



VICTORIA AVENUE CITRUS POLICY

Community & Economic Development Department

Utility Services/Land Use/
Energy Development Committee
October 15, 2018

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BACKGROUND

1. Policies to preserve Victoria Avenue's historic agricultural character, the City's citrus heritage, and the greenbelt:
 - a. Proposition R
 - b. Measure C
 - c. General Plan 2025
2. Victoria Avenue - In November of 2003, the City Council adopted Victoria Avenue Ad-Hoc Committee Recommendations.



2

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BACKGROUND

3. 2003 City Council Action:

- a. Recommended design and development standards;
- b. Initiate an overlay zone for Victoria Avenue;
- c. Design & development standards along Victoria Avenue;
and
- d. Designate Victoria Avenue as a linear park



3

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BACKGROUND

4. Since 2003, the City has:

- a. Initiated a Master Plan for Parks; and
- b. Implemented policies requiring developers to plant rows of citrus along Victoria.



4

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ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

Citrus Greening Disease - Huanglongbing (HLB):

1. First detected in California in 2008;
2. Introducing more citrus trees increases potential to impact citrus heritage/character; and
3. Citrus quarantine is in effect.



5

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ALTERNATIVE SPECIES

1. Citrus is the only tree – given current policy direction;
2. Department of Food & Agriculture advises against new citrus;
3. Victoria Avenue Forever (VAF) - Identified alternatives; and
4. Possible alternatives could include Figs, Pomegranates, Persimmons, Apricots & Plums.



6

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CITRUS POLICY

1. Request:

- a. Land Use Committee to re-evaluate the citrus policy & consider alternate tree options.

2. Considerations:

- a. Victoria Avenue - National Register Historic Designation; and
- b. Tree maintenance.



7

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PROPOSITION R AND MEASURE C

- 1. Victoria Avenue within the Greenbelt;
- 2. Planting trees furthers interest of Proposition R and Measure C; and
- 3. Ballot measure required.



8

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Next Steps

1. Determine policy direction;
2. Applicability of alternative trees; and
3. Maintenance:
 - a. City
 - b. Private Property Owners



9

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RECOMMENDATION

That the Utility Services/Land Use/Energy Development Committee:

- a. Provide direction on the 2003 policies related to tree planting along Victoria Avenue including re-evaluating the citrus policy and alternate trees; and
- b. Provide direction on the maintenance and irrigation responsibilities for trees along Victoria Avenue on private property.



10

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