

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: JANUARY 24, 2019

ITEM NUMBER: 10a

SUBJECT: TREE REMOVAL REQUEST - 2722 SANDPIPER DRIVE

DATE: DECEMBER 27, 2018

FROM: PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT, MAINTENANCE SERVICES DIVISION

PRESENTATION BY: BRUCE LINDEMANN, MAINTENANCE SERVICES MANAGER

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: JIM ORTIZ, MAINTENANCE SUPERINTENDENT
(714) 327-7490

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Parks and Recreation Commission deny the request to remove the City owned tree growing in the public right-of-way at 2722 Sandpiper Drive as a Category 1 and evaluate the tree as a Category 2 removal.

BACKGROUND

The Maintenance Services Division was initially contacted by the applicant via telephone on September 20, 2018, and received a letter on October 23, 2018 requesting removal of the tree due to the tree dropping excessive pine needles creating sidewalk and street issues from invasive roots and the inability to park in front of the residence due to sap dripping from the tree. See Attachment 1. On September 24, 2018, the City Arborist inspected the tree and evaluated the overall health of the tree. There were no significant issues observed. The City Arborist contacted the resident on September 24, 2018 and explained the criteria for tree removal. The tree does not meet the criteria to be removed by the City at no cost to the Applicant (Category 1 – Health and Safety Removal). See Attachment 2.

A search of the City's Maintenance Services internal work order system shows that in October 2017 a request was made to have the City maintained tree trimmed. The City Arborist inspected the tree and determined that the tree did not need to be trimmed. Attachment 2.

On April 3, 2018, an additional request to have the City maintained tree trimmed. On April 4, 2018, the City Arborist evaluated the tree for trimming and determined that the tree did not need to be trimmed at that time. See Attachment #3.

ANALYSIS

The tree is Canary Island Pine tree (*Pinus canariensis*). It was found to be in good health with no apparent structural issues or diseases present. The tree is approximately forty-five feet (45') to sixty feet (60') in height with trunk diameter of twenty-four inches (24"). It is growing in a five foot (5') parkway. The tree has been maintained by the City on a consistent 3-5 year cycle and was last trimmed on December 10, 2018. See Attachment 3.

The tree is not a risk to health and safety, it is not dead, diseased or dying and does not appear to be creating any significant exposure to liability for the City. Therefore, the tree does not meet the criteria for a staff level authorization for removal, as stated in the Streetscape and Median Development Standards. The City Arborist evaluated the tree for possible relocation, but believes due to the size, low probability of success and the cost of relocating the tree, relocation is not recommended. Supplemental root pruning is recommended to alleviate the roots growing towards the sidewalk.

The Applicant has been notified of the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting and has been sent a copy of this staff report.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

1. The Commission could authorize the removal of the tree as a Category 1 – 'Health and Safety' removal with all removal and replacement costs paid for by the City and determine if replacement tree is to be planted. Staff does not recommend this option.
2. The Commission could authorize the removal and replacement of the tree, per the Streetscape and Median Development Standards, Section 4.0.2 Category 2 – Accelerated Removals, which would require the replacement of the tree with one (1) 24-inch box size tree and two (2) fifteen gallon-size trees to be planted elsewhere on City property. The applicant would pay all removal and replacement costs.

If the request is approved by the Commission, the payment for the removal of the parkway tree and any required mitigation trees must be provided to the City prior to removal and within one year from the date of final approval, after which the approval expires.

FISCAL REVIEW

There would be no fiscal impact to the City if the request to remove the tree was denied, or approved as a Category 2 - Accelerated Removal, as the Applicant would pay all costs.

For the Commission's information, removal cost for the tree would be \$500.40. The replanting costs for the mitigation trees (1 – 24" box size and 2 – 15-gallon container size) would be \$443.50. Costs are based on current City contract prices. The total cost for removal and replacement would be \$943.90.

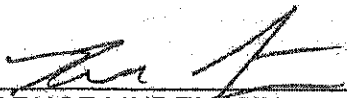
The value of the tree is estimated to be \$14,740.00

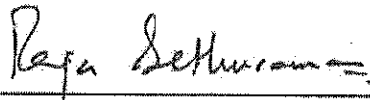
LEGAL REVIEW

No legal review is required for this item.

CONCLUSION

The City-owned tree that has been requested to be removed at the City's expense is located in the public right-of-way at 2722 Sandpiper Drive. The tree is in good condition, has been maintained appropriately on a regular schedule, and does not meet the criteria for a Category 1- Health and Safety Removal. Therefore, it is recommended that the Commission deny the request to remove the tree and evaluate the tree for Category 2 removal.


BRUCE LINDEMANN
Maintenance Services Manager


RAJA/SETHURAMAN
Public Services Director

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Letter from Applicant and Photographs
2. Maintenance Work Order
3. Arbor Access Tree Information
4. Arborist Photographs

C: Bruce Green
2722 Sandpiper Drive
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

ATTACHMENT #1

October 23, 2018

Mr. Jim Ortiz
Maintenance Superintendent/Certified Arborist
City of Costa Mesa

Dear Mr. Ortiz,

As discussed by phone, I have recently purchased and moved into a single story house and property at 2722 Sandpiper Dr on June 1st after living in La Habra for over 40 years. Our new home is very close to where our 3 children live, and we help our kids by watching our 3 new grandchildren when they need help. My wife and I are both retired, I am 65, and my wife is 64 years old.

Our original plan was to buy this house and live there for the rest of our lives, but this may need to be re-evaluated after the meeting with the commissioners. I clearly underestimated the maintenance required to clean up the pine needles, pine cones, & sap from the city owned pine tree in our parkway.

My pine tree was trimmed in early June '18 and at the time of trimming, I asked the trimmers to cut it back 'similar to my next door neighbor's tree' but they refused, saying "call the city".

In September, after cleaning up the pine's debris on a daily basis for 4 months, I called you and asked what could be done, ie; another trimming, which you agreed to. I later called back to request that the tree be removed, that my Quality of Life was being impacted by this tree and the daily maintenance required, and hence the reason I am writing this letter.

