

THOUSAND OAKS CITY COUNCIL



Supplemental Information

R. Lawrence

Agenda Related Items - Meeting of October 20, 2015
Supplemental Packet Date: October 20, 2015
2:30 P.M.

Supplemental Information:

Any agenda related public documents received and distributed to a majority of the City Council after the Agenda Packet is printed are included in Supplemental Packets. Supplemental Packets are produced as needed, typically a minimum of two—one available on the Thursday preceding the City Council meeting and the second on Tuesday at the meeting. The Thursday Supplemental Packet is available for public inspection in the City Clerk Department, 2100 E. Thousand Oaks Boulevard, during normal business hours (main location pursuant to the Brown Act, G.C. 54957.5(2) Both the Thursday and Tuesday Supplemental Packets are available for public review at the City Council meeting in the City Council Chambers, 2100 E. Thousand Oaks Boulevard.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):

In compliance with the ADA, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting or other services in conjunction with this meeting, please contact the City Clerk Department at (805) 449-2151. Assisted listening devices are available at this meeting. Ask City Clerk staff if you desire to use this device. Upon request, the agenda and documents in this agenda packet, can be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting or time when services are needed will assist City staff in assuring reasonable arrangements can be made to provide accessibility to the meeting or service.

CityClerk - TOCC Meeting today oct 20th 2015 Consent Calendar 7 C, D, & E +

From: Iqbal Quidwai <i.quidwai@gmail.com>
To: CityClerk <cityclerk@toaks.org>, "city@toaks.org" <city@toaks.org>
Date: 10/20/2015 1:55 PM
Subject: TOCC Meeting today oct 20th 2015 Consent Calendar 7 C, D, & E +
CC: <cityattorney@toaks.org>, Antoinette Mann <amann@toaks.org>, Joel Price ...

Oct 20th 2015 (805-390-2857)
ConcernedCitzToaks@gmail...com www.cctoaks.com
<https://www.youtube.com/user/iquidwai7860/videos>
<https://draft.blogger.com/blogger.g?blogID=1020773532560181359#allposts>

CITY CLERK
CITY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
2015 OCT 20 PM 2:00

TOCC Meeting today oct 20th 2015 Consent Calendar 7 C, D, & E +

1. Why have you changed the policy from before and which is with ALL public agencies that consent is for ROUTINE items but if a citizen elects to address an item it has to be pulled and voted separately!

2. Why do you clutter so many items like c, d and e that should be under department reports??

3. Masry's resolution from 2000 states that no one can be on 2 committees; this to allow more citizen participation; yet you have found a loop hole that ad hoc committees are exempt. You have eliminated so many imp. Committees and refuse to bring back the budget task force which is badly needed.

2 Reappointments to the SSFC are serving on another appropriations committee; also another re

TO COUNCIL 10-20-15
AGENDA ITEM NO. 7.C.D.4E
MEETING DATE 10-20-15

appointment missed SEVERAL meetings last time around; there is a reason people are retired; they have to go to the doc etc. and hence end up missing meetings! Comm. Members on the SSFC should NOT miss a single presentation meeting as then they can know the whole picture and make a good decision regarding awarding the money.

3. 7C the public member has been serving for 30 yrs and 7 others applied and were ignored; the cultural affairs all 4 incumbents are being reappointed; why not reappoint those who have made a contribution like me to the SSFC??

4. So these appointments are all POLITICAL as was the firing of a traffic Commissioner by Mz. Bill; Mr. McCoy appointed a Planning Commissioner who will have to recluse himself on the most impt. Issue of the day; the Blvd Spec plan +

Nick Quidwai



Public Works Department
MEMORANDUM

2100 Thousand Oaks Boulevard • Thousand Oaks, CA 91362
Phone 805/449.2400 • Fax 805/449.2475 • www.toaks.org

TO: Scott Mitnick, City Manager
FROM: Jay T. Spurgin, Public Works Director
DATE: October 20, 2015
SUBJECT: **Participation in Property Assessed Clean Energy Programs
– Item 7.J.**

Please add attached Exhibit C to Attachment #2, to be inserted after page 370 of the agenda packet.

2015 OCT 16 PM 4:34
CITY OF THOUSAND OAKS
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

DPW: 530-50\JB\etm\Council\2015\102015\PACE TOAKS supplemental memo

TO COUNCIL 10-20-2015
AGENDA ITEM NO. 7.J.
MEETING DATE 10-20-2015

EXHIBIT C

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT
by and between the
CALIFORNIA ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
and the
CITY OF THOUSAND OAKS, CALIFORNIA**

THIS ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT (this "Associate Membership Agreement"), dated as of _____ by and between CALIFORNIA ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (the "Authority") and the CITY OF THOUSAND OAKS, CALIFORNIA, a municipal corporation, duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of California (the "City");

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Cities of Selma, Lancaster and Eureka (individually, a "Member" and collectively, the "Members"), have entered into a Joint Powers Agreement, dated as of June 1, 2006 (the "Agreement"), establishing the Authority and prescribing its purposes and powers; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement designates the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors and the President of the California Association for Local Economic Development as the initial Board of Directors of the Authority; and

WHEREAS, the Authority has been formed for the purpose, among others, to assist for profit and nonprofit corporations and other entities to obtain financing for projects and purposes serving the public interest; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement permits any other local agency in the State of California to join the Authority as an associate member (an "Associate Member"); and

WHEREAS, the City desires to become an Associate Member of the Authority;

WHEREAS, City Council of the City has adopted a resolution approving the Associate Membership Agreement and the execution and delivery thereof;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Authority has determined that the City should become an Associate Member of the Authority;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the above premises and of the mutual promises herein contained, the Authority and the City do hereby agree as follows:

Section 1. Associate Member Status. The City is hereby made an Associate Member of the Authority for all purposes of the Agreement and the Bylaws of the Authority, the provisions of which are hereby incorporated herein by reference. From and after the date of execution and delivery of this Associate Membership Agreement by the City and the Authority, the City shall be and remain an Associate Member of the Authority.

Section 2. Restrictions and Rights of Associate Members. The City shall not have the right, as an Associate Member of the Authority, to vote on any action taken by the Board of Directors or by the Voting Members of the Authority. In addition, no officer, employee or representative of the City shall have any right to become an officer or director of the Authority by virtue of the City being an Associate Member of the Authority.

Section 3. Effect of Prior Authority Actions. The City hereby agrees to be subject to and bound by all actions previously taken by the Members and the Board of Directors of the Authority to the same extent as the Members of the Authority are subject to and bound by such actions.

Section 4. No Obligations of Associate Members. The debts, liabilities and obligations of the Authority shall not be the debts, liabilities and obligations of the City.

Section 5. Execution of the Agreement. Execution of this Associate Membership Agreement and the Agreement shall satisfy the requirements of the Agreement and Article XII of the Bylaws of the Authority for participation by the City in all programs and other undertakings of the Authority.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Associate Membership Agreement to be executed and attested by their proper officers thereunto duly authorized, on the day and year first set forth above.

**CALIFORNIA ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY**

By: _____
Gurbax Sahota, Chair
Board of Directors

Attest:

Michelle Stephens, Asst. Secretary

CITY OF THOUSAND OAKS, CALIFORNIA

Al Adam, Mayor

Attest:

Linda D. Lawrence, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
Office of the City Attorney

Felicia Liberman, Assistant City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO ADMINISTRATION:

Scott Mitnick, City Manager

Community Development Department
MEMORANDUM

 2100 Thousand Oaks Boulevard • Thousand Oaks, CA 91362
 Planning Division • Phone 805/449.2323 • Fax 805/449.2350 • www.toaks.org
 Building Division • Phone 805/449.2500 • Fax 805/449.2575 • www.toaks.org

To: Scott Mitnick, City Manager
From: John C. Prescott, Community Development Director
Date: October 20, 2015
Subject: **Agenda Item 9.A. – Oak and Landmark Tree Ordinances Clarification (MCA 2014-70145)**

It has been brought to staff's attention that there is an inadvertent omission of text changes in Part 10 of the recommended Ordinance. For clarification of intent in the oak and landmark tree ordinances, the term "non-exempt" should be included in both code standards, but was left out of the landmark tree section.

The purpose of explicitly including this language is to clarify that any oak or landmark tree that is "exempt" from permitting requirements would not be subject to the proposed processing standard, regardless of tree size.

Exemptions include trees that are smaller than the minimum protection sizes, a dead or hazardous tree, minor improvements within the trees protected zone, removal of deadwood, removal of a tree by firefighters while fighting a fire, trees that are grown in containers at a licensed nursery, or owner-planted oak trees.

Below is the proposed code language for Section 9-4.4305(a)(2), shown in ~~strikethrough~~ for deleted text and double underline for added text, with the "***non-exempt***" language added at two locations as shown in ***bold/italic***.

