

I. REMOVAL:

- A. Street trees shall only be removed by the City or duly authorized agents of the City. In certain cases, removal will be permitted by others but only upon approval by the Director of Public Works and an encroachment permit is obtained from the City. Removal by others shall be subject to all the conditions contained in the encroachment permit. Removal by either the City or others will be allowed only when one of the following has occurred: (*Tree Policy, adopted November 14, 1989, Section IV - Tree Removal - #1-8 - p.2*)
1. The tree is dead.
 2. The tree is damaged, diseased, or infested beyond the point of saving using reasonable horticultural practices, or should be removed to prevent the spread of disease or infestation.
 3. The tree is uprooted and a hazard.
 4. The tree is damaging improvements such as pavement, curb and gutter, and sidewalk, and all options such as root pruning, re-routing of improvements around the tree, or other methods which may become available, have been considered but deemed infeasible.
 5. The tree is damaging private improvements and methods described in number 4 above are not feasible.
 6. The tree is deemed by the Department of Public Works to be a substantial hazard to traffic or pedestrians, and all other reasonable alternatives are deemed infeasible.
 7. The tree is noxious, a public nuisance or is otherwise a safety or health risk. Property owner dislike or dissatisfaction with a particular street tree shall not be grounds for removal, unless strong medical or other reasons are documented to the satisfaction of the Public Works Superintendent.
 8. Root intrusion into a private sewer lateral shall not be grounds for removal of a tree. Root intrusions shall be handled in a manner consistent with the revised sewer lateral maintenance policy adopted December 24, 2012.
- B. Tree Removal By Utility Company
A utility company may request removal of a tree if it has determined that the tree is interfering with and has the potential to disrupt utility service. A utility wishing to remove a tree shall perform the following prior to removing the tree:
1. Inform the City in writing which tree it would like to remove and the reasons for requesting removal.
 2. If the City approves the request for removal then the Utility shall:
 - a. Send a letter to the property owner(s) informing them that the tree will be removed and the reasons why.
 - b. Propose a replacement tree and location to the City and property owner(s).
 - c. Have the property owner(s) execute a tree maintenance agreement if a new tree is installed. (*See Exhibit VI.*)
 - d. Remove the old tree and stump.
 - e. Plant new tree.
- C. Where tree stumps are removed, the City will be responsible only for backfilling the hole with topsoil. The City will not be responsible for replacing surface improvements such as decorative brick, ground cover, or other treatments which previously existed around the tree. Improvements replaced by the property owner shall be done in a manner acceptable to the City Engineering Division. (*Tree Policy, adopted November 14, 1989, Section IV - Tree Removal - p. 2*)
- D. The owner or resident of the property at which a street tree is to be removed shall be notified a minimum of one week in advance of the removal, except in the case of an emergency so deemed by the Superintendent of Public Works. (*Tree Policy, adopted November 14, 1989, Section IV - Tree Removal - p. 3*)
- E. Except where removal by others is approved, all cleanup and removal of debris, brush, and wood shall be the responsibility of the City. (*Tree Policy, adopted November 14, 1989, Section IV - p. 3*)
- F. Emergencies may require immediate action on an individual tree basis. The Superintendent of Public Works shall determine whether an emergency exists. (*Tree Policy, adopted November 14, 1989, Section VII - Trimming of Street Trees - p. 3*)
- G. For replacement of removed trees, see Section II - Tree Replacement, below.

II. TREE REPLACEMENT:

- A. Trees will be replaced when: (*Tree Policy, adopted November 14, 1989, Section V - Tree Replacement*)
1. The property owner signs the tree maintenance agreement.
 2. The property owner purchases the tree and all related materials necessary to plant the tree in accordance with [Exhibit I](#).
 3. The original tree was destroyed as the result of some action, such as an auto accident, from which recovery of costs may be made by the City.
- B. Trees will not be replaced at locations where deemed inappropriate by the Director of Public Works due to inadequate space, sight distance or other problems.
- C. The method of the planting ([Exhibit I](#)) and the list of approved street trees ([Exhibit II](#)) may be amended by the Director of Public Works from time to time as experience or technology dictates. In areas of special landscaping, such as median islands or other street landscaped areas, trees of other species may be planted that are appropriate for the space available. (*Tree Policy, adopted November 14, 1989, Section V - Tree Replacement - p.3*)
- D. Plant materials that have deteriorated or died shall be replaced with healthy plantings, or the area should be redesigned and replanted with other landscape treatments to provide an attractive and equivalent appearance. (*Urban Design Program - Streetscape - D(4) - p. 67*)