As reference, my neighbor's pine and my pine are the only pines remaining on the east side of Sandpiper Drive. My neighbor told me he asked for his pine to be removed also, but that you offered additional trimming instead. Please note that his tree is now approx 75% smaller in volume (area), (see Photo 4) or google maps is even better) yet the same height as my tree. Wind direction is very important, as the winds blow primarily from the south west meaning everything falling out of the tree comes directly on to my front yard, planters, inside of shrubbery, driveway, roof of house, side of house, into the courtyard area, and rain gutters. Keeping the property clean and nice on a daily basis, takes 1-2 hrs per day devoted to the pine. The amount of work largely depends on the on the winds.. All the other 6 pine trees on Sandpiper are on the west side of the street, meaning the debris from those trees is blown into the street, and not onto the resident's properties.

Additionally, three other issues are 1) the sidewalk lifting in two places, and 2) the asphalt street beginning to crack in two places and lift from the root system and 3) Sap dripping - cars are unable to park in front of my house because of the sap oozing from the pine tree. I've had to spend hundreds of dollars to have my cars detailed to remove the sap.. forever damaging the clear-coat paint on my \$50,000 Acura MDX.

My strong hope is that you will agree to remove this pine, grind the stump, and plant another beautiful tree in the parkway. If you agree, I will pay the difference for the larger box tree as we discussed.

Respectfully,

Bruce Green
2722 Sandpiper Dr, Costa Mesa, CA 92626
Email: bgandpg@sbcglobal.net
Phone: 714 390-0847

Attachment 1: City Tract Diagram

Attachment 2: Property Diagram of 2722 Sandpiper Drive

Attachment 3: Photo of My Pine vs Neighbor's Pine

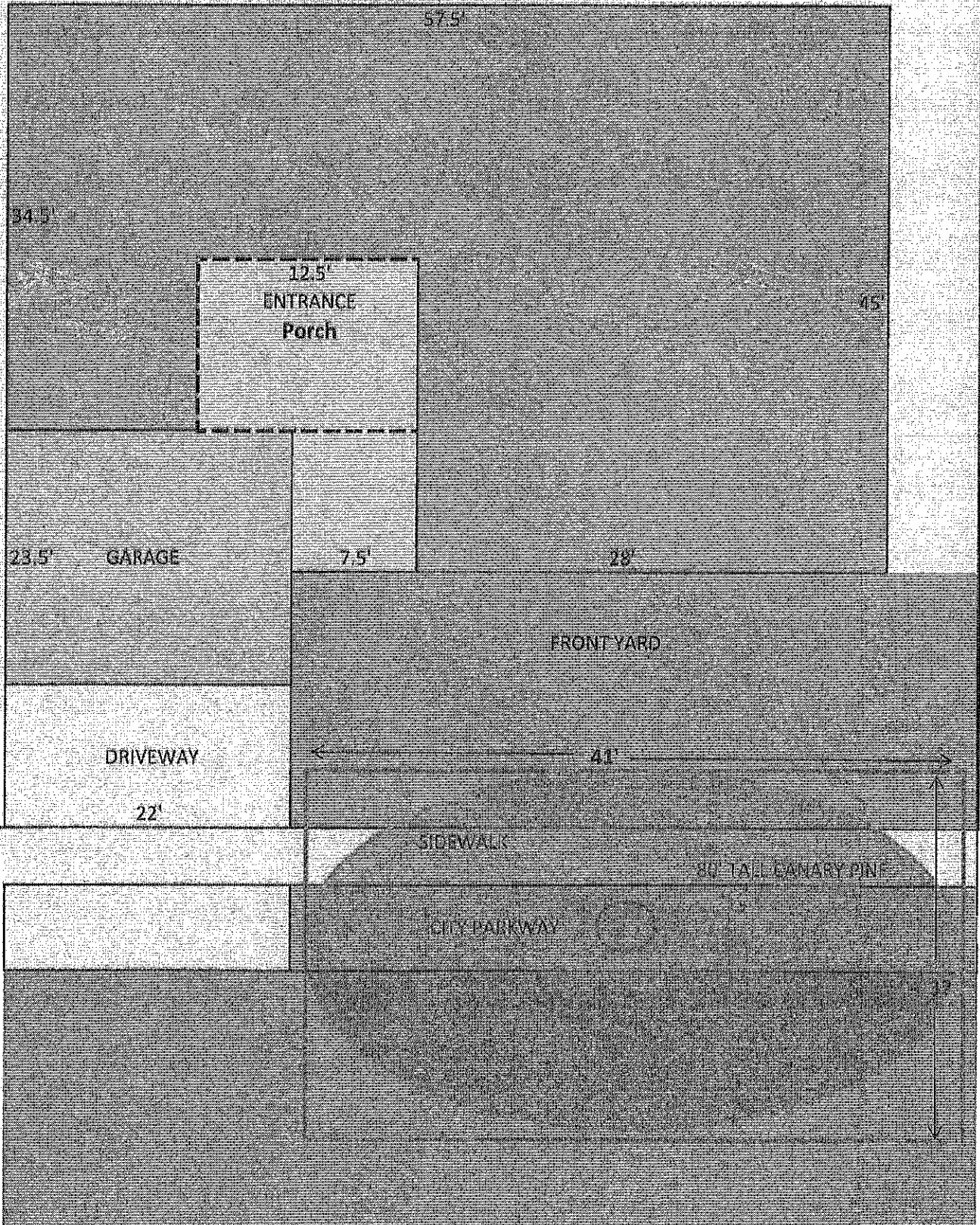
Attachment 4: Photo of subject pine vs neighbor's pine