2. ***Planning Commission Process.*** Any request for removal of any ***non-exempt*** California Sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*) that is twenty-four (24") inches or greater in diameter when measured at a point four and one half (4½') feet above the trees natural grade, the removal of six (6) or more ***non-exempt*** landmark trees on a single parcel, or request for removal of any designated historic tree, shall be heard by the Planning Commission in conjunction with the Commission's consideration of other entitlement applications for a project, if any. The Commission may approve, conditionally approve, or deny the permit. Any decision of the Commission may be appealed to the City Council pursuant to the provisions of Article 28 of Chapter 4 of Title 9 of this Code chapter."

TO COUNCIL 10-20-2015
 AGENDA ITEM NO. 9.A.
 MEETING DATE 10-20-2015

From: "Scott Mitnick" <SMitnick@toaks.org>
Date: October 19, 2015 at 3:50:16 PM PDT
To: "John Prescott" <JPrescott@toaks.org>
Cc: "Linda Lawrence" <LLawrence@toaks.org>, "Andrew Powers" <APowers@toaks.org>
Subject: Protect trees in Thousand Oaks NOW

Pls ensure this gets in Green Supplemental Packet for this CC agenda item. Thanks.

>>> "Cassandra Auerbach" <cassandra1444@verizon.net> 10/17/2015 8:54 AM >>>
Dear Officials:

It is clear that the "harmless" change in rules concerning which body gets to decide about the trees isn't doing what residents need and want.

It is past time to revert the trees ordinance to tree destruction needing to be approved as an AGENDA ITEM by the full City Council, so that residents (who actually do pay attention to these matters) can be informed and speak about plans that concern them.

Best,

Cassandra Auerbach
1444 Fordham Avenue
Thousand Oaks, CA

2015 OCT 19 PM 4:38
CITY OF THOUSAND OAKS
CITY OF THOUSAND OAKS

TO COUNCIL 10-20-2015
AGENDA ITEM NO. 9.A.
MEETING DATE 10-20-2015

CityClerk - City Council Hearing - Oak and Landmark Tree Ordinance - October 20, 2015 - MBeck Comments

From: Melanie Beck <yollzer@yahoo.com>
To: "CityClerk@toaks.org" <cityclerk@toaks.org>
Date: 10/19/2015 3:44 PM
Subject: City Council Hearing - Oak and Landmark Tree Ordinance - October 20, 2015 - MBeck Comments

Dear Ms. Lawrence -

Would you please see that the attached letter gets forwarded to the city council and the staff addressing the ordinance update? I've also embedded the text below.

I would like to note that I cannot attend the hearing tomorrow. However, I care deeply about the issue at hand, and hope that my written comments are as meaningful to the council as would be attending and expressing the concerns in person.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Melanie Beck

Dear Councilmembers:

The purpose of this letter is to put on the record that the City should return to its original Oak Tree Protection Ordinance. The original ordinance is the best way to protect oak trees for the community good and avoid acquiescing to individual desires when it comes to keeping or removing oaks. The current proposed amendments perpetuate the 2010 ordinance amendments' serious undermining and abandonment of the city's value place on oaks. Removal of three oaks by one owner, and then another three by another owner, repeated into the future, will lead to eventual absence of large oaks anywhere but in open space parks.

The size thresholds are welcomed, but 36 inches for oaks is a very large tree. A diameter of 18 inches would be better, because by the time the tree reaches those diameters, it has become a mature tree with tremendous natural and aesthetic value to the community, neighborhoods, and visitors. Furthermore, if there are no policies in place to protect trees that are less than 36-inch-diameter, those existing 36-inch-diameter large trees will die, with the likelihood there will be no up-and-coming large trees to replace these beauties.

The city should incorporate into any revised oak ordinance incentive programs to retain trees or to prohibit the removal of healthy oaks above the two-inch diameter standard for anything but urgent public and private property protection needs. Before removals are granted, the city should require rigorous documentation from permit applicants that no other means of maintenance would protect their life and property. For all the concern about oak tree encroachments and staying out of the dripline, etc., I regularly observe oaks that have been surrounded by concrete, are subjected to irrigation regularly, trimmed back from power lines, had half their root structure cut off, and yet the trees, seeing them now for some 18 years, are doing fine. In other instances, people remove their trees because they're a new owner and don't like the trees, or they want space for their individual pursuits, like housing car collections. While I understand the city may not want to intrude on the "pursuit of happiness" of their citizens, in whatever form the pursuit may take, the city as a community can decide what it values and work towards preserving that value. This may take the form of the city creating a standard that new residents are expected to embrace: oak trees (and other natives, like sycamores, black walnut, etc.) are going to be protected to the maximum extent possible. If the city did not work with determination to require open space set-asides by developers, the city would not have achieved its "ring of green" so celebrated by citizens today.

Sadly, it appears the city has changed its founding stance that preserving oaks is a city value. The city originally placed the oak tree ordinance under Title 5 of the city code (Public Welfare, Morals, and Conduct). Moving the ordinance to Title 9 (Planning and Zoning) repositions a community value into a routine planning process no different than residential setbacks or how tall your house can be.

Please return to the original ordinance, as the recent changes to the ordinance are too loosely crafted to support the long-term retention and preservation of any oak trees. Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,
Melanie Beck
725 E. Hillcrest Drive

TO COUNCIL 10-20-15
AGENDA ITEM NO. 9.A.
MEETING DATE 10-20-15

Melanie L. Beck
P.O. Box 6413, Thousand Oaks, CA 91359

October 19, 2015

Honorable City Councilmembers
City of Thousand Oaks
2100 Thousand Oaks Blvd.
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

Re: City Council Meeting, October 20, 2015, Agenda Item No. 9.A.
Oak Tree Ordinance and Landmark Tree Ordinance Amendments Municipal Code
Amendment MCA 2014-70145

Dear Councilmembers:

The purpose of this letter is to put on the record that the City should return to its original Oak Tree Protection Ordinance. The original ordinance is the best way to protect oak trees for the community good and avoid acquiescing to individual desires when it comes to keeping or removing oaks. The current proposed amendments perpetuate the 2010 ordinance amendments' serious undermining and abandonment of the city's value place on oaks. Removal of three oaks by one owner, and then another three by another owner, repeated into the future, will lead to eventual absence of large oaks anywhere but in open space parks.

The size thresholds are welcomed, but 36 inches for oaks is a very large tree. A diameter of 18 inches would be better, because by the time the tree reaches those diameters, it has become a mature tree with tremendous natural and aesthetic value to the community, neighborhoods, and visitors. Furthermore, if there are no policies in place to protect trees that are less than 36-inch-diameter, those existing 36-inch-diameter large trees will die, with the likelihood there will be no up-and-coming large trees to replace these beauties.

The city should incorporate into any revised oak ordinance incentive programs to retain trees or to prohibit the removal of healthy oaks above the two-inch diameter standard for anything but urgent public and private property protection needs. Before removals are granted, the city should require rigorous documentation from permit applicants that no other means of maintenance would protect their life and property. For all the concern about oak tree encroachments and staying out of the dripline, etc., I regularly observe oaks that have been surrounded by concrete, are subjected to irrigation regularly, trimmed back from power lines, had half their root structure cut off, and yet the trees, seeing them now for some 18 years, are doing fine. In other instances, people remove their trees because they're a new owner and don't like the trees, or they want space for their individual pursuits, like housing car collections. While I understand the city may not

Thousand Oaks City Council, Oak Tree Ordinance Hearing 10/20/2015

want to intrude on the "pursuit of happiness" of their citizens, in whatever form the pursuit may take, the city as a community can decide what it values and work towards preserving that value. This may take the form of the city creating a standard that new residents are expected to embrace: oak trees (and other natives, like sycamores, black walnut, etc.) are going to be protected to the maximum extent possible. If the city did not work with determination to require open space set-asides by developers, the city would not have achieved its "ring of green" so celebrated by citizens today.

Sadly, it appears the city has changed its founding stance that preserving oaks is a city value. The city originally placed the oak tree ordinance under Title 5 of the city code (Public Welfare, Morals, and Conduct). Moving the ordinance to Title 9 (Planning and Zoning) repositions a community value into a routine planning process no different than residential setbacks or how tall your house can be.

Please return to the original ordinance, as the recent changes to the ordinance are too loosely crafted to support the long-term retention and preservation of any oak trees. Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Melanie Beck". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and personal.

Melanie Beck
725 E. Hillcrest Drive

Antoinette Mann - Conejo Oak Tree Advocates Petitions

From: Janet Wall <walljanetm@gmail.com>
To: Claudia Bill-de la Peña<claudia4slowgrowth@gmail.com>, Al Adam <albertca...>
Date: 10/19/2015 9:33 PM
Subject: Conejo Oak Tree Advocates Petitions
CC: Yvonne B <mythyvonne@yahoo.com>, Marilyn Carpenter <carpmail5@gmail.com>...
Attachments: COTA PETITIONS 10.19.2015.PDF

Hello Mayor Adam, Council Members and City Staff,

Attached is a Change.org petition which has gathered the following signatures in the last 5 days. Nearly 200 individuals have signed.

Please consider these recommendations in your deliberations tomorrow evening when you will decide whether oak trees that have been planted over the last few decades on single family properties and condominium/townhome properties will gradually disappear because of their "owner planted" designation and exemption.

Thank you for your consideration of our namesake trees.

