

**MINUTES
REEDLEY STREETSCAPE MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
APRIL 4, 2000**

The agenda for the Streetscape Maintenance Committee Meeting of April 4, 2000, was duly posted in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2.

A regular meeting of the Streetscape Maintenance Committee was held on April 4, 2000, in the Reedley City Hall Conference Room. The meeting was called to order at 8:07 a.m.

Members Present: Dale Melville, Richard Bedoian and Jan Minami.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Michael Olmos, Community Development Director; Jeff Viau, Public Works Superintendent; and Kay Pierce, Administrative Assistant.

Others Present: Joy Schuman of the RDA.

Dale Melville moved, Richard Bedoian seconded, to approve the minutes from February 15, 2000 and the minutes from March 7, 2000. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORT ON MAINTENANCE ACTIVITY

A. Loeffler Landscape replaced the potting soil in the decorative pots to a heavier soil that will retain water better during the summer months.

B. Public Works Superintendent, Jeff Viau, reported that his crew picked up the new bench ordered by Reedley Social Services and this bench will be installed as soon as the new trees have been planted. The crew has not had the opportunity to remove any of the magnolia trees yet as they were finishing replanting of trees in the parks. Jeff Viau stated that his crew would start on the magnolia removal between 11th and 12th Street this next week. The first location will be Sam's Shoe Store.

C.D.D. Olmos reported that Tree Fresno has donated 30 trees. However, there were no Hackberry, but we did receive ten Chinese Pistache. The balance of trees were Raywood Ash which are only good for parks. The additional Hackberries needed for the streetscape district will have to be purchased. The Hackberry cost between \$40 and \$60 each. There is sufficient funding left in the 1999-2000 for the purchase of the Hackberry trees. The Committee approved the purchase of these Hackberry trees. All of the trees scheduled for replacement on "G" Street between 11th and 12th will be completed before Street Faire.

C. Dale Melville thanked Steve Loeffler for providing the map showing the location and types of trees and the cost breakdown of removing and planting the trees. This information was very helpful to the Committee.

OLD BUSINESS

A. C.D.D. Olmos passed out copies of the draft budget to 2000-2001. He went over the draft budget with the Committee explaining that the 3100 account, which is where the monthly service and additional services to Loeffler Landscape are paid, is at 79% expended because the invoices for 1999 work were just recently submitted and paid from this account. The Streetscape account as a whole is still in good shape. The balance of the tree removal and replacement for this fiscal year will be taken from the remaining accounts. There will be a \$2,500 reserve balance in the Streetscape account. The monthly service for Loeffler Landscape is \$1,073 per month. Any additional flower that are purchased for replacement will also come from this fund. There will be \$1,500 placed in the 2000-2001 budget for tree replacement. Loeffler Landscape did submit a bill in the amount of \$205 for the cost of replacing the potting soil in the decorative pots.

Jan Minami asked how often the City received billing from Loeffler Landscape for other charges? C.D.D. Olmos replied that approximately once every three months for items such as flower replacement in the planters, flower replacement in the pots or other related items. She then asked if the \$500 added into the budget would cover these charges? C.D.D. Olmos stated that there is actually an additional \$1,000 that is included in the budget for incidental costs. The Committee asked staff to verify the Streetscape income with the Finance Department as well as a list of current businesses. The Committee gave staff its approval of the proposed budget for submittal to Finance.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Dale Melville submitted the Tree Replacement Policy within the Downtown Streetscape District that he drafted for the Committee and Staff's review. He reviewed the Tree Replacement Policy with the Committee and Staff. C.D.D. Olmos stated that he would submit this proposed policy to the City Council for their ratification. After this policy is adopted by the City, any future requests for tree removal would have to be under the guidelines of this policy.

Staff will go over the proposed policy, put it in final form for approval by the Streetscape Committee at its next meeting, and then submit the final policy to City Council for approval and adoption.