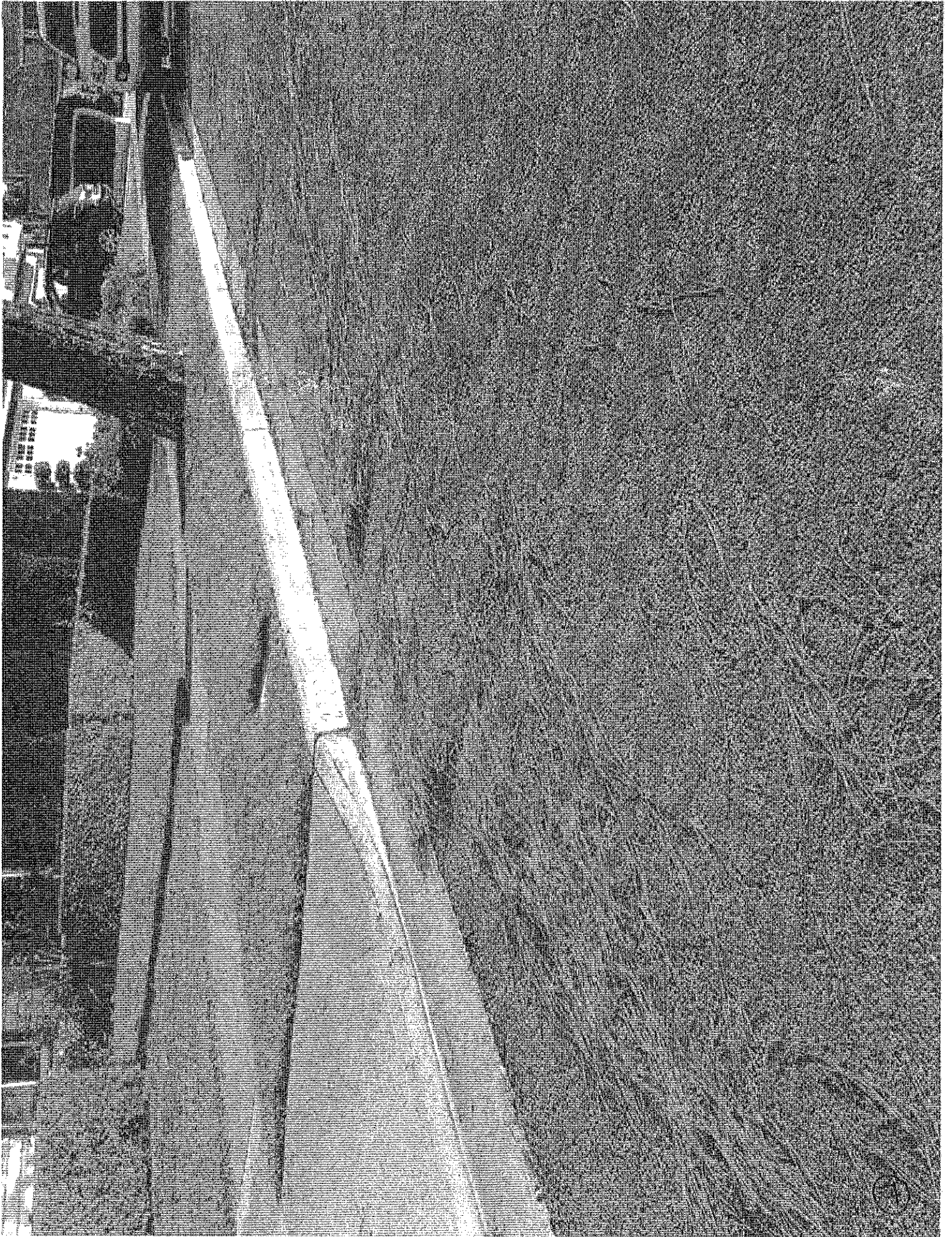
Attachment 5: Photos of pine needles

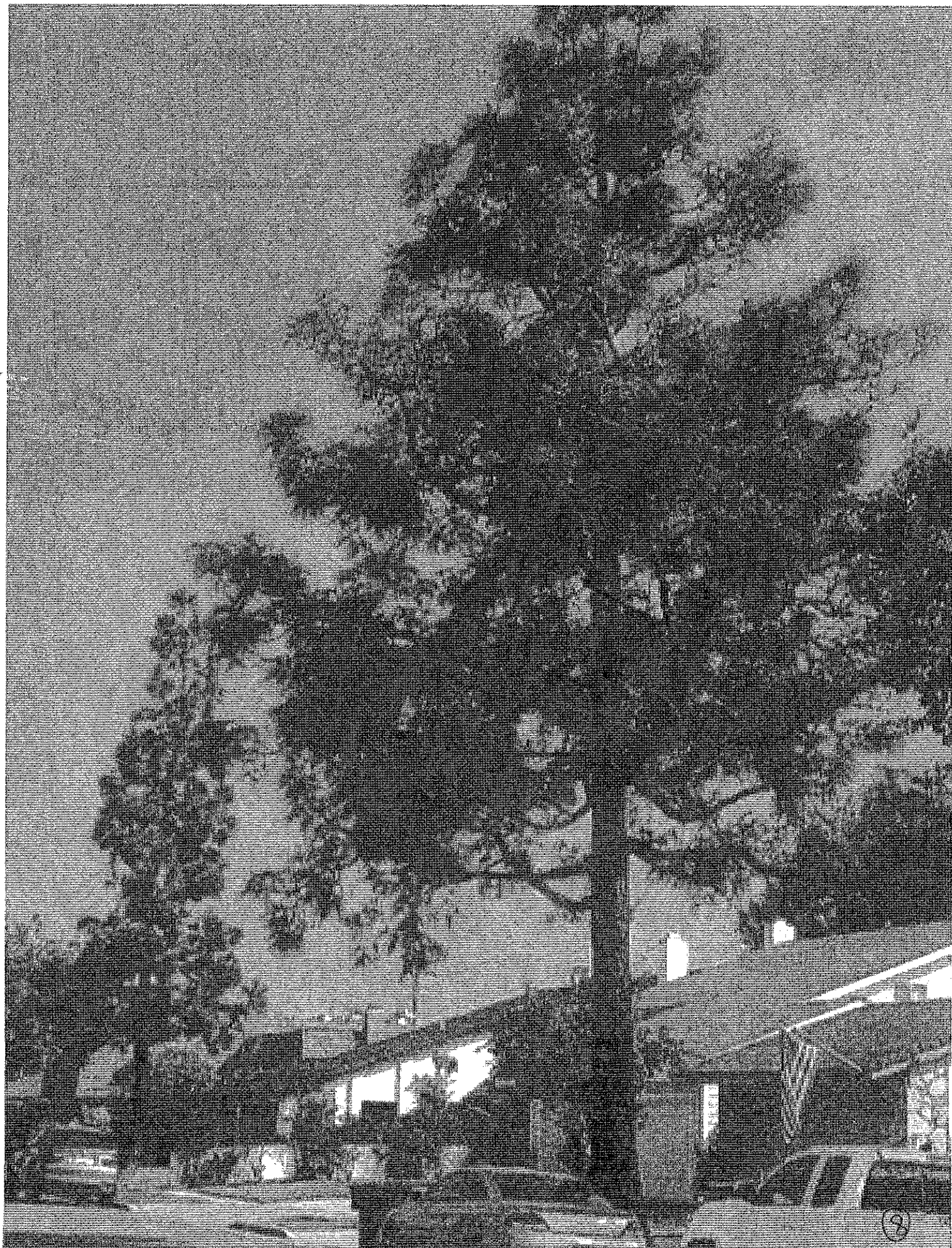
Attachment 6: Photo of sidewalk lifting/cracking