Conejo Oak Tree Advocates (COTA)

2015 OCT 20 AM 9:27
CITY OF THERESA, CALIFORNIA
CITY OF THERESA, CALIFORNIA

TO COUNCIL 10-20-2015
AGENDA ITEM NO. 9.A.
MEETING DATE 10-20-2015

change.org
Conejo Oak Tree Advocates

Dear City Council Members, Planning Commission Members and Planning Department,

I agree with Conejo Oak Tree Advocates' position that the Thousand Oaks Ordinances protecting oak trees and native landmark trees should once again be restored to the same ordinances that protected these trees for decades, until it was altered in 2010. I highly value our heritage, namesake trees and want them preserved now and for future generations. Please restore oak and landmark tree protections immediately for all oak and landmark trees in our City, including those within the Thousand Oaks Boulevard corridor.

In addition, I support planting additional *Quercus agrifolia* (Coast Live Oak) and *Quercus lobata* (Valley Oak) trees when new or replacement street trees are planted, especially along Thousand Oaks Boulevard and Moorpark Road.

Along with Conejo Oak Tree Advocates, I believe our City should recognize some of the oldest and best trees in our community and hope you will support efforts to do so.

Thank for your attention to these important matters.

<http://www.conejooaktreadvocates.org/>

Signatures

Name	Location	Date
yvonne brockwell	, United States	2015-10-13
Janet Wall	Westlake Village, CA, United States	2015-10-14
Bonnie Clarfield-Bylin	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-14
Marilyn Carpenter	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-14
ruth kilday	Oak Park, CA, United States	2015-10-14
Vince Curtis	Oak Park, CA, United States	2015-10-14
cheryl pelly	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-14
Concerned Citizen	New City, NY, United States	2015-10-15
Rip Rense	Los Angeles, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Yvonne Brockwell	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Salina Bartunek-Andrews	Agoura Hills, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Royston Jennings	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Billy Martin	Moorpark, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Lori Meeden	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Judith Baukus	Westlake Village, CA, United States	2015-10-15
George Jennings	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-15
kaanii cleaver	Napa, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Margot Smit	Malibu, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Mark Boehler	Kalamazoo, MI, United States	2015-10-15
Mindy Grusin	Lincolnwood, IL, United States	2015-10-15
Matt Brown	Huntington Beach, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Judy Ann	Tucson, AZ, United States	2015-10-15
Sage Bylin	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-15
susan VanBuskirk	Allentown, PA, United States	2015-10-15
Sylvia Ruth Gray	Salt Lake City, UT, United States	2015-10-15
sarika arora	Alpharetta, GA, United States	2015-10-15
Linnea Hall	Camarillo, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Michelle Angelos	Mount Vernon, NY, United States	2015-10-15
René Corado	Oxnard, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Angela giglia	Westlake Village, CA, United States	2015-10-15

Name	Location	Date
Stephen Bylin	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-15
scott sliter	Craigellachie,Scotland, IL, United Kingdom	2015-10-15
Adriana Allbright	Houston, TX, United States	2015-10-15
Leslie Pruitt	Westlake Village, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Resa Brown	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Sally Hibbitts	Westlake Village, CA, United States	2015-10-15
luisa sawyer	Eaton Socon, ENG, United Kingdom	2015-10-15
Mary E Hansen	Westlake Village, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Paula Smith	Powell, OH, United States	2015-10-15
Chantal Buslot	Hasselt, TX, United States	2015-10-15
Nina Perino	Palm Harbor, FL, United States	2015-10-15
Alyse Lazar	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Judy Seeger	Newbury Park, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Cassidy Freeman	Santa Monica, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Michael Maxcy	Newbury Park, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Janice Jaramillo	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Heather Hartman	Simi Valley, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Alicia Loft	Salem, OR, United States	2015-10-15
Diana Ashbrook	Schleswig, IA, United States	2015-10-15
Jason Lau	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Lorna Cruz	Westlake Village, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Michael Oberman	Anchorage, AK, United States	2015-10-15
Hope Ebbert	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Paolo Da Silva	Newbury Park, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Tina Frugoli	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Sarah Gantzer	Newbury Park, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Sam Haines	Tucson, AZ, United States	2015-10-15
Laurie Robertson	Newbury Park, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Rachel Burnap	Calabasas, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Amy Friesen	Camarillo, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Karin Nagi	Mijnsheerenland, Netherlands	2015-10-15
Stacey Linnell	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-15

Anthony Braga	Westlake Village, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Melanie Beck	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Nora Aidukas	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Ben Jones	Bellevue, WA, United States	2015-10-15
Laura Wagner	Westlake Village, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Patricia Maughmer	Oxnard, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Beverly Flemion	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Anna Harffey	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-15
JEFF COX	Newbury Park, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Judy Sheely	Avery, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Robert Robertson	Los Angeles, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Nicole Cope	Newbury Park, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Victoria Fowler	Red Bluff, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Mike Malone	Westlake Village, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Corey Kerdman-Andrade	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Michelle Stevenson	Venice, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Diana Ferrare-Magaldi	Murrieta, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Jill Lundgren	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Chaise Rasheed	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Jamie Rennie	Goodyear, AZ, United States	2015-10-15
mark mainer	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-15
jeff hanes	Newbury Park, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Carlos Arjon	Newbury Park, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Sean Tachco	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Martha Keller	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-15
susan stewart	Westlake Village, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Laurence Jacobson	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Kathy Underwood	Frederic, WI, United States	2015-10-15
Cathy Cole	Lancaster, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Carole Merrifield	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Susan Speer	Chattanooga, TN, United States	2015-10-15

Lori Kissinger	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Jen Miehle	Simi Valley, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Lesley Jennings	Baltimore, MD, United States	2015-10-15
Stephanie Larsen	San Pedro, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Judy Dering	Westlake Village, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Mariann Harmon	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Anthony Graziosa	East Canaan, CT, United States	2015-10-15
Beverly Braverman	Sacramento, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Mary Ann Campbell	Simi Valley, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Barbara Byrnes Damschen	Fresno, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Heather Swarens	Newbury Park, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Paige Cox	Newbury Park, CA, United States	2015-10-15
Kimberly Mast	Tucson, AZ, United States	2015-10-15
julie stuart	Westlake Village, CA, United States	2015-10-16
Dennis Drgon	Los Angeles, CA, United States	2015-10-16
Karen vonier	Westlake Village, CA, United States	2015-10-16
Richelle Bombardier	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-16
Cynthia Hutchison	Westlake Village, CA, United States	2015-10-16
John Martin	Jamul, CA, United States	2015-10-16
patricia pettinelli	Westlake Village, CA, United States	2015-10-16
Heather Kenney	Simi Valley, CA, United States	2015-10-16
Madeleine Brockwell	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-16
Sydne Mizuni	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-16
Susan Lynn	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-16
Scott Brockwell	Westlake Village, CA, United States	2015-10-16
Denise Kinney	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-16
Judi Bell	Chula Vista, CA, United States	2015-10-16
Mark Weinstein	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-16
Travis Abeyta	Los Angeles, CA, United States	2015-10-16
Gina Bradley	Westlake, CA, United States	2015-10-16
Jeppson Cathy	Los Angeles, CA, United States	2015-10-16

Name	Location	Date
Lisa Bock	Westlake Village, CA, United States	2015-10-16
ralph waycott	Malibu, CA, United States	2015-10-17
Debbie Ray	Camarillo, CA, United States	2015-10-17
Dori Albers	Westlake Village, CA, United States	2015-10-17
Randy Roth	Westlake Village, CA, United States	2015-10-17
Patricia Swiney	Victorville, CA, United States	2015-10-17
Diane Laskin	L.A., CA, United States	2015-10-17
Jennifer Mandel	Los Angeles, CA, United States	2015-10-17
Sa Winfield	Los Angeles, CA, United States	2015-10-17
James Thibo	Westlake Village, CA, United States	2015-10-17
Stephen Lotwis	Westlake Village, CA, United States	2015-10-17
Laurel Bylin	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-17
Sioux Ashe	Los Angeles, CA, United States	2015-10-17
Barbara Freeman	Glendale, CA, United States	2015-10-18
Susan Levy	Westlake Village, CA, United States	2015-10-18
Zandria Bernhardt	Westlake Village, CA, United States	2015-10-18
Dennis Kaplan	Mayfield Heights, OH, United States	2015-10-18
Dayle Dalton	Agoura Hills, CA, United States	2015-10-18
Mary Willis	Newbury Park, CA, United States	2015-10-18
Shannon Dery	Portland, OR, United States	2015-10-18
Julie Palmer	Westlake Village, CA, United States	2015-10-18
Franci Levine-Grater	Pasadena, CA, United States	2015-10-18
Gail Aldrich	Thousand Oaks, CA, United States	2015-10-18
Tom Smith	Newbury Park, CA, United States	2015-10-18
Jeffrey Slater	Westlake Village, CA, United States	2015-10-18
Nat Duke	Westlake Village, CA, United States	2015-10-18
Connie LaFace-Olson	Newbury Park, CA, United States	2015-10-18
Jessica Toth	Vallejo, CA, United States	2015-10-18
Sheila Dery	Apple Valley, CA, United States	2015-10-18
Robin Heyman	Westlake Village, CA, United States	2015-10-18
Jane Goodman	Agoura Hills, CA, United States	2015-10-18
Giuseppe Calderaro	Newbury Park, CA, United States	2015-10-18

