

## **RESOLUTION 2017-###**

### **RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SAN PABLO APPROVING AN UPDATE TO THE CITY OF SAN PABLO MASTER LANDSCAPE PLAN AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO REMOVE AND REPLACE 40 STREET TREES IN POOR HEALTH**

WHEREAS, landscape maintenance of public places, is an adopted policy item under the FY 2015-17 City Council Priority Workplan, effective October 1, 2016;

WHEREAS, in 1995 the City of San Pablo prepared a Master Landscape Plan with a wide range of plant species that did not identify a pre-planned planting palette for each street resulting in a random distribution of trees throughout the City;

WHEREAS; the draft update to the Master Landscape Plan recommends a distribution of plant species broken up into eight zones along the City's arterial (major) and collector (minor) streets. In residential zones, the selection of plant species is based on adjacent arterial or collector streets and site specific constraints, such as sidewalk width and overhead wires;

WHEREAS; when the list of street trees in the original Master Landscape Plan was compiled, relatively little was known about their eventual impact on sidewalks, curbs, gutters, building foundations, and maintenance needs; and in recent years there has been a tremendous amount of progress made identifying trees suitable for the urban landscape;

WHEREAS, the draft Plan proposes a list of plant species that have minimal impact on infrastructure, are well suited for the San Pablo environment, include a larger percentage of drought tolerant trees, shrubs, and ground cover and a special section for bioswales;

WHEREAS, the Plan consists of two matrices; one for tree species and another for shrubs and ground. Within the matrices, species are identified by street type, location, foliage, flowers/fruits, microsite conditions, root zone management, nursery availability, litter issues, pest and disease concerns;

WHEREAS, there are currently 40 ill-suited trees on San Pablo Avenue, 23<sup>rd</sup> Street and Rumrill Boulevard that are in need of removal due to severe health problems;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, this resolution is not a project under CEQA pursuant to Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5): Organizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment. If a project, then it has been determined to be categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act, (CEQA), under CEQA Guidelines § 15061(b)(3) (in that it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment); section 15308 (actions by regulatory agencies for the protection of the environment; and section 15304 (minor alterations to land);

WHEREAS, then the ordinance is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act, (CEQA), under CEQA Guidelines § 15061(b)(3), in that it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment; and

WHEREAS, the funding to start implementing landscape changes to the City's public right of way and on public facilities is included in the Public Works Maintenance budget;

WHEREAS, on July 25, 2017, the Public Safety Standing Committee (Calloway/Morris) reviewed the proposed Landscape Master Plan as proposed. The Standing Committee took action to recommend its formal consideration to the City Council at their next regular meeting on August 7, 2017.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council hereby approves the update to the City of San Pablo's Master Landscape Plan attached as Exhibit A and authorizes the removal and replacement of the 40 identified street trees due to poor health and ill-suited species (no additional appropriations needed).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the foregoing recitations are true and correct, and are included herein by reference as findings.

\* \* \* \* \*

ADOPTED this 7<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2017, by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS:

NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS:

ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS:

ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEMBERS:

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

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Elizabeth Pabon-Alvarado, City Clerk

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Cecilia Valdez, Mayor