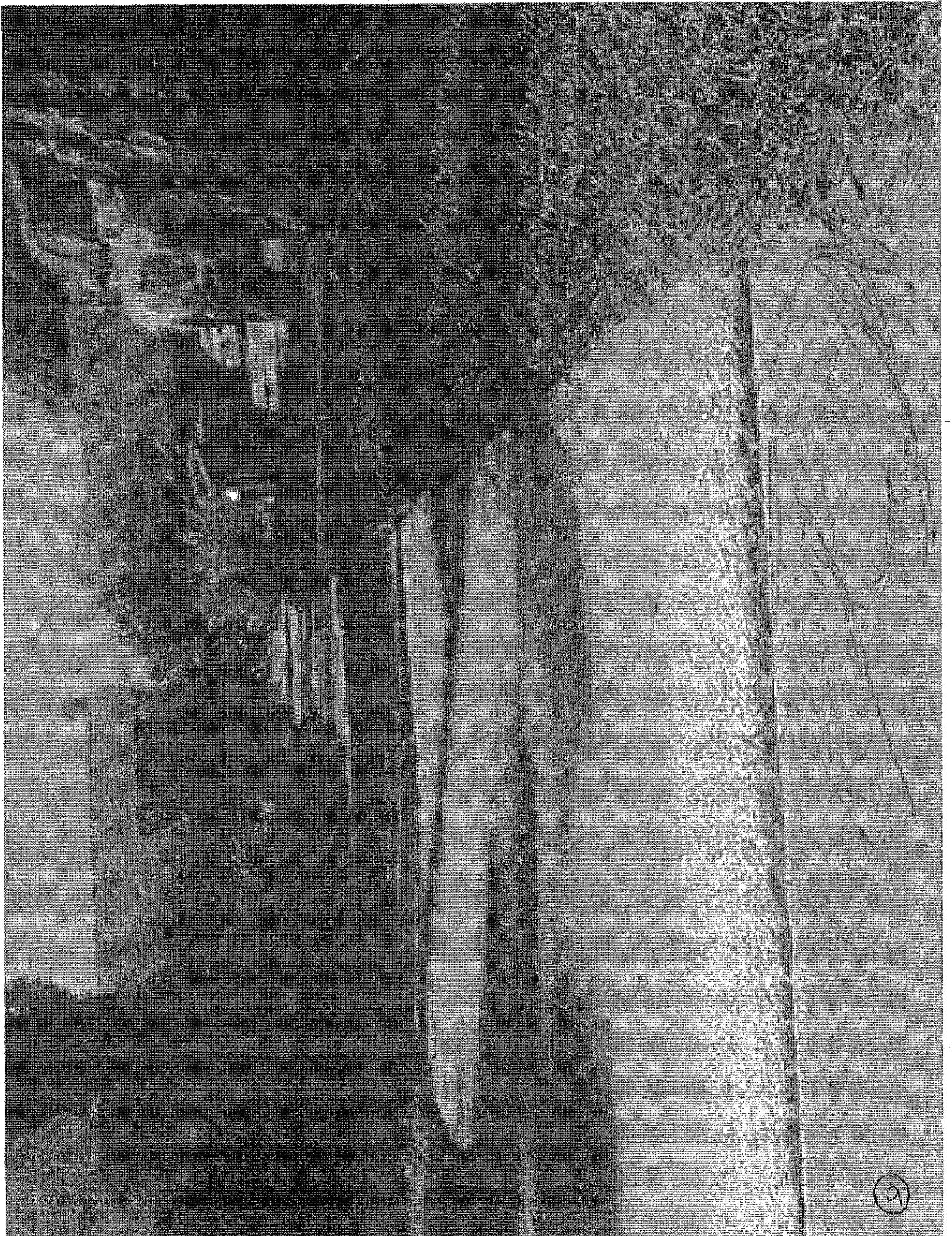
Attachment 7: Photo of street lifting/cracking

