



# CITY OF PIEDMONT

Park Commission Agenda  
Wednesday, August 7, 2019  
5:30 p.m.

City Council Chambers, 120 Vista Avenue, Piedmont, CA

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**Call to Order**                      Pledge of Allegiance

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**Public Forum**                      This is an opportunity for members of the audience to speak on an item not on the agenda. The 10 minute period will be divided evenly between those wishing to address the Commission.

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## Regular Agenda

1.        Approval of Park Commission Minutes for June 5, 2019
2.        Update on Piedmont Evergreen and Recycling and Compost Efforts at the July 4<sup>th</sup> Event
3.        Consideration of the Temporary Placement of Signs in Piedmont Park Near the Tea House Designating a Philosopher's Walk
4.        Consideration of the Designation of Street Trees for Magnolia Avenue
5.        Update on Street Tree Planting and Sidewalk Improvements on Oakmont Avenue
6.        Update on Lower Grand Avenue Median Landscape Improvements
7.        Monthly Maintenance Report: Park, Open Space, and Street Tree Update for the Months of June and July 2019

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## Announcements, old business and consideration of future agenda items

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## Adjourn

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Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Park Commission are available for public inspection in the Public Works Department during normal business hours.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk at (510) 420-3040. Notification at least two business days preceding the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. [28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title II]

In accordance with G.C. Sec. 54954.2(a) this notice and agenda were posted on the City Hall bulletin board and also in the Piedmont Police Department on August 2, 2019.

**DRAFT**

**PIEDMONT PARK COMMISSION**

Regular Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, June 5, 2019

A Regular Session of the Piedmont Park Commission was held June 5, 2019, in the City Hall Council Chambers at 120 Vista Avenue. In accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2(a) the agenda for this meeting was posted for public inspection on May 30, 2019.

**CALL TO ORDER** Chairperson Goodman called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Chairperson Goodman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL** Present: Chairperson Betsy Goodman; Vice Chairperson Patty Dunlap; Commissioners Amber Brumfiel, Jim Horner, Brian Mahany and Robin Wu

Absent/Excused: Commissioner Eileen Ruby

Staff Present: Parks and Project Manager Nancy Kent, Public Works Director Chester Nakahara, and Public Works Supervisor Dave Frankel

**PUBLIC FORUM** There were no speakers for Public Forum.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**Minutes** **Resolved,** that the Park Commission approves the Park Commission Minutes for May 1, 2019, as amended.

Commissioner Horner requested the following corrections:

- o Page 1, Under Magnolia Avenue Tree Assessment, third paragraph:  
“Commissioners asked and confirmed the Liquid Amber trees range in age from 60 years or more. ~~to approximately 150 years or more.~~”
- o Page 2, under public testimony, second paragraph, change spelling to Tom “Gandesbury”

Moved by Mahany, seconded by Horner

Ayes: Brumfiel, Dunlap, Horner, Mahany, Wu and Goodman

Noes: None

Absent: Ruby

**Landscape Maintenance Contract** Public Works Director Chester Nakahara announced the City Council approved the award of the annual landscape maintenance contract to Terra Landscape. Four bids had been received and Terra Landscape’s bid met all requirements.

Cassidy Lundin, President of Tree Sculpture and Terra Landscape, gave a comprehensive background of their Oakland firm started by his father. He grew up in Piedmont and said his father was on the Parks Commission and served as Mayor and they look forward to working with the City.

There was no **Public Testimony** on this matter.

**Oakmont Ave. Improvements** Parks and Project Manager Nancy Kent gave a background on the Commission’s review of options to designate zones for street tree replacement and sidewalk improvements for Oakmont Avenue as a phased approach. She and Mr. Frankel reviewed conditions and locations for new Crape Myrtle trees in Zone 1 and marked concrete panels to be removed. They will remove 17 Tristania trees and one Flowering Pear tree and will replace them with 24 new Crape Myrtle trees. The

project will start after July 4<sup>th</sup> with tree removal and stump grinding, with notices sent to all neighborhood residents.

**Public Testimony** was received from.

Max and Tory Roman, 60 Oakmont Avenue, spoke of the damage from existing trees and fallen debris and voiced support of the project.

In response to Commissioner's questions, Ms. Kent stated Zone 1 work will take approximately four weeks and staff has reviewed and spoken with neighbors about tree locations. She then described specific timelines for removal, stump grinding and replacement of trees.

**Fire Department  
Vegetation Management**

Fire Chief Brett Black gave an update on the Fire Department's increased efforts with regard to vegetation management on public and private property. He described actions residents can take to address and improve defensible space adjacent to their homes. He presented the flyer on fire safety now available to residents.

Chief Black updated the Commission on the City's use of goats to reduce fire load on the hillside above the Corporation Yard and open space below Maxwellton Rd. He gave the following standards for fire safe management:

- Limbs should be trimmed 6 feet off of the ground
- Maintain driveways and clearance of roadways 15 feet high
- Keep 3 feet from the side of the pavement clear of thick vegetation
- Have at least a 10-foot clearance around chimneys
- No dead or seasonal grass/weeds higher than 3 inches

There was no **Public Testimony** on this matter.