CITIZEN REMARKS

A. Joy Schuman, Secretary of Reedley Downtown Association, stated that a Council Member has shown some interest in including "I" Street into the Downtown Streetscape District to become more a part of the downtown area. She asked if the Committee would be interested in this? Dale Melville asked if a new vote is required to include "I" Street, and would it be from just the property owners on "I" Street, or would it have to go to vote for the entire Streetscape District? Staff will investigate this request and bring information back to the Committee at its next meeting. Staff added that side streets such as 8th Street where Navanilla is located could also be considered. Navanilla has shown interest in becoming part of the Streetscape District. C.D.D. Olmos stated this would work in nicely with the Rail Trail because many improvements have already be done on "I" Street. "I" Street is an entrance into Reedley and it would look nice to visitors coming into Reedley if "I" Street were improved with trees and landscaping.

Joy Schuman complimented and thanked the Streetscape Committee for the wonderful job that they are doing downtown, because it is really looking nice. She also thanked Public Works Superintendent, Jeff Viau, for his hard work.

Joy Schuman asked if the RDA could receive copies of the Streetscape minutes so that she can be informed and can more easily answer questions posed to her by others regarding proposed projects for the downtown streetscape district. Staff will also include an agenda for the RDA.

COMMITTEE / STAFF COMMENTS / REPORTS

A. C.D.D. Olmos reported that he has been contacted by Joyce Gibson of Fresno, who is representing a group of female attorneys who would like to purchase a streetscape bench in memory of Myrtle Burgess and have the bench placed in the vicinity of her building. Staff will work with them to find an appropriate location for the bench.

B. Dale Melville reported that the Rail Trails Committee is working with the Boy Scouts and the Lion's Club on a tree planting on Mother's Day. If they can pull it together, he is waiting to hear back from these clubs, he would like to have a booth at Street Faire, which is the weekend before Mother's Day, and sell trees with the idea that after church on Mother's Day, everyone could meet on Reedley One and plant trees. On May 6, Clovis/Fresno is having a tree planting with plans to plant 5,000 trees. Dale Melville will be taking part on this day.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:12 a.m. Next meeting will be May 2, 2000.

Richard Bedoian, Chairman
Streetscape Maintenance Committee

ATTEST:

Michael Olmos, Secretary

TREE REPLACEMENT POLICY WITHIN THE DOWNTOWN STREETScape DISTRICT

The City of Reedley and the Streetscape Committee discourages removal of healthy trees. Trees have been planted in the Downtown Streetscape District to promote aesthetics, shading, temperature reduction, and other environmental benefits. However, trees will be replaced by the City, in consultation with the Streetscape Committee for the Downtown Streetscape District under the following conditions:

1. Regardless of whether a request is made from an adjoining business owner:
 - a. If a tree cannot be saved due to deterioration, or that measures necessary to save the tree, such as root cutting, would weaken the tree so as to create a substantial future risk to the public, and/or;
 - b. If the tree poses a substantial safety hazard to property or the public.
2. If a written request is made from an adjoining business owner, the request shall be denied by the Streetscape Committee unless:
 - a. Conditions precedent to 1.a. or 1.b. are substantiated by the City in consultation with the Streetscape Committee, and/or;
 - b. Special circumstances exist that justify the removal of a tree and replacement with another variety of tree; the replacement tree shall be approved by the Streetscape Committee. In such cases, if the request is approved by the Streetscape Committee (with or without additional conditions), and accepted by the business owner, prior to the removal of the tree, the business owner shall be required to deposit with the City of Reedley, the estimated cost for removal and replacement of the tree, including, but not limited to, the costs for stump removal; repair of irrigation, electrical and other utilities; and purchase and planting costs associated with the replacement tree. Upon completion, actual costs will be determined by the City and the business owner shall be refunded any of the deposit not expended or be charged any additional expenses incurred.

This policy is not intended to restrict, in any way, the City's authority to undertake immediate tree removal in the event of an emergency.