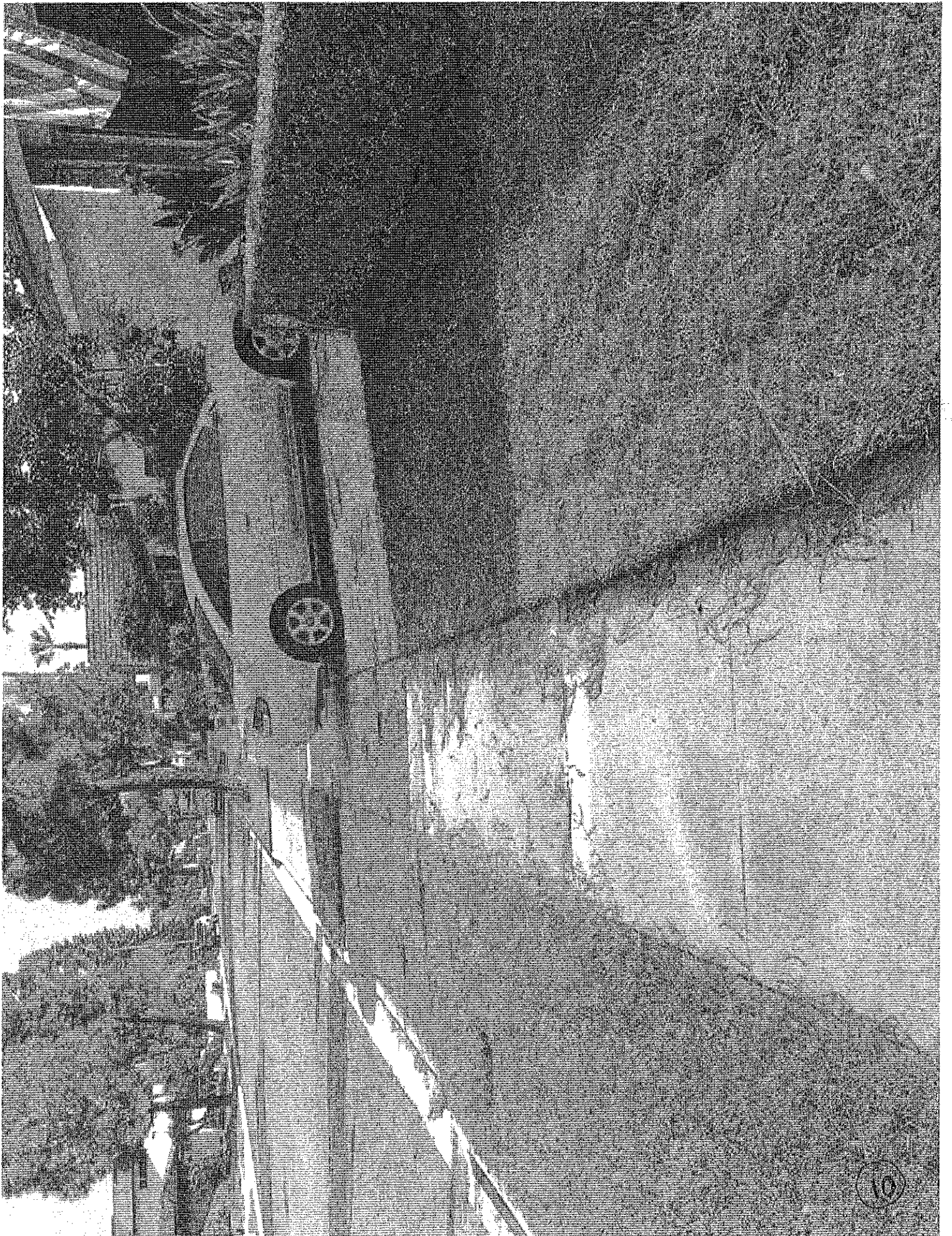
2722 SANDPIPER DRIVE
PROPERTY DIAGRAM













Subject:
Trimming of 3 pine trees along street.
Detailed description:
Requesting trimming of pine trees at 2722, 2725 and 2729 Sandpiper Drive.

Req'd date:
2017-10-16 (Request entered by: MStueve)
Req'd by:
Garrett Brown
Location:
2722 Sandpiper Drive
Phone:
213-448-8183

Work Order Nr:
17101548
District:
0
Supervisor:
City Arborist
Employee:
Ortiz, Jim
Call back needed:
Y
Contacted date:
2017-10-16
OSHA safety concern:
N
Status:
Closed
Completion date:
2017-10-18
Inspection date:
2017-10-18
Hours:
0 Minutes: 30
Material cost:
0.00

Action taken:
10/18/17 - Evaluated all three (3) Canary Island Pine Trees. The trees at 2722 and 2725 Sandpiper were last trimmed on 11/5/15 and do not need to be trimmed. The tree at 2729 Sandpiper was last trimmed on 5/3/12 and needs to be trimmed. All three (3) trees did not show any visible signs of any structural defects or any active pest or diseases present during the time that I inspected the pine trees. contacted resident @ 2:21 pm and left a message asking the resident to call me back - JO

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Subject:

Resident Requesting Tree Trimming

Detailed description:

Resident states that the tree needs to be trimmed due to the tree being messy.

Req'd date:

2018-04-03 (Request entered by: Jim Ortiz)

Req'd by:

Bruce Green

Location:

2722 Sandpiper Drive

Phone:

(714) 390-0847

Work Order Nr:

18040419

District:

16

Supervisor:

City Arborist

Employee:

Ortiz, Jim

Call back needed:

N

Contacted date:

2018-04-02

OSHA safety concern:

N

Status:

Closed

Completion date:

2018-06-07

Inspection date:

2018-04-04

Hours:

0 Minutes: 40

Material cost:

0.00

Action taken:

4/3/18 - Reviewed Arbor Access and Google Maps. Contacted resident and informed him that the tree is scheduled to be trimmed in this year's budget. However, the Contractor is behind and the tree might be trimmed in July or August of this year - JO 4/4/18 - Evaluated the 40' Canary Island Pine Tree growing in a turf parkway. There were no visible structural defects or any active pest or disease activity present during the time that I inspected the tree. Tree does not need to be trimmed immediately and can wait until that district is trimmed - JO 6/7/18 - Tree trimmed by WCA - JO

Costa Maintenance©2006 - 2018- City of Costa Mesa

(13)

Subject:

Tree Trimming Request

Detailed description:

Resident requesting additional tree trimming

Req'd date:

2018-09-24 (Request entered by: Jim Ortiz)

Req'd by:

Bruce Green

Location:

2722 Sandpiper Drive

Phone:

(714) 390-0847

Work Order Nr:

18091344

District:

0

Supervisor:

City Arborist

Employee:

Ortiz, Jim

Call back needed:

Y

Contacted date:

2018-09-20

OSHA safety concern:

N

Status:

In Progress

Completion date:

0000-00-00

Inspection date:

2018-09-24

Hours:

0 Minutes: 30

Material cost:

0.00

Action taken:

9/20/18 - Contacted by resident after hours on my office phone requesting a call back - JO 9/21/18 - Contacted by resident on my office phone. Resident requested tree cut smaller to WCA tree trimming specialist. Resident did call at the time this tree was being trimmed. Wants the tree cut smaller and wants a call back - JO 9/24/18 - Evaluated the 50' Canary Island Pine tree growing in a turf parkway. Tree has a slight bend in the center portion of this tree. Besides the mentioned bend. There were no other noticeable structural defects or any visible pest or disease activity present during the time that I inspected this tree. Contacted resident and he is requesting that the tree be trimmed narrower on the ends. I verbally explained the City's criteria for tree removal. Told resident that I would schedule the trimming of this tree to be narrower. I did mention that WCA can only trim so much off a tree and will trim accordingly. Resident to review trimming and might take the tree to a future PRC meeting. Resident is concerned about the mess from the pine needles - JO 12/10/18 - Tree trimmed by WCA - JO