**Magnolia Ave.  
Neighborhood Tree  
Walk**

Mr. Nakahara reported on staff's work to refine the methodology on tree removals on Magnolia Avenue related to the paving project which will take place this summer. He described the categories of trees to be removed and ultimately distinguished which trees absolutely had to be removed from those that did not in order for the street to be properly repaved.

He referred to the City Engineer's memo dated May 17, 2019 which explains compliance issues. He indicated that, after additional study, the tree removals in the first phase could be reduced from forty five to eighteen. He stated that the remaining 27 trees will be monitored. He then described the tree walk of May 18<sup>th</sup> attended by over forty neighbors to review each of the trees slated for removal.

Mr. Nakahara indicated that the paving project is slated to start on June 24<sup>th</sup> and the hope is to complete the project in the first week of August. He said bulb outs will also be installed at the Craig/Highland Avenues crosswalk in front of Havens School and this project includes the flashing pedestrian activated lights.

There was no **Public Testimony** on this matter.

Chairperson Goodman thought the overall process and the City's response was very helpful, as well as the reductions identified for tree removal.

**Magnolia Ave, Street  
Tree Designations**

Ms. Kent indicated that residents had expressed concerns about the proposed designation of Chinese Pistache trees as the replacement for Liquid Ambar trees along Magnolia Avenue and that residents had encouraged consideration of other species. She relayed the work undertaken by staff in conjunction with independent

arborists Dr. Jim Clark and Darya Barar from HortScience to develop a preliminary list of street trees. She indicated that the revised species under consideration are as follows, providing pros and cons on each species:

- For trees under power lines: Red Horse Chestnut, Chinese Fringe Tree, Crape Myrtles, Grecian Laurels, Magnolia Cultivars, Persian Ironwood and the Chinese Pistache.
- For trees not under power lines there are two options: 1) Autumn Blaze Maple tree which is one of the best performers in the City but it will require water; and 2) the London Plane which is a graceful large scale tree and requires less water.

**Public Testimony** was received from:

Paul Lettieri suggested that the savings resulting from the reduction of the number of trees removed could be used creatively to save other trees. He suggested a zoned approach to tree removal. He also suggested the following species be considered 1) Podocarpus gracilior; 2) the Little Leaf Linden tree; 3) Red Point tree, and 4) a Carolina Cherry Laurel.

The Commission discussed the matter. Commissioner Horner suggested the Little Leaf Linden tree and the Raywood Ash be considered for Magnolia Avenue. He suggested more study on the topics of tree availability and the viability of certain species of trees. He also made suggestions regarding tree size and his desire to see clustering of the same species together for more character and strength and stressed the importance to have the right scale of tree on the street. He offered suggestions on tree size and on physical improvements which could be made, including structural soil, integration with the road and sidewalk, and setbacks from the utilities and other physical features.

Commissioner Brumfiel suggested that the Red Horse Chestnut would not make a good tree for Magnolia Avenue, citing its litter drop.

In response to a question from Commissioner Dunlap, Ms. Kent confirmed the number of trees to be removed and that a new planting pattern had not been developed to date. She indicated her preference for an overall plan for the entire street, with phased implementation.

Chairperson Goodman summarized the Commission's discussion and direction, indicating that more study was needed regarding availability, viability, and drought tolerance of the species under consideration. She noted the Commission's direction to consider whether the savings from reducing the number of tree removals could be used to purchase larger trees.

The Commission directed staff to return with recommendations and a proposal on availability of trees and neighborhood input.

**Lower Grand Ave.  
Triangle & Median  
Improvements**

Ms. Kent reported that she and Mr. Frankel contacted 15 residents on Lower Grand Avenue and will also talk to the 25 residents on Grand Avenue that look towards the proposed triangle and get input as to what they would like to see.

Ms. Kent indicated that the start of tree removal would be next week, stating the most prominent removals would be 3 pine trees mid-block which have significant

neighborhood support. She reported that infill planting and irrigation design was under way.

There was no **Public Testimony** on this matter.

**Dracena Park Path  
Repair & Citywide  
Public Path Inventory**

Ms. Kent referred to the photos she distributed of the Dracena Park path repair site showing perforated pipe and drain rock on the uphill edge of the path. She reported on next steps, including grading, paving, and removal of temporary fencing.

With regard to the path inventory, Ms. Kent indicated that Coastland Engineering has completed an inventory of pedestrian pathways. The inventory indicates that there are 21,000 lineal feet of pathways. This information will be used to to serve as base information to improve paths over time.

There was no **Public Testimony** on this matter.

**Community Hall  
Exterior Lighting**

Ms. Kent reported staff was moving forward on improved exterior lighting at the Community Hall thanks to a generous donation from Piedmont Garden Club. She indicated that the gift would kick-start the hanging of string lights in the Community Hall courtyard. Ms. Kent reported that traditional string lights have been selected and that the hope is to have them installed as soon as possible.

Commissioners thanked the Piedmont Garden Club for their generous donation.

There was no **Public Testimony** on this matter.