Teresa Ballard	Odenton, MD, United States	2015-10-18
Karen Cleaver	Agoura, CA, United States	2015-10-18
Laura Angel	Reno, NV, United States	2015-10-19
Victoris Dyer	Westlake Village, CA, United States	2015-10-19

Comments

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Conejo Oak Tree Advocates conejooaktreadvocates.org	Thousand Oaks, CA	2015-10-14	The protection of our cherished oaks is imperative as they are a link to our region's history, support to our healthful environment by cleaning the air and capturing rainwater, and are keystone species in our urban tree canopy and protected open space.
Janet Wall	Thousand Oaks, CA	2015-10-14	As a member of COTA, I hope you can agree that our oak trees are tremendous community assets that deserve to be protected so they continue to grace our City into the future as many have done for far longer than our lifespans. Thank you!
Bonnie Clarfield-Bylin	Thousand Oaks, CA	2015-10-14	The character of the City of Thousand Oaks is defined by our beautiful native oak and landmark trees. It should not matter if the tree predated our city or was planted by citizens after we incorporated, as they are all important. At the rate oaks are being removed and replaced by other ornamental trees we will look like any other city in Southern California. We have been given the nickname, "Thousand Stumps", by people who have watched our oak ordinances degrade over these last few years. In our City's infancy, we had some of the strongest oak and landmark tree protections in the country; that is no longer true. Let's get back to our roots and do the right thing.
Marilyn Carpenter	Thousand Oaks, CA	2015-10-14	I want to support the efforts of those who seek to protect and preserve our namesake heritage oak trees!
ruth kilday	Oak Park, CA	2015-10-14	Oaks create the "sense of place" in the Thousand Oaks area. Please enforce the preservation of these trees.
Rip Rense	Los Angeles, CA	2015-10-15	It is vitally important to preserve any/all old oaks left in Thousand Oaks and surrounding environs.
Yvonne Brockwell	Thousand Oaks, CA	2015-10-15	Enough is enough. It's time to get back to protecting our trees and other natural resources. Please don't allow the Boulevard Specific Plan to destroy our urban tree canopy and beloved landmark trees.
Billy Martin	Moorpark, CA	2015-10-15	The Oaks link living to open space. I have championed the Oak in this town since conceiving Adopt an Oak in 1996
Lori Meeden	Thousand Oaks, CA	2015-10-15	Thousand Oaks is becoming like East Island. How long do you suppose, before every last beloved Oak is gone?
Kaanii Powell Cleaver	Fort Collins, CO	2015-10-15	Because TREES MATTER.
Margot Smit	Malibu, CA	2015-10-15	Though I don't live in TO, I'm there a lot and the trees are important to me!
Linnea Hall	Camarillo, CA	2015-10-15	I am a professional wildlife biologist, and know the importance, from an ecological standpoint, of oak trees for local wildlife. We have already lost many of the oaks that once covered Ventura County, and each one – especially the old, historic trees – provides needed habitat for specific bird, mammal, insect, and reptile species. Please leave and restore oak trees in Thousand Oaks for the sake of declining wildlife, as well as for their heritage value.
Angela Giglia	Westlake Village, CA	2015-10-15	i want to protect the oak trees. Let's go back to the law from 2010
Adriana Allbright	Houston, TX	2015-10-15	Yeah. Save the trees. Don't destroy the heritage of a location. Don't destroy the trees of a location. Replace trees that have been destroyed. Don't destroy any more.
Leslie Pruitt	Westlake Village, CA	2015-10-15	I believe that our beautiful historic oak trees are worth preserving and that the city of Thousand Oaks needs to take a stand on this issue.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Sally Hibbits	Westlake Village, CA	2015-10-15	We are supposed to be a city of a thousand oak trees. Unfortunately, in the recent past the caretakers of our environment, aka City Council, have in fact lost their path in preserving these amazing trees. We are fast becoming a city of a thousand creep myrtle trees. What a disaster!
Paula Smith	Powell, OH	2015-10-15	I use to live in Newburyport Park. My Mom was also the Deputy City Clerk in the 60's and 70's. We still love Thousand Oaks although we no longer live there. One of the things we remember is all the beautiful oak trees and some that were landmarks along T.O Blvd. Please protect these trees from developers. You've already lost so many of the trees, I recently drove through Thousand Oaks and noticed the absent of the trees along the 101.
Judy Seeger	Thousand Oaks, CA	2015-10-15	These trees are precious to our community
Michael Maxcy	Newbury Park, CA	2015-10-15	Without the number Oak trees we have had in the past we are just like any other city. Lets keep this city unique among the abyss of cookie cutter towns.
Alicia Loft	Salem, OR	2015-10-15	I and the family I lived with loved Thousand Oaks. The Oaks are one of the reasons that town was chosen as a home from the start.
Lorna Cruz	Westlake Village, CA	2015-10-15	They are beautiful trees that took hundred of years to be what they are...strong and beautiful. We need thousands of them , our landmark,to preserve our City.
Paolo Da Silva	Newbury Park, CA	2015-10-15	I love this city. I want to see it grow and change, but not at the expense of the part I fell in love with. Please protect these trees.
Sam Haines	Rockville, MD	2015-10-15	I grew up in T.O. and have always hoped to return
Stacey Linnell	Thousand Oaks, CA	2015-10-15	I've lived her for 41 years, and I love the landscapel
Anthony Braga	Thousand Oaks, CA	2015-10-15	I have been in thousand oaks for 50 years and these trees need to be saved (our namesake)
Melanie Beck	Thousand Oaks, CA	2015-10-15	Thousand Oaks as a community values its oaks. Those oaks add a defining aesthetic to the city and provide tremendous resource value concerning cooling, air quality, and habitat for wildlife. All citizens should take responsibility for caring for and perpetuating our native oak forest on both public lands and private lands. Sometimes you can't draw a clean black and white line between public and private land values when it comes to the overall good. The original ordinance covered everywhere, and would continue to do so if brought back. Thank you for your consideration.
Ben Jones	Bellevue, WA	2015-10-15	The beautiful oak trees of Thousand Oaks are part of what makes my former home town unique and special. I don't want to see that change.
Jeff Cox	Newbury Park, CA	2015-10-15	I have lived in Thousand Oaks since 1959 and want to protect our name sake!
Victoria Fowler	Red Bluff, CA	2015-10-15	These trees significantly represent Thousand Oaks and Conejo Valley. We moved here or were born here and should be respectful of their grace and dignity. These trees have been here hundreds of years and need to be here for hundreds of years beyond our passing to share with our children, grandchildren and generations beyond.
Michelle Stevenson	Venice, CA	2015-10-15	Because.
Diana Ferrare-Magaldi	Murrieta, CA	2015-10-15	I agree
Chalse Rasheed	Thousand Oaks, CA	2015-10-15	I am signing because it is imperative that the City of Thousand Oaks helps preserve our environmental heritage.
Jamie Rennie	Goodyear, AZ	2015-10-15	They ate beautiful trees and what this city is known for! Development at all cost is dangerous
mark mainer	Thousand Oaks, CA	2015-10-15	Stop killing our trees!