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(14)

Site Detail (33.669502626488,-117.94445644855)(WCA InventoryID: 1957819)

District	Address	Location	Species	DBH	Height
16	2722 SANDPIPER DR	Front-1	<i>Pinus canariensis</i> CANARY ISLAND PINE	25-30	45-60

Maintenance	Condition	Est. Value	Utility	Parkway	PSHB
Grid/Routine Trim	Good	\$14,740	No	5	
Priority	Valid	PW Type			
N/A	Yes	Parkway			

Crew	Date	Work Type / Comments	Job # / Acct #	Amount
WCA	12/10/2018	Prune Backup - Crew	46548	Hourly
WCA	06/07/2018	Work Already Performed	39725	Inspection
WCA	06/06/2018	Prune Backup - Crew	39725	Hourly
WCA	11/05/2015	Prune Backup - Crew	31556	Hourly
WCA	04/10/2009	Grid Pruning	12656	\$46.60
WCA	01/15/2007	Grid Pruning	9754	\$41.50
WCA	03/31/2004	Grid Trimming	6173	\$41.50
WCA	05/10/2001	Grid Trimming	3569	\$40.10

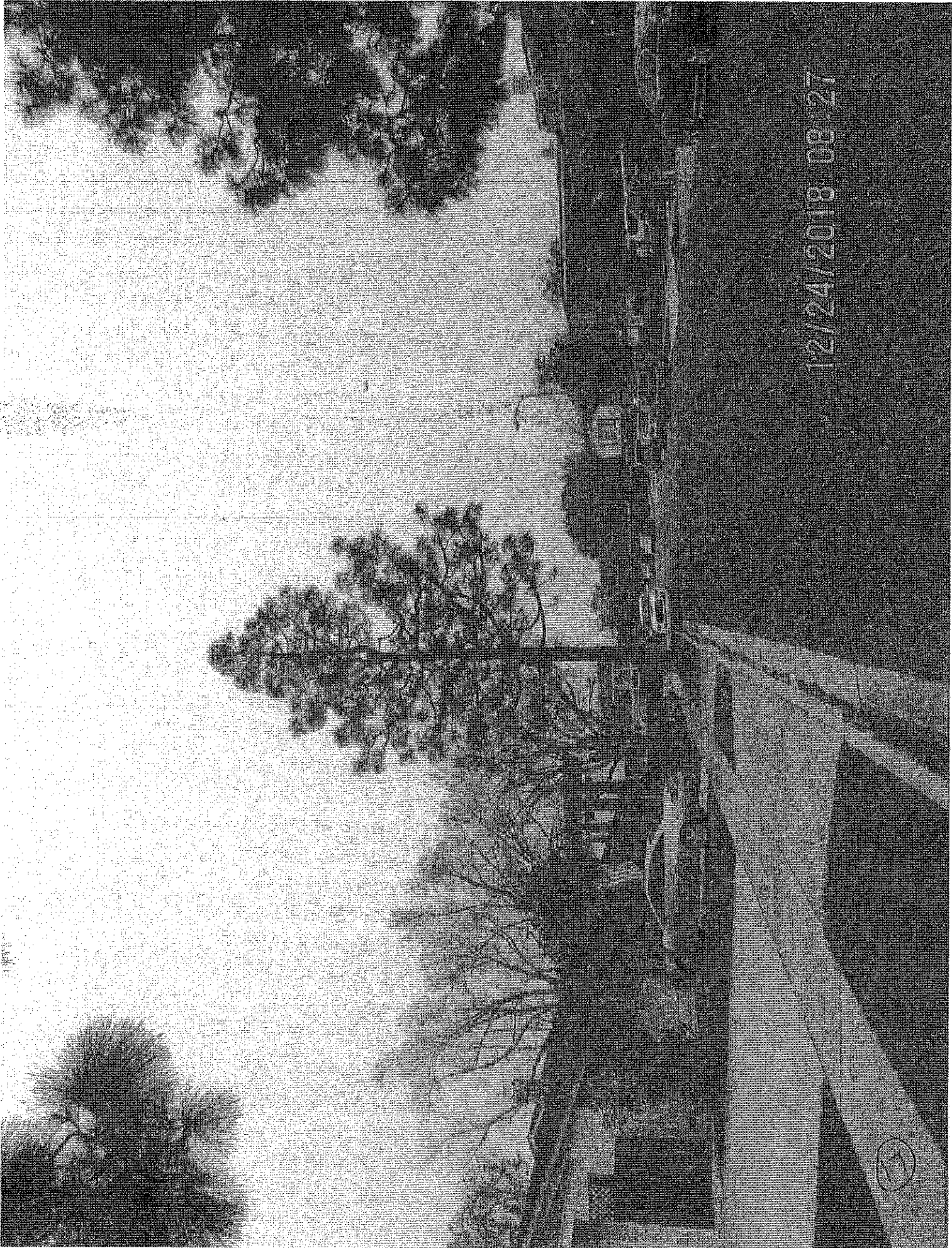
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ATTACHMENT #4