**Monthly Maintenance  
Report –May 2019**

Public Works Supervisor Dave Frankel provided the monthly report and discussed staff's time in weeding and mulching throughout the City, fine-tuning irrigation systems, planting of annual color and readying Piedmont Park for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairperson Goodman announced that the City was likely to receive applications for wireless communication facilities from Crown Castle by July 15<sup>th</sup>. She indicated that the majority of these applications were in the public right of way and would not require review by the Park Commission. She indicated that one site, located across from 314 Wildwood Avenue, is located on City park land and would require Park Commission review. She indicated that it is likely to be heard by the Park Commission at its August 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Mr. Nakahara announced that restrooms in the Piedmont Park tot lot would be closed in June and July due to construction on the Piedmont High School campus. He advised that portable toilets would be placed in the park while the bathroom is closed.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 7, 2019.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chairperson Goodman adjourned the meeting at 7:28 p.m.

# A Salute to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Recycling Results

The City of Piedmont celebrates Independence Day in grand style with a pancake breakfast, hometown parade and community picnic.

In addition to enjoying the neighborhood floats, bagpipes and kazoos, Piedmont residents practiced the tradition of reducing waste, recycling and composting.

- 960 gallons of cans and bottles and cardboard were recycled
- 1,344 gallons of paper plates, hot dogs and napkins were composted
- Only 128 gallons of waste was collected from the trash containers
- Folks also left behind broken tents and chairs - which amounted to about 400 gallons

This resulted in an 81 percent recycling rate overall – a good effort and a great day!

#PiedmontEvergreen



City of Piedmont  
PARK COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT

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DATE: August 7, 2019

TO: Park Commissioners

FROM: Nancy B. Kent, Parks and Project Manager

SUBJECT: Consideration of the Temporary Placement of Signs in Piedmont Park  
Near the Tea House Designating a Philosopher's Walk

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RECOMMENDATION

Approve and advise Staff on signage and proposed walk

BACKGROUND

The Philosophers' Walk Committee, Nancy and Tom Lehrkind, Bethany Jones Gisheme and Jane Lande have asked the City if they can place signs in Piedmont Park, near the Tea House to create a self-guided walking tour based on the theme of a philosopher's walk (See EXHIBIT A).

The proposal includes:

- Temporary signage similar to markers used in botanical gardens would consist of small metal plates mounted on metal stakes.
- Signage consists of QR codes that could be read using a smart phone. Text for each stop will be composed by the Committee with a theme of learning about philosophers.
- Maintenance of the signage would be by the Committee and City staff would assist in proper placement of the signs along a path.
- Request is to have the signage up for a three month period (See EXHIBIT B).

## **WELCOME TO PIEDMONT'S *PHILOSOPHER'S WALK***

Our path here in the Japanese Garden is inspired by the original "Philosopher's Walk" in Kyoto, Japan, named for Nishida Kitaro. He was a famous Japanese philosopher and Kyoto University professor who daily walked and meditated on a particular canal path near the University. You can go there today and walk his same walk.

### **What is Philosophy?**

This word is from Greek and means "the love of wisdom." It is the study of knowledge. On this walk, we will present the ideas of a different Philosopher each month, and ask you some questions to consider.

March is all about Plato who was born in Athens, Greece in the year 428 BCE. His ideas will, in some ways, seem very modern! We can only offer small bits of all that Plato thought and wrote about. But we hope these small morsels will encourage dialogue with other students and adults. And perhaps more investigation into Plato's philosophy.

For now, we're simply asking YOU to think a bit about life's BIG issues! So, onward, let's learn about the famous Philosopher Plato, and think about some of his most important questions while walking in this lovely setting.



Plato spent a lot of time thinking how the government and society should ideally be. He was the world's first Utopian thinker.

He was inspired by Athens' big rival, Sparta, which was a City dedicated to turning out great soldiers. Everything the Spartans did—how they raised their children, how their economy was organized, who they admired—was tailored to only one goal. And Sparta was very successful from a military point of view.

But Plato wanted to know how a society could get better at producing not military people, but fulfilled people. In his day Athenian society was very focused on the rich, like aristocrats and sports celebrities. Plato was not impressed! In his book, "The Republic", Plato identifies a number of changes that should be made.

First of all, it really matters who we admire because celebrities influence our outlook, ideas and conduct. And bad heroes give glamor to flaws of character. So Plato wanted to give Athens new celebrities—replacing the current ones with ideally wise and good people he called "Guardians" who would be models for everyone's good development. These celebrities would be distinguished by their modesty, simple habits, their dislike of fame, their records of public service and their wide and deep experience.

He also wanted to end Democracy in Athens! He wasn't crazy—he just observed how few people think properly before they vote and therefore we get substandard rulers. He wanted to prevent people from voting before they had started to think rationally, that is until they had become Philosophers! Otherwise, he felt, government would just be a mob rule.

This is why Plato founded a school, The Academy, in Athens, which lasted 300 years. Pupils learned not just spelling and math, but also how to be good and kind. Plato's ultimate goal was the politicians should become Philosophers. The world will not be right, Plato said, "until Philosophers become Kings or Kings become Philosophers."