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Cathy Cole	Lancaster, CA	2015-10-15	I grew up here. I played among these trees. Thousand oaks is not just a name, it is filled with traditions and generations of families living among these magesic trees. Stop cutting down my childhood memories!
Susan Speer	Chattanooga, TN	2015-10-15	I grew up in Thousand Oaks. It is a beautiful city that needs to stay that way. Enough shopping malls and parking lots. Let's remain "Thousand" Oaks!
Candace arensmeyer	Thousand Oaks, CA	2015-10-15	i love oak trees
Lesley Jennings	Baltimore, MD	2015-10-15	Less asphalt more green!
Stephanie Larsen	Yuba City, CA	2015-10-15	i grew up in Thousand Oaks. I hate seeing all the old oak trees coming down.
Judy Dering	Westlake Village, CA	2015-10-15	I value the trees.
Mariann Harmon	Thousand Oaks, CA	2015-10-15	I love the name of our city AND the trees for which it is named.
Beverly Braverman	Sacramento, CA	2015-10-15	I grew up in Thousand Oaks and have always been proud of the beauty of the city. The oak trees are an integral part of that beauty. Protect the trees.
Barbara Byrnes Damschen	Fresno, CA	2015-10-15	As a long-term Resident of Thousand Oaks before I moved to Fresno California, I took great pride in the name of and the beauty of this city. I believe that everything and anything shpuld be done in order to protect the past, the integrity and the beauty of this wonderful area. They're always creative ways to do things, I request that you employ them. Barbara Byrnes-Damschen
Heather Swarens	Thousand Oaks, CA	2015-10-15	I grew up in TO and I'd hate to see it turn into the valley. We need more family owned businesses instead of these big box stores coming into our town and cutting down trees for parking lots!
Kimberly Mast	Tucson, AZ	2015-10-15	I grew up in Thousand Oaks and do not want to see the namesake Oaks all removed
Karen VONIER	WESTLAKE VILLAGE, CA	2015-10-16	we need more trees NOT less.
Richelle Bombardier	Thousand Oaks, CA	2015-10-16	I am signing this because we have already lost too many trees.
Cynthia Hutchison	Westlake Village, CA	2015-10-16	I think it is our trees that makes all the difference between our Los Angeles suburb and all the others. "Thousand Oaks" says it all.
John Martin	Jamul, CA	2015-10-16	As a professional wildlife biologist, I understand the fundamental role that oaks play in providing habitat for a broad variety of wildlife. That wildlife, to me, is one of the most important factors in our quality of life in Southern California. Oaks are under threat from multiple factors that are difficult for us to control (e.g., gold-spotted oak borer, drought...). Regulatory protection is the low-hanging fruit, where conservation of nature is concerned. Let's not let it drop.
Madeleine Brockwell	Westlake Village, CA	2015-10-16	Please protect our oak trees! They are what made this city so beautiful over the years. Developers are greedy and too lazy to develop around the spectacular oaks that are a great asset to T.O. I am still angry over the cutting down of all those beautiful trees at the Westlake Plaza that were not diseased. The owners of that plaza owned that property for many years and allowed everything to die back before they "remodeled" it with their mish-mash design. Sitting under a shady oak was a wonderful experience at that plaza before they replaced it with a continuously burning fire pit. I do not shop there anymore as it still hurts to see the damage done.
Sydne Mizuno	Thousand Oaks, CA	2015-10-16	I've lived in Thousand Oaks for over 30 years and have been disappointed at all the new construction and how we are quickly losing our identity and community to over development. It's disheartening to see the lack of respect for our home and to watch our community fade into unnecessary development.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Scott Brockwell	Westlake Village, CA	2015-10-16	We live in this city because we enjoy it's natural landscape. If we didn't appreciate how it not only provides a beautiful experience, we realize that it also improves our homes property values. A big value to our community is that we are not like the San Fernando Valley, where the roads all run in a grid pattern, with much of the natural trees removed and replaced with billboards and bus benches to achieve that type of plan.
Judi Bell	Chula Vista, CA	2015-10-16	I grew up in T.O. and still visit often. I love it there and love those oaks.
ralph waycott	Malibu, CA	2015-10-17	These magnificent trees create a signature ambiance that communities around lack. Anyone can look like those places. Further they offer shade and song in the face of climate change. There is no better solution for all concerned.
Debble Ray	Camarillo, CA	2015-10-17	I believe in protecting our history and historic trees.
Dori Albers	Malibu, CA	2015-10-17	I love to preserve our trees.
Laura McLean	Thousand Oaks, CA	2015-10-17	I have lived here since 1966, and the oaks are an irreplaceable part of this city and the beauty I grew up with.
Patricia Swiney	Victorville, CA	2015-10-17	I lived in Thousand Oaks for 27 years before I retired and the Oak trees were always protected and cherished.....please continue to protect them.
Zandria Bernhardt	Westlake Village, CA	2015-10-18	As a local realtor and resident of the Conejo Valley since 1982, I can tell you that not only do WE love the trees, but find that they are one of the major reasons people are attracted to our beautiful valley. It is criminal the way some of these beautiful trees have been butchered in the name of "progress." Thank you.
Dayle Dalton	Agoura Hills, CA	2015-10-18	Our beautiful oak trees must be protected. I am seeing too much destruction with so much development.
Mary Willis	Newbury Park, CA	2015-10-18	...these trees and beautiful landscape are our best calling card.
Shannon Dery	Portland, OR	2015-10-18	I grew up in Thousand Oaks and Westlake... The Oaks give so much.
Connie LaFace-Olson	Newbury Park, CA	2015-10-18	We love the trees and as sentinels to our past and future we need to protect our heritage.
Jessica Toth	Vallejo, CA	2015-10-18	Trees make a city beautiful, provide clean air and shade. They are a living part of the ecosystem. They also stimulate the economy by providing jobs in the form of City Gardners to maintain them. We are the stewards of this Earth.
Sheila Dery	Apple Valley, CA	2015-10-18	Growing up in Thousand Oaks, I was do proud that our city valued the magnificent beauty of the natural gift of our trees. I never would have thought that cutting them down would ever have been an option.
Teresa Ballard	Chesapeake, VA	2015-10-18	I grew up with a field full of these beautiful Oak trees. Tey are gone now and the field is filled with Condominiums. I would like to see the remaining ones stay for future generations to play and imagine under.

Antoinette Mann - Protect Oak and Landmark Trees in Thousand Oaks Now! PETITION COMMENTS

From: "Marilyn Carpenter" <carpmail5@gmail.com>
To: <city@toaks.org>, "Al Adam" <albertcadam@gmail.com>, "Andy Fox" <cnc...
Date: 10/19/2015 11:58 PM
Subject: Protect Oak and Landmark Trees in Thousand Oaks Now! PETITION COMMENTS
CC: "Joan Edwards" <jcedithers@gmail.com>, "Janet Wall" <walljanetm@gmai...
 2015 OCT 20 AM 9:27
 CITY OF THOUSAND OAKS
 PETITION COMMENTS

To: Members of the Thousand Oaks City Council, City Manager, Planning and Community Development Staff

From: Marilyn Carpenter, Conejo Oak Tree Advocates

Just a few days ago, COTA, the Conejo Oak Tree Advocates, launched an online petition urging the City to strengthen its historic commitment to protect and preserve our native oak and landmark trees. Many of those who signed the petition shared heartfelt comments. I have transcribed some of them here for you to consider as you contemplate the action you will take Tuesday evening. I hope you will take the time to scan these, knowing that they represent the voices of individuals who care deeply about our special community.

"I've lived in Thousand Oaks for over 30 years and have been disappointed at all the new construction and how we are quickly losing our identity to over development. It's disheartening to see the lack of respect for our home and to watch our community fade into unnecessary development." Sidne Mizuno

"I think it is our trees that make all the difference between our Los Angeles Suburb and all the others. "Thousand Oaks" says it all." Cynthia Hutchison

"We live in this city because we enjoy it's natural landscape. If we didn't appreciate how it not only provides a beautiful experience, we realize that it also improves our homes' property values. A big value to our community is that we are not like the San Fernando Valley, where the roads all run in a grid pattern, with much of the natural trees removed and replaced with billboards and bus benches to achieve that type of plan." Scott Brockwell

"I grew up in Thousand Oaks and have always been proud of the beauty of the city. The oak trees are an integral part of that beauty. Protect the trees." Beverly Braverman

"These trees significantly represent Thousand Oaks and Conejo Valley. We moved here or were born here and should be respectful of their grace and dignity. These trees have been here hundreds of years and need to be here for hundreds of years beyond our passing to share with our children, grandchildren and generations beyond." Victoria Fowler

"The beautiful oak trees of Thousand Oaks are part of what makes my former home town unique and special. I don't want to see that change." Ben Jones

"I love the name of our city AND the trees for which it is named." Mariann Harmon

"As a professional wildlife biologist, I understand the fundamental role that oaks play in providing habitat for a broad variety of wildlife. That wildlife, to me, is one of the most important factors in our quality of life in Southern California. Oaks are under threat from multiple factors that are difficult for us to control (e.g., gold-spotted oak borer, drought...). Regulatory protection is the low-hanging fruit, where conservation of nature is concerned. Let's not let it drop." John Martin

"I grew up here. I played among these trees. Thousand Oaks is not just a name, it is filled with traditions and generations of families living among these majestic trees. Stop cutting down my childhood memories!" Cathy Cole

"Thousand Oaks as a community values its oaks. Those oaks add a defining aesthetic to the city and provide tremendous

TO COUNCIL 10-20-2015
 AGENDA ITEM NO. 9.A.
 MEETING DATE 10-20-2015

resource value concerning cooling, air quality, and habitat for wildlife. All citizens should take responsibility for caring for and perpetuating our native oak forest on both public lands and private lands.. Sometimes you can't draw a clean black and white line between public and private land values when it comes to the overall good. The original ordinance covered everywhere, and would continue to do so if brought back. Thank you for your consideration." **Melanie Beck**

"I have lived in Thousand Oaks since 1959 and want to protect our namesake!" **Jeff Cox**

"I love this city. I want to see it grow and change, but not at the expense of the past I fell in love with. Please protect these trees." **Paolo Da Silva**

"I used to live in Newbury Park. My mom was also the Deputy City Clerk in the 60's and 70's. We still love Thousand Oaks, although we no longer live there. One of the things we remember is all the beautiful oak trees and some that were landmarks along T.O. Blvd. Please protect these trees from developers. You've already lost so many of the trees. I recently drove through Thousand Oaks and noticed the absence of the trees along the 101." **Paula Smith**

"Without the number of oak trees we have had in the past we are just like any other city. Let's keep this city unique among the abyss of cookie cutter towns." **Michael Maxcy**