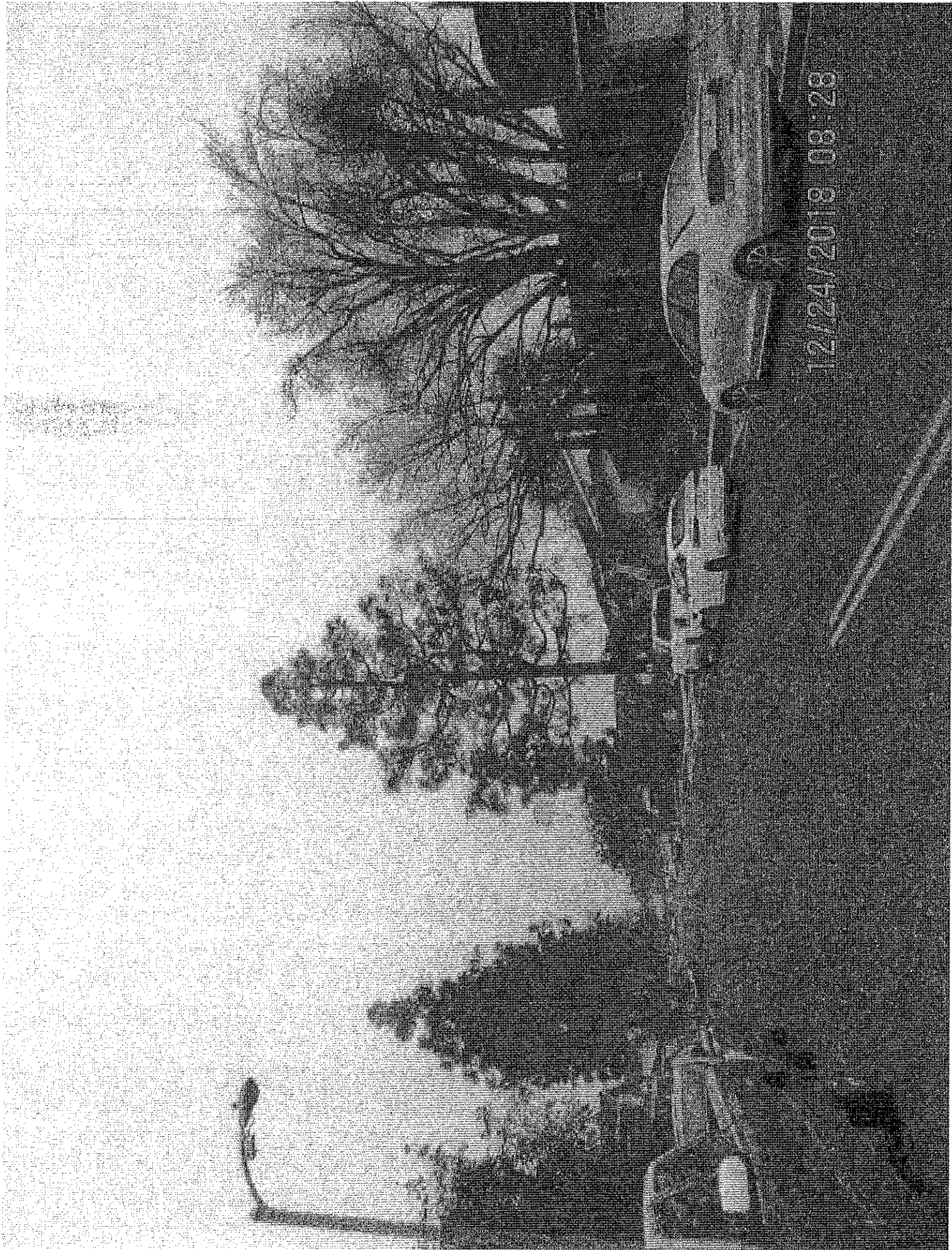
12/24/2018 08:27

16

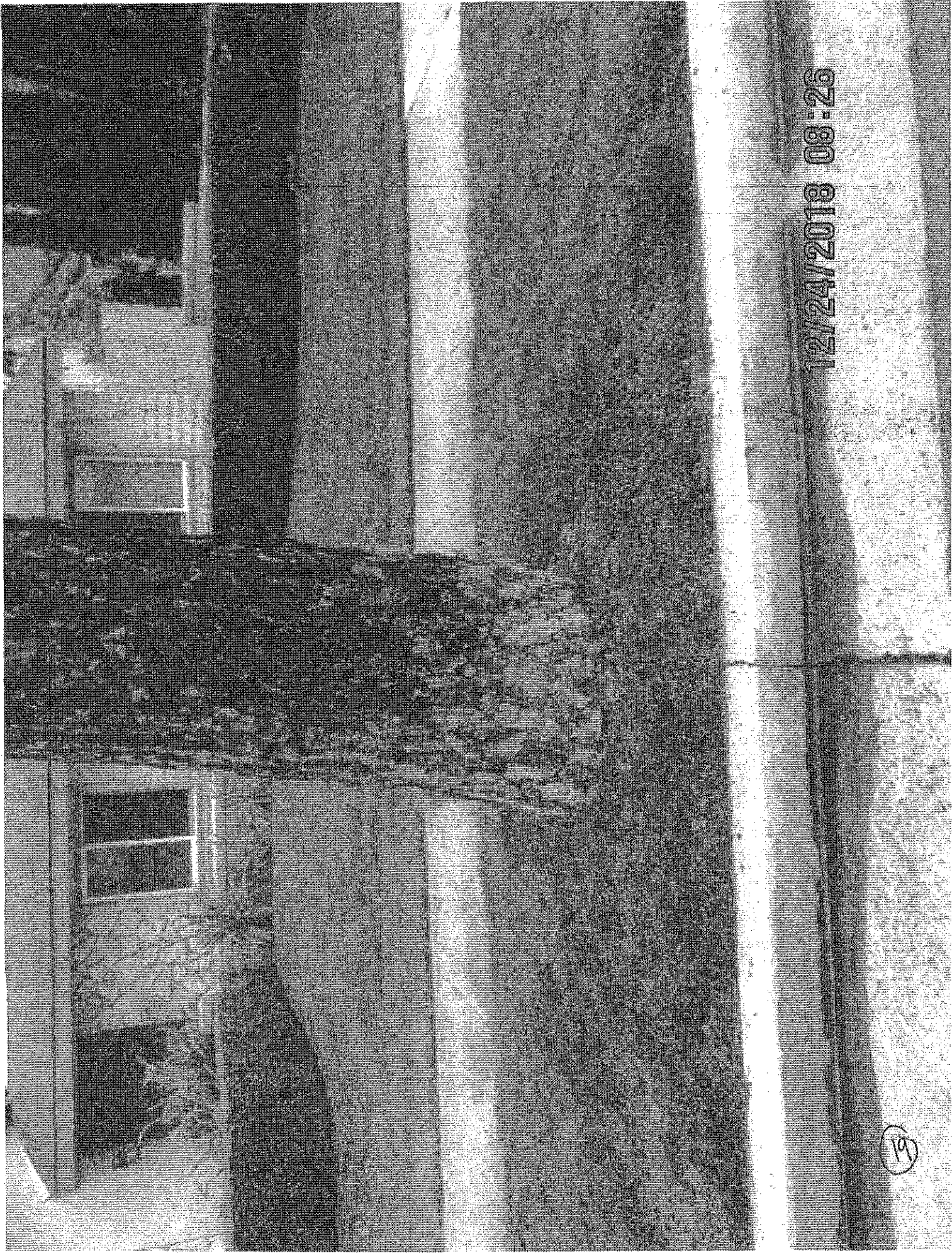


12/24/2018 08:27

17



12/24/2018 08:28



12/24/2018 08:26

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
COSTA MESA SENIOR CENTER, 695 W. 19th Street
JANUARY 24, 2019