PLATO was a student of the great philosopher Socrates. Plato founded the world's first university, called The Academy. Plato also believed that men and women had the same intellectual powers, and he was one of the first to teach that women should receive the same education as men.

So, what did Plato think about? What important questions did he spend his time trying to find answers for? One was to ask, "What is virtue"?

Plato would say that because different human beings are unequal in virtue, virtue must be something that varies among them. But the desire for what one believes to be good is universal, that is it exists in all human beings.

Plato went on to say that because no human being ever knowingly desires what is bad, differences in their conduct must be a consequence of differences in what they know.

Can YOU think about these questions? Do you think that all human beings desire what they believe is "good"? How could this be changed by education and knowledge? Do you believe that no human being ever "knowingly" wants something that is bad? How do they know what is "bad" and what is "good"?

Among the REALLY BIG questions Plato spent time thinking about was “What is reality, knowledge, the meaning of life?”

Some people explain “existence” as a journey down a road, a climb, a game, a war, or an all too short-lived flicker of flame.

Plato said life is like being chained up and forced to live in a cave watching shadows flitting across a stone wall. This was written in Plato’s “Allegory of The Cave” found in Book 7 of *The Republic*.

In The Allegory, a group of prisoners have been confined in a cavern since birth with no knowledge of the outside world. They are chained facing a wall, unable to turn their heads while a fire behind them gives off a faint light. Occasionally people pass by the fire carrying figures of animals and other objects that cast shadows on the wall. The prisoners name and classify these illusions, believing they are perceiving actual things.

Suddenly one prisoner is freed and brought outside for the first time. The sunlight hurts his eyes and he finds the new environment disorienting. When told that the things around him are real and that the shadows were mere reflections, he cannot believe it. The shadows appeared much clearer to him.

Gradually his eyes adjust until he can look at reflections in the water, at objects & finally at the sun. The prisoner returns to the cave to share his discovery, but he is unable to see the shadows on the wall, his eyes being used to the darkness. The other prisoners think the journey has made him stupid and blind and they refuse his attempts to free them.

Plato introduces this passage as an analogy of what it’s like being a Philosopher trying to educate the public. Most people are not just comfortable in their ignorance but hostile to anyone who points it out. In fact, the real-life Socrates was sentenced to death by the Athenian government for “disrupting the social order”.

Plato wrote and thought a lot about BEAUTY. Why do we like beautiful things? Plato wrote that beautiful objects are whispering important truths to us about the good life.

He thought that beautiful things helped us to educate our souls. We find things beautiful when we unconsciously sense in them qualities we need but are missing in our lives: gentleness, harmony, balance, peace, strength.

Because he felt that art was so therapeutic, Plato saw it as the duty of all artists to help us to live good lives.

Think of something—more than one thing—you find beautiful and ask what important truth it might be whispering to you.

Plato wanted people to have their lives more fulfilled. And he had some definite ideas of how this could be accomplished. One was THINK MORE.

We rarely give ourselves time to think carefully and logically about our lives and how to lead them. Sometimes we just go along with popular opinion—what the Greeks called “doxa”. Plato thought this kind of thinking was full of errors, prejudice and superstition. “Fame is Great”, “Follow your heart”, “Money is the key to a good life”.

The problem, as Plato saw it, is that popular opinions edge us towards the wrong values, careers and relationships. So, to counter-act this, Plato said you should try to KNOW YOURSELF. It means doing a special kind of therapy—subjecting your ideas to further examination rather than acting on impulse. Plato thought that if you could strengthen your self knowledge, you wouldn't get dragged about by your feelings.

In honor of his mentor and friend, Socrates, Plato called this exercise of self examination a “Socratic discussion”. You can have it with yourself or with another friend who isn't trying to “one up” you but wants to help you clarify your own ideas

*Another question Plato examined in *The Republic* was the relationship in a human being between the mind or intellect, his/her will or volition, and emotion or desire. Nearly everyone recognizes some differences among the functions of thinking, willing and feeling. Even in *The Wizard of Oz*, Dorothy's quest depends upon the cooperation of her three friends—Scarecrow, Lion and Tinman—each of whom exemplifies one of the three aspects of human nature.*

Plato's question was how do we incorporate intellect, will and feeling in the whole of our existence?

He thought that "true justice" (a term he coined for the highest level of conduct of human life) is a kind of good health, attainable only through the harmonious cooperative effort of intellect, will and feeling. In an "unjust" person, on the other hand, the disparate parts are in perpetual turmoil, merely coexisting with each other in an unhealthy, poorly-functioning, disintegrated personality.

What do you think about all of that? Is your mind always in harmony with your will and emotions? What things could pull them apart? What situations could fuse them together?



# Signage for Philosopher's Walk

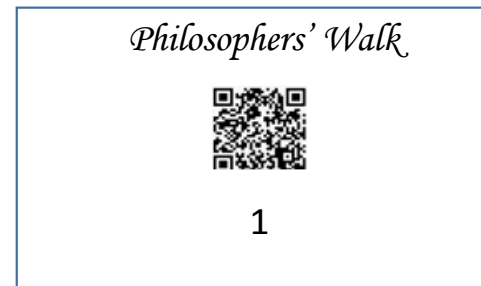


Example of Botanical signage that would be used as a prototype: small metal plate mounted on a metal stake



Example of QR codes integrated on signage

## EXHIBIT A



Example of sample signage with station number



City of Piedmont  
PARK COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT

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DATE: August 7, 2019

TO: Park Commissioners

FROM: Nancy B. Kent, Parks and Project Manager

SUBJECT: Consideration of the Designation of Street Trees for Magnolia Ave.