"These trees are precious to our community." **Judy Seeger**

"We are supposed to be a city of a thousand oak trees. Unfortunately, in the recent past the caretakers of our environment, aka City Council, have in fact lost their path in preserving these amazing trees. We are fast becoming a city of a thousand crepe myrtle trees. What a disaster!" **Sally Hibbitts**

"They are beautiful trees that took hundreds of years to be what they are...strong and beautiful. We need thousands of them, our landmark, to preserve our city." **Lorna Cruz**

"Yeah. Save the trees. Don't destroy the heritage of a location. Don't destroy the trees of a location. Replace trees that have been destroyed. Don't destroy any more." **Adriana Albright**

"I believe that our beautiful historic oak trees are worth preserving and that the City of Thousand oaks needs to take a stand on the issue." **Leslie Pruitt**

"Please protect our oak trees! They are what made this city so beautiful over the years. Developers are greedy and too lazy to develop around the spectacular oaks that are a great asset to T.O.. I am still angry over the cutting down of all those beautiful trees at the Westlake Plaza that were not diseased. The owners of that plaza owned that property for many years and allowed everything to die back before they "remodeled" it with their mish-mash design. Sitting under a shady oak was a wonderful experience at that plaza before they replaced it with a continuously burning fire pit. I do not shop there anymore as it still hurts to see the damage done." **Madeleine Brockwell**

"I am signing this because we have already lost too many trees." **Richelle Bombardier**

"I have been in Thousand Oaks for 50 years and these trees need to be saved (our namesake). **Anthony Braga**

"I've lived here for 41 years, and I love the landscape!" **Stacey Linnell**

Antoinette Mann - Oak Tree Concerns

From: Bonnie Clarfield-Bylin & Stephen Bylin <conejomoon@verizon.net>
To: Al Adam <albertcadam@gmail.com>, Claudia Bill-de la Peña<claudia4slowgro...>
Date: 10/20/2015 1:53 AM
Subject: Oak Tree Concerns
CC: John Prescott <jprescott@toaks.org>, Stephen Kearns <SKearns@toaks.org>,...

2015 OCT 20 AM 9:27
 CITY OF THOUSAND OAKS
 CITY CLERK

Dear Mayor Adam, City Council Member and City Staff,

As you make your decisions on Tuesday, October 20 concerning our oak and landmark tree ordinance, please consider our roots as a young city.

In the 1980's and 1990's communities around California modeled their oak tree ordinances after the Thousand Oaks Tree Ordinance. Our city's well-designed ordinances contributed greatly to our success as a planned urban community. As the population of our city grew, our heritage oaks trees and ridge tops were protected. This enabled us to maintain the rural character of our ranching history. Over the years, more oak trees were planted to create a native urban forest. A strong oak tree ordinance allowed birds and other wildlife to safely coexist within our communities, because the native urban canopy provided wildlife corridors between protected parks and open spaces.

Unfortunately, the City of Thousand Oaks no longer has strong oak tree protections in place. We may believe that our reputation as an "oak protector" is intact, but that is no longer true. Our oak ordinance significantly eroded in 2010. Over the last couple of years, people from Agoura and Calabasas have jokingly referred to Thousand Oaks as "Thousand Stumps." Mature oaks have been removed from inside the city boundary at an alarming rate over the last five years.

We need to hold our namesake trees dear. It should not matter if an oak tree is owner-planted or predates property development. If we continue to make it easy to remove mature oak trees from single-family properties and community commons, our oak trees will continue to disappear. The "owner planted designation" and their exception from protection makes it too easy to cut down mature oak trees. An oak tree is considered mature after the trunk reaches 12 to 36 inches diameter at breast height 4-5 feet above the ground (DBH).

Embedded within this email is an article written by William F. Elmendorf, titled, "*Oak Tree Preservation in Thousand Oaks, California*." It appeared in the USDA Forest Service Gen. Tech. Rep. PSW-126, in 1991. **You should read it and take some lessons from your predecessors about good oak protection in Thousand Oaks.**

Our mature coast live oak and valley oak trees are one of the many things that make this city special. The distinctive character of the City of Thousand Oaks, would be forever changed without our majestic oak trees.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
 Bonnie Clarfield-Bylin
 Thousand Oaks Resident
 Member of the expired Thousand Oaks City Council's Ad Hoc Oak and Landmark Tree Committee

TO COUNCIL 10-20-2015
 AGENDA ITEM NO. 9.A.
 MEETING DATE 10-20-2015

Founding member of Conejo Oak Tree Advocates

http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/publications/documents/psw_gtr126/psw_gtr126_04_elmendorf.pdf

Oak Tree Preservation in Thousand Oaks, California

William F. Elmendorf

Abstract: The City of Thousand Oaks over the last 20 years has taken aggressive steps to preserve and protect the City's name-sake, the oak tree. First adopted in 1972 as an Emergency City Council Proclamation, the City's Oak Tree Ordinance has been considered by some, to be one of the first and toughest municipal native tree preservation ordinances within the State of California. The current Oak Tree Ordinance has undergone twenty years of review and input and has shown to be successful in tree preservation as well as maintaining and increasing community character, quality of development, community image and the quality of life within the City of Thousand Oaks.

Many of the ideas and comments in this paper are a result of practical experience in the administration and development of a resource protection/preservation ordinance and program. They are meant to provide whatever practical information the reader may gain. In the past, many municipalities and counties had no policy standards or mitigation measures to help offset detrimental impact and loss of oak trees, other hardwoods and associated environmental systems. At the present, the officials and staff of some California municipalities and counties are working with astute and dedicated interest in the protection and preservation of the hardwood resource. They recognize both the value and benefits of the tree resource, and various environmental concerns surrounding proper land and resource use. Enlightened administrative bodies and organizations have come to the realization that they are trustees of, and responsible for, a great and valuable resource to be held and used by both the public at large and future generations (Willeke 1986). The public has become increasingly aware of the importance of the hardwood resource and the detrimental impact due to its decline. The resource provides many important benefits and values: historical, cultural, environmental, functional, aesthetic, recreational, wildlife habitat, economic, social, philosophical and psychological. This paper reports on how the City of Thousand Oaks deals with the problems caused by the decline of this resource and the steps we have taken to preserve, protect and reforest oak trees in our jurisdiction.

¹Presented at the Symposium on Oak Woodlands and Hardwood Rangeland Management, October 31-November 2, 1991, Davis, California. ²Urban Forester, City of Thousand Oaks Department of Planning and Community Development, Thousand Oaks, California.

EVOLUTION OF AN OAK TREE ORDINANCE

The current City of Thousand Oaks Oak Tree Ordinance (Lavoie, Moore and others 1986) has undergone political and social evolution over the past 18 years. The Oak Tree Ordinance began as an Emergency City Council Proclamation in 1972, following public outcry after scores of large valley oaks were uprooted within an unapproved development near the center of the community. Since this first attempt by the City to preserve and protect the community's namesake, the oak, it has become evident that many citizens greatly admire and identify with groves and individual oak trees. The citizenry imparted sometimes emotional, but always forceful political support for oak tree preservation and protection. The success of the City's Oak Tree Ordinance is in large part due to this considerable and sometimes vocal support of the general community for oak tree preservation and protection, as well as legislative and City Staff support. During the review process of certain proposed oak tree removals to facilitate residential and commercial construction, infrastructure placement and other development,

citizens have demanded that the oak trees be preserved and incorporated within development design. With the evolution of life in the City, the oak tree has come to symbolize the quality of life that has been found in Thousand Oaks and other areas of California. Probably the effort to preserve the oak/hardwood resource in Thousand Oaks is motivated by genuine concerns and emotional desires for resource preservation and protection, as well as apprehension for increasing growth, development, and loss of quality of life. The City's Oak Tree Ordinance has undergone significant community and professional review and revision to reach the current state. It is basically an exercise of the City's police power to promote and preserve a valuable resource asset and the general welfare and health of the community (Mason 1990). In general, the objective of the City's Oak Tree Ordinance is to preserve healthy oak trees over 2 inches diameter breast height on both public and private property within the City's jurisdiction. The Oak Tree Ordinance is enforceable on both private and public property. It is justified by the fact that the City Council of Thousand Oaks has found the oak tree to be a valuable community asset that improves the general health and welfare of the community. The Oak Tree Ordinance protects oak trees

Sent from my iPad

262 USDA Forest Service Gen. Tech. Rep. PSW-126. 1991

Hello Mayor Adam, Council Members and City Staff,

Please consider these recommendations in your deliberations tomorrow evening when you will decide whether

Thank you for your consideration of our namesake trees.

Antoinette Mann - Fwd: Recommendation For Tonight's Meeting

From: John Prescott
To: Lawrence, Linda
Date: 10/20/2015 1:18 PM
Subject: Fwd: Recommendation For Tonight's Meeting
CC: Kearns, Stephen; Mitnick, Scott; Powers, Andrew

For supplemental. You may have already received it from one of the other City addressees.)

