



instead of specifying that they be submitted to the Commission for approval. A quarterly report will be provided to the Park and Recreation Commission on the removals. The guideline specifying that removals will be submitted monthly to the Commission and the Council were removed. These changes were implemented several years ago at the recommendation of the Commission and management, but had not been formally adopted in the Manual. Changes were made on pages 14, 15, and 16 to reflect this change.

- The California Pepper (*Schinus molle*) was added to the category of Class I inappropriate trees. The mature California Pepper trees located throughout the City are at the age in their life cycle requiring additional monitoring to help mitigate failures. Past failures from the mature trees have resulted in vehicle and real property damages. In addition, the California Pepper tree is a fast growing tree requiring ongoing out of cycle trimming as well as an evasive root system causing damages to nearby infrastructure. These items have resulted in additional expenses for the City. This change will allow for removal by the City, subject to funding availability. As with all inappropriate trees, residents can expedite removal by removing themselves with a permit or they may pay half of the City cost and have the removal occur within 120 days. This change is reflected on page 16, item 3.
- Guidelines for removal of Class II Inappropriate trees (Holly Oak and Elm Trees) have been changed to allow the property owner's to remove and replace at their expense with the approval of the Public Works Director or Designee, and the Commission is no longer required to pre-approve such removals. This change is reflected on Page 16, items 5 and 6.
- The Manual was updated to reflect a change in the Riverside Municipal Code with regard to sewer lateral lines. In 2008, the City of Riverside Municipal Code 14.08.020 was amended to require the City to maintain private lateral sewer lines from the property line to the point of connection at the City's main sewer line. The property owner continues to be responsible for the sewer lateral between the property line and the home or business. This is reflected on page 28 of the Manual.

The Ad-Hoc Committee, Public Works and Parks, Recreation and Community Services staff were in agreement with the changes and to move it forward to the full Park and Recreation Commission for review and further action.

Please note on Page 6 under "Tree Care Guidelines" and Page 16 under "Removal Process" #2 the Urban Forester added the following language after the Ad-Hoc Committees review in order to further set forth the general intent that the City will be proactive in addressing problematic trees while at the same time working cooperatively with residents regarding these matters:

#### Tree Care Guidelines

It is the goal of the City of Riverside to work closely with our residents and property owners to proactively remove problematic trees such as those with invasive root systems that are causing chronic infrastructure damages and replace these problematic trees with appropriate tree species that are suitable for the surrounding environment.

#### Removal Process

Language has been added to help facilitate the removal of problematic trees on streets where all of the property owners agree they are causing harm to their quality of life due to limb failures or

infrastructure damages. Urban Forestry Staff would be authorized to remove and replace all problematic trees within a specific block if there is 100% property owner support to remove all of the trees that are considered problematic on that block. Trees would be replaced with an approved and appropriate specie.

Attached is the redlined version of the manual for the Commission's review.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

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Approved by: Adolfo Cruz, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director

Approved by: Alexander T. Nguyen, Assistant City Manager

Attachment: Urban Forestry Policy Manual – With Proposed Changes in Redline