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RECOMMENDATION

Approve the designation of \_\_\_\_\_ as street trees for Magnolia Ave., and in locations that are under PG & E wires, the designation of \_\_\_\_\_ as the alternate street tree.

BACKGROUND

The recent discussions and deliberations on Magnolia Ave. street trees and options for replacement began in earnest for the Park Commission at the May 1, 2019 meeting. A brief synopsis of the meetings and events leading up to the present discussion are as follows:

- **May 1, 2019 Park Commission Meeting:**

Chester Nakahara, Director of Public Works made a presentation of the 2018 Paving Project with particular emphasis on the street tree removals that were proposed in order for the infrastructure to be repaired such that the City meet certain applicable codes and regulations that are applicable to this type of project.

After a lengthy discussion, Park Commissioners requested that Staff arrange an on-site meeting with the public to identify and discuss each of the 45 proposed tree removals to investigate if any trees could be saved from removal immediately, while still allowing the paving project to proceed.

- **May 6, 2019 City Council Meeting,**

City Council also had considerable discussion regarding the street tree removals. Similar to the May 1, 2019 Park Commission recommendation, the motion to award the paving contract was amended to request that Staff conduct the on-site meeting with the public with the intended purpose to reconsider each tree proposed for removal such that the replacement of these trees can be phased so that the impact of the project would be less dramatic.

- **May 17, 2019 City Engineer Memo:**

Pursuant to the directive from City Council, the City Engineer and Staff re-visited each designated tree and City Engineer, John Wanger refined his approach to tree removals and prepared a memo dated May 17, 2019 in which he discusses the original criteria for tree removal, and the more refined approach that he and Staff had since instituted. As a result, he was able to reduce the number of trees to be removed for the paving project from 45 to 18.

This information was pushed out to the public, Park Commissioners, and the City Council the evening of May 17<sup>th</sup>, so that participants of the May 18<sup>th</sup> Walk would come to the site visit informed of this new information.

- **May 18, 2019 Neighborhood Walk on Magnolia Ave.:**

Coastland Engineers and staff conducted a site meeting and neighborhood walk for residents and interested stakeholders on Magnolia Ave. During the walk, Staff began discussing and listening to residents' concerns about the type of replacement tree the City was considering for Magnolia Ave. and their thoughts for the replanting of the street.

- **June 1, 2019 Park Commission Meeting:**

Staff worked with Jim Clark and Darya Barar of Hort Science and Barlett Consulting to develop a preliminary list of potential street trees. The list proposed two types of trees: a small scale tree that can be planted under power lines and a taller scale tree where power lines are not present.

Park Commissioners heard from a number of residents and there was a robust discussion concerning the type of tree, attributes and design opportunities for consideration when the phased replanted occurs. Staff was asked to investigate the following:

- Confirm what species of trees were commercially available in 24" box size
- Approximate size of the tree as delivered from the nursery to address residents' concerns about the size of tree at time of planting
- Examples of where suggested trees species are planted as street trees
- Drought tolerance

## DISCUSSION

### **Additional Tree Information:**

In order to address the request for additional information on the proposed trees, the Tree Matrix, dated June 5, 2019 was amended with additional information and shown on the spread sheet in red. (EXHIBIT A)

### **A summary of the additional tree information is listed below:**

- **Availability:** All the trees on the proposed tree list are commercially available in a 24” box size.
- **Approximate size from the nursery:** As all the trees are available in 24” boxes, there is some variation in the size of the trees when they come from the wholesale nurseries. In general, staff tries to locate and plant trees with the best form and the largest caliper (trunk size). A larger tree caliper makes for a sturdier tree when planted. At this time, our information from our wholesale nurseries have a range of caliper sizes for the 24” box material. Of the tree species that would be new to the City’s urban forest and used as the smaller scale trees under power lines, both the Persian Ironwood and Grecian Laurel in the 24” box size have relatively small caliper trunks at 1.25 inches with the Chinese Fringe tree has the largest caliper at 2” caliper.
- **Examples of where suggested trees species are planted as street trees:** Of the (9) trees listed, (6) of the trees listed ( Horse chestnut, Crape Myrtle, Magnolia, Pistache, Maple and London Plane ) are planted in Piedmont. Staff is still investigating and working with Public Works Departments and arborists in adjacent communities to identify good examples of tree species that have not been planted in Piedmont (Ironwood, Laurel, Chinese Fringe tree).
- **Water Need and Drought Tolerance**  
Using the Water Use Classification of Landscape Species (WUCOL) the species on the list are all have moderate water requirements with the Crape Myrtles, Grecian Laurels and Persian Ironwood slightly more drought tolerant.