John C. Prescott
 City of Thousand Oaks
 Community Development Director
 2100 Thousand Oaks Blvd.
 Thousand Oaks CA 91362
 (805) 449-2311
jprescott@toaks.org

>>> Janet Wall <walljanetm@gmail.com> 10/20/2015 1:14 PM >>>
 TO: Mayor Adam, City Council and Planning Staff

FROM: Janet Miller Wall, Former Chair
 Thousand Oaks Ad Hoc Oak and Landmark Tree Review Committee

It was a pleasure and disappointment serving as Chair of the Ad Hoc Oak and Landmark Tree Review Committee. So many worthy ideas were thrown about but not explored in those 4 short meetings. However, what was most important is that so many of us agreed Thousand Oaks should re-establish itself as the best oak tree community in California which we once were. You have the ability to do that. Please consider the following thoughts in your deliberations this evening:

1. "Owner Planted" Oak Trees vs. a "Real" Oak Tree: Eliminate "owner planted" exemptions. Staff recommends giving homeowners and condo associations exemptions. Yet Staff also asserts it no longer matters whether an oak tree is indigenous or nursery grown (i.e., "owner planted") in other areas within the City. Having different and arbitrary protection for the same trees is inconsistent, unfair and arguable. Again, eliminate "owner planted" from the Ordinance.
2. Planning Commission Scrutiny: There is no explanation for why Staff chose a diameter of 36 inches before Planning Commission approval is required. Most mature oak trees in our area vary from 12 inches to 48 inches in diameter(*), not "24 inches, 36 inches and 48 inches." At the very *minimum*, applications for removal of oak trees 24 inches in diameter should require Planning Commission scrutiny because these already are huge, "heritage" trees.
3. Tree Removal Mitigation Costs: Establish a fee structure for removals based on the value of the tree(s) being removed which then goes into a fund to ensure oak tree replacements.
4. Staff Specialist: Oak Tree Permits & Mitigation: Hire an expert, full-time employee to work with the public to re-establish Thousand Oaks as a community who values and protects their heritage oak and landmark trees. Thousand Oaks had a former employee named Bill Elmendorf who championed the special attributes and value these trees add to our community. You would do well to find another Mr. Elmendorf to navigate whether we remain a community graced with oak and landmark trees.

(*)http://ucanr.edu/sites/oak_range/Californias_Rangeland_Oak_Species/Valley_Oak/#dbh
 and

http://ucanr.edu/sites/oak_range/Californias_Rangeland_Oak_Species/Coast_Live_Oak/#dbh

TO COUNCIL 10-20-15
 AGENDA ITEM NO. 9.A.
 MEETING DATE 10-20-15

2015 OCT 20 PM 2:06
 CITY OF THOUSAND OAKS
 CITY OF THOUSAND OAKS

From: Don & Erzsi Huffman <de.huffman@verizon.net>
To: Stephen Kearns <SKearns@toaks.org>
Date: 10/20/2015 8:21 AM
Subject: My Comments on the Oak Tree Staff Report
Attachments: DSH Packet Submittal.pdf; Part.002

Hi Steve,

I've run out of time, so here's what I've got.

2015 OCT 20 PM 2:06
CITY OF TOAKS
CITY CLERK
CITY CLERK

TO COUNCIL 10-20-15
AGENDA ITEM NO. 9.A.
MEETING DATE 10-20-15

Don Huffman
Thousand Oaks, CA

19 October 2015

Regarding the Staff Report concerning the Oak Tree Ordinance and Landmark Tree Ordinance Amendments (MCA 2014-70145)

The Public Review Process For This Staff Report Is Wholly Inadequate

In schedule: City staff had 184 calendar days to prepare and post this 168 page Staff Report. To review those 168 pages, members of the public are given less than 120 hours from the posting of the report to the start of the City Council meeting.

In content: Without a draft copy of the proposed tree law in its entirety, it is impossible for the community to evaluate the effect of the proposed changes. The portions of this Staff Report that show the proposed code changes are long laundry list of changes, precise in their detailed particulars, but there is no “big picture.” The portion of this report that shows the effect of recommended ordinance on the current section of the municipal code (Attachment #2) only shows subsections or articles that were added, deleted, or modified. Any portion of the existing ordinance that was not changed, other code that was renumbered into this ordinance, as well as the Oak Tree Preservation and Protection Guidelines, are not included in this attachment. What will the proposed new City tree law be, in its entirety?

This Staff Report should be revised to include the full and complete proposed new tree law, and a new period sufficient for public review should be allowed before the report is rescheduled for comment and consideration.

Where Are These People Coming From?

During the recent uproar triggered by the wholesale removal of the tree cover from a major local shopping center, many outraged speakers have told us of the need to protect “our trees.” What do they mean by “our trees”? Are they referring to trees they own and maintain on their property, or are they speaking of trees that my family or our neighbors own and have the responsibility to maintain, but over which the speakers desire and demand the privilege and right of ultimate control, leaving the maintenance responsibility to the homeowners?

Knowing how many oak trees a speaker owns would make clear if we were listening to an altruistic homeowner, or to someone eager to take control of the property of others. This

civic argument would be viewed in a different light if, instead of trees, we were talking about cars, jewelry, or other desirable objects that some people have and other people want.

Where I'm Coming From

My interest in this issue is on provisions that impose burdensome restrictions on my ability to manage and protect my property. My family lives in a single-family home on a 0.32 acre residential property in the Westlake Village section of Thousand Oaks. It is not an estate; it's a common flag lot with a steep unusable hillside for a back yard. I bought my home at a time when owner-planted exemption permits were available for the management of residential oak trees. In 2014 my permit was mothballed. I've counted twenty protected-size oak trees on our back slope, trees that we must "maintain in a state of good health," trees we cannot "cut, remove, encroach into the protected zone, or relocate" without specific authorization from the City. Around these twenty oaks grows an ever-increasing forest of oak saplings. Some of these protected oaks are rooted within three feet of each other. Against our rear property line others are growing in a straight line, with so many low branches that they could be called a hedge (except in this City, where code prohibits oak trees from forming a hedge).

There are oaks growing in our neighbor's yard within arm's reach of the property line. Their roots have cracked the property line block wall, and individual blocks have begun to shift out of position. Branches of these trees are hanging less than ten feet over our chimney, branches that, if they were not oaks, I would be free to trim back for fire safety.

Municipal Piracy

When an oak tree trunk grows to two inches in diameter it becomes a protected tree. The right of total control of the tree is taken from the homeowner by the City, but the City imposes on that homeowner a continuing responsibility for the health and maintenance, and all costs for cleanup, insurance, damage, and any other expenses required to keep the oak tree in a state of good health. The City provides no financial assistance or management advice to the conscripted homeowner-caretaker-custodian. Sharecroppers get a better deal than this.

The Status Quo

Current code says "Any person who owns, controls, has custody or possession of any real property within the City that is improved ... shall maintain all oak tree(s) located thereon in a state of good health No person shall cut, remove, encroach into the protected zone, or relocate any oak tree ... unless a valid oak tree permit has been issued."

Among the few exemptions from this permit requirement are clearance pruning, restricted to within five feet of a building, of live branches that do not exceed 2" in

diameter, and no permit is required to cut, remove, or encroach within the protected zone of any oak tree ... that do[es] not exceed 2” in diameter 4½ feet above the ground. Trees verified by the City as owner-planted, but not as part of a City-approved landscape plan, were exempted until the current moratorium went into effect.

Why I Care About This Issue

Our twenty protected oak trees grow on a steep downslope behind the level pad of our lot. Over time, some of these trees have grown up to and above the level of the pad, giving us extreme privacy but limiting our view to fourty feet or less from our back yard. Our Fire Department advises that tree trunks should be trimmed up five feet from the ground, and should be spaced a minimum of fifteen feet apart. The department also mandates “Chimneys shall be provided a 10 foot clearance from trees.” I don’t want to remove any of these oaks unless I’m forced to do so, because their roots help to prevent erosion on this downslope. I want to thin and trim their branches as needed. If they were not oaks, this would not be a problem. Most of the past year’s public discussion of oak tree preservation continues to focus on tree removal. The current ordinance prohibits all pruning other than clearance pruning unless the City grants prior approval of the planned pruning and issues a permit, and this Staff Report offers homeowners no increased latitude in this regard.

This proposal claims ...

This proposal claims it will encourage regular ”maintenance and planting of oak trees” on single family residential neighborhoods. It does not explain how. There is nothing in this proposal that offers the homeowner any assistance in caring for or maintaining their trees “in a safe, healthy condition.” When the City makes it so difficult and so expensive to manage oak trees, why would a homeowner plant one? When presented with the opportunity to remove an oak tree, why would any homeowner keep the tree?

What I Want To Be Allowed To Do

- 1) I want to trim and prune any and all of my oaks, as needed. If removal ever becomes necessary, I can consult with the City and apply for a no-fee removal permit, assuming that the City is reasonable and open regarding their criteria for granting such permits.
- 2) In the event that any of the saplings growing in our yard approach protected-size, I’d like to know how to measure them against that standard.

What I Want the City Council To Do

- 1) Implement a No Fee/Very Low Cost fee schedule for residential neighborhood tree permits. The current permit fee structure does not fit within a Social Security budget.

