound trees by City forces, or by private parties under contract with the City, shall be prohibited.

Unless necessitated by urgent reasons of safety, imminent death of the tree, *requirements of individual trees*, or to permit the installation of a greatly needed public facility, existing trees located on public property shall not be removed. Before removal of existing trees is approved, a detailed investigation of all possible alternatives so as to salvage the trees shall be made. Such alternates shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. *Developing*, especially for streets, sidewalks, *and other hardscape, power and communications lines*, storm drains, and sewers.
- b. Jogging roadway alignments from one side of the right of way to the other to *avoid* existing *mature* trees.
- c. Relocating tree to an acceptable nearby location, where appropriate.
- d. Placing sidewalks immediately adjacent the roadway when location adjacent the property line causes interference with trees.
- e. *Relocating* proposed buildings or other structures, including their structural elements, to avoid interference with existing trees.

The cutting down or removal of sound trees is further prohibited between the hours of 6 p.m. and 7 a.m. and on any Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday except emergencies.

Whenever the removal of five or more trees or any outstanding tree specimen, especially a large, historical or significantly handsome tree is proposed, the following procedure shall be followed:

The *Councilmember* of the respective district, the Planning and Construction Division, the Forestry Division, the General Manager of the Recreation and Parks Department, and *Community Forest Advisory Committee (CFAC)* shall be consulted regarding possible alternatives.

6. REPLACEMENT OF TREES

Whenever trees are removed, the existing trees' aggregate diameter, measured at breast height (D.B.H., or 4.5-feet above the ground; multi-trunk trees are to be measured immediately below the lowest trunk) shall be replaced at an equal or greater rate of caliper of new trees. Each one-inch D.B.H. of existing tree shall be replaced with a minimum one-inch caliper new tree. Replacement trees shall have a minimum caliper of ¼-inch. For example, a single-trunk tree whose D.B.H. is 9 inches may be replaced with 36 trees of ¼-inch caliper, or with 3 trees of 3-inch caliper. This replacement ratio should

Appendix M

represent a *minimum*. If the replacement ratio cannot be achieved on an individual project, it should be applied on an area-wide basis.

All replacement trees shall be healthy and free of kinked, overgrown, or otherwise defective roots.

7. TYPES OF TREES

The type of park trees installed in a particular area shall conform to the Urban Forest Program maintained by the Recreation and Parks Department. Deviations shall only be made with the- approval of the Recreation and Parks principal forester.

Tree types shall be selected with the viewpoint of maximizing environmental, aesthetic and other tree values balanced with acceptable maintenance levels. Wherever suitable, blooming and accent foliage trees shall be utilized. Trees that will eventually provide a wide canopy and significant shade shall be favored. When community plantings are planned, the consensus of the property owners shall be given heavy consideration

The landscaping of publicly owned properties and parking lots shall conform to the City's Landscape Ordinance.

8. MAINTENANCE OF TREES

Maintenance of landscaping based on the best available arboricultural practices and urban forestry practices using state-of-the-art professional standards for planting, pruning, and general maintenance including but not limited by use of the most recent management tools shall be the responsibility of the Recreation and Parks Department. Agencies shall develop a maintenance schedule for trees located on lands under their control

9. DESIGN PERSONNEL

To insure a high degree of professional expertise, personnel responsible for directly supervising the street trees and landscaping program, and for preparing related improvement plans shall be licensed professionals in the field of landscape architecture, arboriculture, or urban forestry.

10. COORDINATOR FOR LANDSCAPING AND TREE PROGRAMS

The Bureau of Street Services shall coordinate meetings as needed for program changes that affect multiple Departments. The Memorandum of Understanding between the multiple Departments need be kept in force to assure exchange of information, collaboration, contribution and equal cost share of the Arbor Day celebrated as a joint educational outreach. The Community Forest Advisory Committee (CFAC) shall advise City Departments in determining the landscaping and tree policy program and the coordination of that program. In addition, the CFAC shall report to City Council on a quarterly basis, the Departments' progress towards establishing their respective landscaping and tree policies.

- ISLAND OAK (6)
- CALIFORNIA SYCAMORE (6)
- DESERT MUSEUM PALO VERDE (3)
- TORREY PINE