Ultimately, final street tree selection should consider the following questions:

- How much weight should the existing Pistache planted in both constrained and unconstrained zones have on the new tree selections?
- Since many existing liquidambar will remain for the near future, should the new tree selection(s) be deciduous for a unified seasonal aesthetic?
- Given the scale and proportions that the existing liquidambar bring to the street, should the new trees without PG&E constraints also attempt to achieve that scale?

## **Planting Plan Concept Plan**

At the June 5, 2019 Park Commission meeting, Staff discussed presenting a concept plan to the Commission that would include the entire street from Nova Dr. to Hillside Ave. and illustrate the replanting opportunities once the Phase 1 Liquidambar trees had been removed.

On the plan, the (18) Liquidambers removed in Phase 1 are replaced with either the larger scale tree option shown as an orange dot or the smaller scale tree option shown as a green dot. The plan also highlights in an orange band, those sections of the street that could be planted with continuous plantings of the large scale trees, and similarly in a green band, the sections of the street that could be planted with continuous plantings of the small scale trees.

To guide the discussion, the Park Commission needs to discuss and make a decision on the following two variables:

- 1.) Retain the Existing Chinese Pistache on the street in all locations and when new planting opportunities become available, plant Chinese Pistache under power lines as indicated by the green bands, and then select a large scale tree for replanting where there are no utility lines as shown by the orange bands. It should be noted that 85 % of the existing Pistache are in the areas where there no power lines.
- 2.) Plant in continuous sections with large scale trees as shown by the orange bands where there are no utility constraints, and similarly, plant a small scale tree under utilities as indicated by the green bands. This would require relocating the existing Pistache previously planted in the sections where large scale trees are designated as indicated by the orange bands. Approximately 85% of the existing Pistache would need to be relocated.

**Replacement species. Magnolia Avenue.**

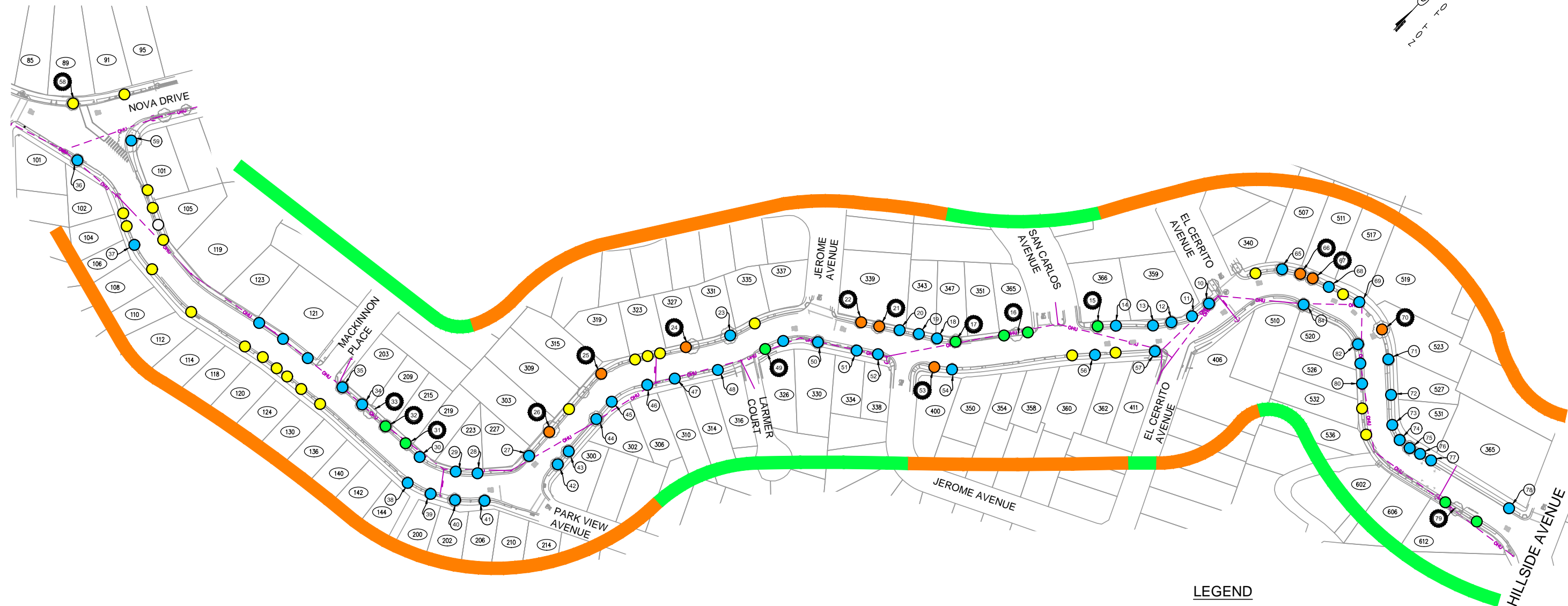
Site conditions: Street is narrow.  
Overhead wires on one side of street.  
Existing planting strip is 24' wide. Will be scalloped to provide 36" near trunk.  
Irrigation very variable and based on adj. property owner.

