



## **CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE**

300 FOREST AVENUE  
PACIFIC GROVE, CALIFORNIA 93950  
TELEPHONE (831) 648-3190 • FAX (831) 648-3184

### **URBAN FOREST ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Date & Time: Thursday, July 14, 2011 – 6:00 p.m.

Location: City Hall, Council Chambers – 300 Forest Avenue, Pacific Grove, CA

#### **MEETING NOTES:**

##### **1. Introductions**

- Consultant team: Bill Wiseman, RBF Consulting & James Allen, James P. Allen Consulting Arborists
- UFAC members: Joe Bileci, David Dilworth, Tom Moss, Barbara Thomas

##### **2. Roles and Responsibilities**

- Allow more time for public comment, without placing limits on the agenda.
- Revise the agenda along the way, by taking comments during the meeting.
- Reach a consensus if feasible, but not necessary.
- Check on meeting dates

##### **3. Conditions and Assessment**

- Questions regarding the validity of i-tree model.
- Questions about what data is needed – e.g. satellite comparison of DMP neighborhood
- Economic benefits include a real estate value added from trees, and a larger variety of trees may add greater value.
- Risk management questions regarding hazards and drawbacks of trees
- Public Works to follow up on enforcement, e.g. replanting in lieu of fees
- Protocol for risk situations and what is deemed an acceptable level of risk?

##### **4. Presentation**

- Diversify our tree management technique – the solution is not always removal, e.g. cabling
- Carbon sequestration – uptake of carbon into the tree; Carbon storage – storage of the carbon into the woody floor; larger trees have greater impact
- Ensure calculations address costs/value as well as the benefits of trees

- Preliminary storm water capture areas may be Pine and Central Avenue
- Overlaying lot size, structure footprints on tree density maps to help ID where, how many, what kind/size of trees can be added
- Tree ordinance is so generic that it doesn't apply well anymore
- Stormwater/groundwater management: what are the current flow patterns?; what is the current capacity?; what is the ability of bioswales, trees, etc. to manage flows
- Ensure we consider the wildlife habitat

#### **5. City Council Workshop # 1 Review**

- Review of Comments
- Recommendations and Insights
  - Satellite images of tree loss with land uses, e.g. lot sizes, development
  - Lot size criteria for number of trees
  - Hydrology and storm water capture
  - Re-beautification is an added benefit, e.g. Pine Avenue
  - The tree ordinance may not be applicable to much of the town anymore
  - Assignment of a dollar value may not be the best exercise because it takes away from the validity of other values and risk assessment issues.
  - Bio-swales
  - Concept of cabling
  - Current city form subjective rather than evidence based
  - Aesthetic values (intrinsic as well as benefits for the community)

#### **6. Preparation for Community Workshop #1 (July 27, 2011 at the Community Center)**

#### **7. Public Comment**

- Issues when something needs to be done, e.g. trimming, pruning, cabling, because it is a cost to the property owner. Property owners do not want to be told what to do.
- Ordinance has not been successful. The City has been the biggest violator. Residents feel that they won't plant any more trees on our property because of the ordinance. The City should not be able to tell us what to do unless the City is going to pay for the ongoing expenses, e.g. pruning. The City should replace regulation with incentives. Thoreau: "government governs best that governs least"
- I bought in the Asilomar area because there were so many trees. The wind was almost non-existent. I would not buy there now because we have lost so many trees – it's become really windy.
- The storm water management techniques also promote traffic calming.
- Different parts of the city may have different visions – educational process
- Old trees are often hazardous
- Risk assessment – pines, size of tree in addition to age increases the hazard potential
- Cost of tree removal and replacement
- What would the path of no regulation of private properties be? E.g. there is a value of traffic calming even if the value is not quantifiable, wildlife habitat in Asilomar
- What is the target for replanting – are we really trying to re-activate 1986 levels?
- Not having a carbon crisis in PG
- Coastal Zone information – LCP, LUP policies on the forest

**7. Next Steps**

- Community Workshop #1 on July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011

**8. Adjournment**

- The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:15 p.m.