- 2) Clearly explain how to measure the size of an oak tree, preferably by measuring something other than “diameter.”
- 3) Remove the distinction between “owner-planted” (“person-planted”) and “naturally occurring.”
- 4) Remove the three tree limit on exemptions for residential trees that were not planted as part of a City-approved landscape plan.
- 5) List types and degrees of risk or damage that will justify the various types of tree management permits.
- 6) Be open and consistent in the permit application process.
- 7) Provide an administrative appeal channel for disputed permit denials.

Measure the Diameter of a Tree without Cutting?

Both current and proposed code regulates trees according to trunk diameter. As a non-professional oak tree custodian, I had some difficulty figuring out how to measure my trees “diameter,” since the trunks and branches are not perfect circles, and in some cases they are elliptical or even more irregular in cross section. What is the diameter of an ellipse – the long cross-section or the short cross-section? How does the City say this should be done?

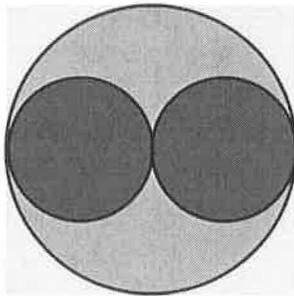
1) We should not compute diameter, but rather measure circumference.

The Ordinance speaks of trunks and branches 2” in diameter, but it doesn’t explain how to take the measurement. Cutting the trunk or branch at the point of measurement, then measuring the cross section, is probably not the intention of the Ordinance. My method was to measure the circumference, and then calculate the nominal diameter. In talking to John Innes, a City Oak Tree Expert, I learned that he does the same thing, only more easily. He has a special “diameter” measuring tape that has the divide-by-3.14 step built into its scale. He wraps his “diameter” tape around the tree or branch, then reads the diameter rather than the circumference off the tape. Why don’t we just use regular measuring tapes and measure the true circumference? The measurement process would be easier and much less confusing if the Ordinance specified circumference that we can measure instead of diameter, which we can not measure. A close approximation of 2” diameter would be 6.25” circumference, and benefit from the simplicity of using the measurement actually taken, rather than making a secondary computation to approximate an imaginary diameter.

2) The Ordinance definition of “Multiple trunks,” “The aggregate total of the trunks shall equal one tree for purposes of this chapter,” gives no example to show how it should be calculated.

Does it mean that the measuring tape should be placed around all of the multiple trunks at the same time to take a single measurement, including all of the space between the trunks? I hope not, but the code does not say. Does this mean that the diameter of each individual trunk should be computed, and then the individual diameters should be summed to determine a theoretical diameter for the multiple trunk tree? Possibly, but this interpretation fails to recognize that even when the combined diameters of multiple small trunks equal the diameter of a single larger trunk, the combined cross sections of small diameter trunks do not approach the cross section of a single trunk.

Here is an illustrating diagram:



The combined diameters of the two small circles is the same as that of the large circle, but their combined cross sections is far less than that of the big one. They are not equivalent.

If we are expected to follow the law, the law has to be clear and understandable. This definition is only confusing.

To Staff: Consider Low/No-Cost Permits for Residential Neighborhoods

At its April 14, 2015 meeting, the City Council directed staff to review and provide a recommendation regarding permitting costs, considering either no or low-cost permits for pruning, trimming, and removal of protected trees in residential neighborhoods. Staff responded, "Staff feels that the overall fee structure is appropriate." They provided no justification for this conclusion, beyond the statement that the permitting process was changed in 2010, and made less cumbersome and costly. This response to the council's request simply says that it was worse before, so we should be happy now. Staff overlooked the fact that the City Council thought that the 2015 permitting costs were too high, even if they had been even higher in the past.

I have the responsibility to manage twenty protected-size oak trees. Applying for pruning permits costs \$460 for every three trees, or \$2986 for all, with no guarantee that any

permit will be issued. I disagree with staff's conclusion that there is no need for no/low cost permits for pruning, trimming, and removal of protected trees in residential neighborhoods.

Other proposals in this report indirectly affect, both positively and negatively, the ability of the homeowner to manage their oak trees, and the regulatory costs involved.

To Staff: Revisit the Distinction Between "Owner-Planted" and "Indigenous"

On the positive side, the definition of "owner-planted" has been expanded to include any person doing the actual planting, not just an owner of record of the property. This is a significant improvement, but it does not go far enough, because it excludes naturally occurring trees. I see no significant difference whether a tree was planted by a person, or by wildlife, such as a bird or a squirrel, or an acorn simply fell from a tree. In each of these situations, the owner was able to watch the tree grow, and had a continuous opportunity to remove the small tree if it was unwanted. The fact that a small tree was allowed to grow to protected size is confirmation that it grew with the approval of the owner. The fact that a protected-size tree exists is sufficient evidence that the owner wanted it to grow there. The specific planting agent is an irrelevant distinction.

If the "person-planted" distinction remains in the Ordinance, a homeowner, seeing a naturally occurring oak sapling in their yard and wanting to maintain control of the tree when it reaches protected-size, should remove the sapling from the ground and replant it. This would allow them to honestly declare it to be an "owner-planted" tree. It is folly to write regulations that require such absurd actions to maintain legality.

Three Owner-Planted Tree Exemption Limit

The Staff Report observes, "It should also be noted that staff has found that the owner-planted exemption is not typically requested in order to remove a tree, but rather to allow on-going maintenance without the need for City permits." Nevertheless, staff proposes, "No more than three oak trees shall be verified as owner-planted on any single property unless otherwise authorized by the Planning Commission...." So what is this three tree limit supposed to accomplish? What damage is it intended to prevent? A homeowner will be allowed to maintain no more than three trees on a lot; the rest cannot be managed without a for-fee permit. It would be better if the current Type E "Owner-Planted" exemption permit category was split into two categories, one for tree removal, possible with a number limit, and another for trimming and pruning of an unlimited number of trees.

The three-tree limit has been justified because only about 10% of all of the single-family requests for owner-planted exemptions have involved more than three trees. Apparently

my family is in the 10% of applicants City staff does not want to fully accommodate. This limited three-tree exemption will allow us to manage a 15% of our oak trees, while the remaining seventeen oak trees will remain our responsibility but outside of our control. To manage and maintain these remaining seventeen oaks, the City will charge us to apply for fee-based oak tree permits, and to my budget, these permits are expensive. My family may have more protected-size oak trees than most others in the City have, but that does not mean that we have more money. This limit of three exemptions is arbitrary and unreasonable, and unnecessarily penalizes those few homeowners who have more trees. This discourages homeowners from planting more than three oaks on their property.

To Staff: List the Types of Damage Justifying Removal and Other Exemptions

The City and the residents need to know how much risk or damage is required for a permit to be granted, i.e., how much risk or loss must a homeowner incur before the City will issue a permit to handle the problem. I don't find anything in the Discussion/Analysis section (F) of the Staff Report that lists any types or degrees of damage that will justify any of the various types of tree permits or exemptions.

To the City: Follow the Rules

On occasion the administrative permit process has not been followed. In 2013 I met with a City Oak Tree Expert, who agreed that the tree I wanted an "Owner-Planted" permit for was planted after site grading, and was not part of a landscape plan, but a permit would not be issued because he could not confirm that the tree was planted by the owner. I accepted that denial and walked away. Now I read in this Staff Report:

With five years of experience implementing the owner-planted exemption, staff developed a relatively efficient process to verify that a tree is owner-planted. Using research tools, such as aerial photos and approved grading plans, staff believes there is a high degree of accuracy in determining that a specific tree was owner-planted.

During the last week, as our community prepares for the upcoming City Council discussion of this issue, I have seen on my neighborhood's NextDoor e-bulletin board reports from three neighbors whose applications to manage hazardous and/or house-damaging trees were denied. Their risk or damage was not denied, only their permit applications.

Why is it necessary to wait until foreseeable damage occurs before corrective action will be authorized by City permit? The City does not reimburse for these damages, and the City cannot restore health to the injured or life to the fallen. How and why can it refuse to allow risk management until some still undefined level of damage has been done to life or property? If a horrible accident happens after the City has improperly denied an

application for a permit to manage a hazardous tree, I don't understand how the City can claim non-liability when it regularly denies applications to manage hazardous or house-damaging trees. Even if the City can escape financial liability, does it want to carry the moral responsibility for such a disaster? When the choice is between removing a threat to human safety and the preservation of a protected tree, the City must always choose to eliminate the threat; anything else would be irresponsible and unconscionable.

To whom can we turn if we believe that our administrative permit application has been improperly denied?

Is there any review of permit application actions to ensure that the procedures and standards in the Ordinance are being followed consistently?

Our Plan For The Future

Because of the requirements and restrictions the City places upon homeowners when their small oaks grow to protected-size, we plan to follow the example of our neighbors and periodically remove all small oaks on our property before they reach the minimum size for City protection.

For almost two years emotions have run high over the wholesale removal of trees at Westlake Plaza. Our City continues to seek a balance between the benefits single-family home landscape trees add to our community ambiance and the capacity of the individual homeowners to maintain their contributions in perpetuity, without any assistance from the City. It is now time for reason to prevail. I hope this letter helps our City governors understand the difficulties and hardships the Oak Tree Ordinance continues to place on local homeowners.

Sincerely,


Don Huffman