EXHIBIT A

Common name	Scientific name	General Description	Present in Piedmont as a street Tree	Tree reviewed in neighboring communities as a street tree	Availability and Size from Wholesale Nurseries	Fall Color	Drought Tolerance Source: Water Use Classification of Landscape Species	Mature Height	Spacing	Why should this tree be planted on Magnolia	Why should this tree not be used on Magnolia	Nursery	Berkeley	HBC
<b>Below power lines</b>														
Red horsechestnut	<i>Aesculus x carnea</i>	Small deciduous flowering tree.	Yes		10' tall x 3" wide 1 1/2" diameter trunk	no	Moderate	40 with 30' spread	25	provide uniform appearance along street.		Moderate	BV	Yes
Persian ironwood	<i>Parrotia persica</i>	Small deciduous tree.	No	pending	10' tall x 5" wide 1 1/4" diameter trunk	yes	Low to moderate	30	20	Generally pest-free. Great fall color	Slow growing.	Low to moderate	BV	No
Crapemyrtle hybrids	<i>Lagerstroemia x fauriei</i>	Small flowering tree.	Yes		6'9" x 2.5' wide 1 1/2" diameter trunk	yes	Low to moderate	25	20	Excellent flower display. Unlikely to conflict with power lines or lift sidewalks. Cultivar will provide uniform appearance along street. Mildew resistant.	Small stature; canopies may not touch over street.	Low to moderate	BV, BT	Yes
Grecian laurel	<i>Laurus nobilis</i> 'Saratoga'	Small evergreen tree.	?	pending	11' tall x 5" wide 1 1/4" diameter trunk	no	Low to moderate	30'	20	Uniform appearance. Unlikely to conflict with power lines or lift sidewalks.	Slow growing.	Low to moderate	BV, BT	Yes
Magnolia cultivars. Little Gem. Kay Parris. St. Mary.	<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	Small evergreen flowering tree.	Yes		10' tall x 3" width 1 1/4" diameter	no	Moderate	25	25	Flower display. Generally pest-free.		Moderate	BV, BT	No
Chinese pistache	<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	Medium-sized deciduous shade tree.	Yes		10' tall x 3" wide 1" diameter trunk	yes	Moderate	40	25 to 30	Excellent fall color	Slow-growing. Some fruit litter.	Moderate	BV, BT	Yes
Chinese fringe tree	<i>Chionanthus retusus</i>	Small deciduous flowering tree.	No	pending	10' tall x 4.5" wide 2" diameter trunk		Moderate	30'	20	Flower display. Unlikely to conflict with power lines or lift sidewalks.	New to area.	Moderate	BV, BT	No
<b>No power lines present</b>														
Autumn Blaze maple	<i>Acer x freemanii</i> Autumn Blaze	Medium-sized deciduous shade tree.	Yes		12' tall x 4" wide 1 1/2" diameter trunk	yes	Moderate	50	25 to 30	Excellent fall color. Uniform appearance.	Irrigation requirements	Moderate	BV, BT	No
London plane	<i>Platanus x hispanica</i>	Medium-sized deciduous shade tree.	Yes		12' tall x 3" wide 1 3/4" diameter trunk	no	Moderate to high	50 to 70	30	Proven performance in region. Use cultivar.	Continuous leaf litter. Too big for planting space.	Moderate to high	BV, BT	Yes
Little Leaf Linden	<i>Additional Information required from arborist</i>													
Raywood Ash	<i>Additional Information required from arborist</i>													



ORIGINAL PLOT DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 FOR REDUCED PLANS, THE ORIGINAL SCALE IS IN INCHES  
 3  
 2  
 1  
 0  
 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155 156 157 158 159 160 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168 169 170 171 172 173 174 175 176 177 178 179 180 181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188 189 190 191 192 193 194 195 196 197 198 199 200 201 202 203 204 205 206 207 208 209 210 211 212 213 214 215 216 217 218 219 220 221 222 223 224 225 226 227 228 229 230 231 232 233 234 235 236 237 238 239 240 241 242 243 244 245 246 247 248 249 250 251 252 253 254 255 256 257 258 259 260 261 262 263 264 265 266 267 268 269 270 271 272 273 274 275 276 277 278 279 280 281 282 283 284 285 286 287 288 289 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 297 298 299 300 301 302 303 304 305 306 307 308 309 310 311 312 313 314 315 316 317 318 319 320 321 322 323 324 325 326 327 328 329 330 331 332 333 334 335 336 337 338 339 340 341 342 343 344 345 346 347 348 349 350 351 352 353 354 355 356 357 358 359 360 361 362 363 364 365 366 367 368 369 370 371 372 373 374 375 376 377 378 379 380 381 382 383 384 385 386 387 388 389 390 391 392 393 394 395 396 397 398 399 400 401 402 403 404 405 406 407 408 409 410 411 412 413 414 415 416 417 418 419 420 421 422 423 424 425 426 427 428 429 430 431 432 433 434 435 436 437 438 439 440 441 442 443 444 445 446 447 448 449 450 451 452 453 454 455 456 457 458 459 460 461 462 463 464 465 466 467 468 469 470 471 472 473 474 475 476 477 478 479 480 481 482 483 484 485 486 487 488 489 490 491 492 493 494 495 496 497 498 499 500 501 502 503 504 505 506 507 508 509 510 511 512 513 514 515 516 517 518 519 520 521 522 523 524 525 526 527 528 529 530 531 532 533 534 535 536 537 538 539 540 541 542 543 544 545 546 547 548 549 550 551 552 553 554 555 556 557 558 559 560 561 562 563 564 565 566 567 568 569 570 571 572 573 574 575 576 577 578 579 580 581 582 583 584 585 586 587 588 589 590 591 592 593 594 595 596 597 598 599 600 601 602 603 604 605 606 607 608 609 610 611 612 613 614 615 616 617 618 619 620 621 622 623 624 625 626 627 628 629 630 631 632 633 634 635 636 637 638 639 640 641 642 643 644 645 646 647 648 649 650 651 652 653 654 655 656 657 658 659 660 661 662 663 664 665 666 667 668 669 670 671 672 673 674 675 676 677 678 679 680 681 682 683 684 685 686 687 688 689 690 691 692 693 694 695 696 697 698 699 700 701 702 703 704 705 706 707 708 709 710 711 712 713 714 715 716 717 718 719 720 721 722 723 724 725 726 727 728 729 730 731 732 733 734 735 736 737 738 739 740 741 742 743 744 745 746 747 748 749 750 751 752 753 754 755 756 757 758 759 760 761 762 763 764 765 766 767 768 769 770 771 772 773 774 775 776 777 778 779 780 781 782 783 784 785 786 787 788 789 790 791 792 793 794 795 796 797 798 799 800 801 802 803 804 805 806 807 808 809 810 811 812 813 814 815 816 817 818 819 820 821 822 823 824 825 826 827 828 829 830 831 832 833 834 835 836 837 838 839 840 841 842 843 844 845 846 847 848 849 850 851 852 853 854 855 856 857 858 859 860 861 862 863 864 865 866 867 868 869 870 871 872 873 874 875 876 877 878 879 880 881 882 883 884 885 886 887 888 889 890 891 892 893 894 895 896 897 898 899 900 901 902 903 904 905 906 907 908 909 910 911 912 913 914 915 916 917 918 919 920 921 922 923 924 925 926 927 928 929 930 931 932 933 934 935 936 937 938 939 940 941 942 943 944 945 946 947 948 949 950 951 952 953 954 955 956 957 958 959 960 961 962 963 964 965 966 967 968 969 970 971 972 973 974 975 976 977 978 979 980 981 982 983 984 985 986 987 988 989 990 991 992 993 994 995 996 997 998 999 1000



- LEGEND**
- 38 TREE TO REMAIN
  - 34 TREE REMOVED - PHASE 1
  - EX. LIQUID AMBER
  - EX. CHINESE PISTACHE
  - PROPOSED TREE: NO OVERHEAD UTILITIES
  - PROPOSED TREE: OVERHEAD UTILITIES
  - SECTION OF STREET: NO OVERHEAD UTILITIES
  - SECTION OF STREET: OVERHEAD UTILITIES
  - OVERHEAD UTILITY LINE & APPURTENANCES

**NOTE**  
 TREE TAG NUMBERS PER TREE ASSESSMENT MAGNOLIA AVENUE  
 PREPARED BY HORT SCIENCE DATED APRIL 26, 2019.



**Coastland Civil Engineering, Inc.**  
 1400 Neotomas Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95405  
 707.571.8005 707.571.8037 Fax

CITY OF PIEDMONT  
**MAGNOLIA AVE: REPLANTING  
 CONCEPT FOR PHASE 1**

City of Piedmont  
PARK COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT

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DATE: August 7, 2019

TO: Park Commissioners

FROM: Nancy B. Kent, Parks and Project Manager

SUBJECT: Update on Street Tree Planting and Sidewalk Improvements on Oakmont Ave.

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RECOMMENDATION

This is an informational item. No action is required.

BACKGROUND

Construction work on the first phase, Zone 1 of the street tree planting and sidewalk improvement project began on July 7, 2019. At the February 6, 2019 meeting, the Park Commission reviewed options from Staff to designate zones for the street tree replacement and sidewalk improvements for Oakmont Ave. This approach was recommended so that the work could proceed as a phased approach to tree removal and replacement. The first phase, Zone 1, includes the section of Oakmont closest to Prospect Ave. It has the densest population of Tristanias, many of which are in poor condition.

The start of the project included the removal and stump grinding of 18 trees, (17) Tristania laurinas and (1) Flowering Pear. The sections of sidewalk that were marked in the field to be removed and the new sidewalk including the scallops for the new trees has been completed by Pacific Engineering the contractor hired by the city to complete the paving work. The replacement planting, includes a total of (24) Crape Myrtle 'Natchez' and Davey Tree, the contractor hired by the city has installed (20) trees and Public Works staff will be planting the remaining (4) Crape Myrtles in the sloped planting areas that require stone work to hold the grade at the new trees. (See Exhibit A).

## Oakmont Ave. New Street Trees



(24) New street trees:  
Crape Myrtle 'Nachez'

EXHIBIT A