MEETING ACTION MINUTES

	Staff Recommendation	Action Minutes
3. Roll Call		Chair McNabb: Present Commissioner Bogner: Present Commissioner Erickson: Present Commissioner Ersoylu: Present
5. Approval of the Minutes of the November 29, 2018 Special Meeting of the PRC		MOTION/SECOND: Chair McNabb moves to approve the minutes/Seconded by Commissioner Bogner. The motion carried by the following roll call vote: Ayes: Chair McNabb, Commissioner Bogner, Commissioner Erickson Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: Commissioner Ersoylu Motion Carried: 3-0-1
7. Consent Calendar		
a) Instructional Class Proposals b) Donation of a Memorial Plaque at Estancia Park	Approve	MOTION/SECOND: Chair McNabb moves to approve the Consent Calendar/Seconded by Commissioner Erickson. The motion carried by the following roll call vote: Ayes: Chair McNabb, Commissioner Bogner, Commissioner Erickson, Commissioner Ersoylu Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None Motion Carried: 4-0
10. New Business		
a) Tree Removal Request – 2722 Sandpiper Drive	Deny	MOTION/SECOND: Commissioner Ersoylu moves to deny the tree removal request/Seconded by Commissioner Erickson. The motion carried by the following roll call vote: Ayes: Chair McNabb, Commissioner Bogner, Commissioner Erickson, Commissioner Ersoylu Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None Motion Carried: 4-0

**THE CITY OF COSTA MESA
MEETING OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
JANUARY 24, 2019; 6:00 P.M.**

1. **Call to Order:** The Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was called to order by Chair McNabb at 6:00 p.m. on January 24, 2019 at the Costa Mesa Senior Center, 695 W. 19th Street, Costa Mesa, California.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Commissioner Bogner
3. **Roll Call**

Present: Chair McNabb, Commissioner Bogner, Commissioner Erickson, Commissioner Ersoylu

Absent: None

Staff Present: Bruce Lindemann, Maintenance Services Manager; Yvette Aguilar, Recreation Manager; Marianna Peña, Recreation Coordinator; Jim Ortiz, Maintenance Superintendent; Allison Burch, Executive Secretary

4. **Approval of the Minutes of the Special November 29, 2018 Meeting of the PRC**

MOTION/SECOND: Chair McNabb moves to approve the minutes/Seconded by Commissioner Bogner. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Chair McNabb, Commissioner Bogner, Commissioner Erickson

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstain: Commissioner Ersoylu

Motion Carried: 3-0-1

5. **Public Comments**

Chair McNabb closed Public Comments.

6. **Commissioner Comments**

Chair McNabb – Spoke about the recent rain benefiting Costa Mesa and of the Fire Department's recent "Barn Push" ceremony; thanked staff for the winter special events and high-level customer service; and congratulated Priceless Pet Rescue for their successful grand opening in Costa Mesa.

Commissioner Bogner – Encouraged the community to attend the community open house meeting for addressing homelessness in Costa Mesa; reminded the public of the rescheduled Diego Sepulveda Adobe plaque dedication event; thanked Chair McNabb for giving her the opportunity to attend Fairview Park Steering Committee meetings; and spoke about the partnership between the Fairview Park Steering Committee and the Newport Mesa Unified School District.

Commissioner Erickson – Spoke about attending the afternoon tea event hosted by the Orange County Museum of Art and thanked all volunteers for assisting in the Point-in-Time homeless count.

Commissioner Ersoylu – Thanked staff and local advocates; and announced the end of her term as a Parks and Recreation Commissioner, as her term is expiring.

7. Consent Calendar

- a) Instructional Class Proposals
- b) Donation of a Memorial Plaque at Estancia Park

MOTION/SECOND: Chair McNabb moves to approve the Consent Calendar/Seconded by Commissioner Erickson. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Chair McNabb, Commissioner Bogner, Commissioner Erickson, Commissioner Ersoylu

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 4-0

Chair McNabb acknowledged the memorial plaque applicant and provided an opportunity for him to say a few words.

8. Presentation

a) 2018 Senior Center Programs & Services Review

Ms. Marianna Peña presents.

Commissioner Bogner asked what the minimum age for membership is.

Commissioner Erickson asked for more information regarding the intergenerational events.

Chair McNabb asked how often flu vaccines are offered at the Senior Center.

9. Old Business

No Items

10. New Business

a) Tree Removal Request – 2722 Sandpiper Drive

Mr. Jim Ortiz presents report.

Public Comments:

Resident: Spoke in favor of the tree removal request.

Chair McNabb closed Public Comments.

Commissioner Bogner spoke about her inclination to deny the tree removal request and suggested the resident use a sap remover when necessary.

Commissioner Erickson asked for clarification regarding the height of the tree.

Commissioner Ersoylu asked for clarification regarding the age of the existing tree and the age of the tree that would replace it if it were approved to be removed.

Chair McNabb asked for clarification regarding the value of the tree.

MOTION/SECOND: Commissioner Ersoylu moves to deny the tree removal request/Seconded by Commissioner Erickson. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Chair McNabb, Commissioner Bogner, Commissioner Erickson, Commissioner Ersoylu

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 4-0

Chair McNabb informed the applicant that he is able to reapply for a tree removal in one year.

b) Tree Removal Request – 3117 Killarney Lane

Mr. Jim Ortiz presents report.

Public Comments:

Resident 1: Spoke in favor of the tree removal request.

Resident 2: Spoke in favor of the tree removal request.

Chair McNabb closed Public Comments.

Commissioner Erickson asked staff if there was a way to suppress the tree pod droppings.

Commissioner Ersoylu asked how often the tree had been pruned and how often the tree blossoms.

Chair McNabb asked for clarification regarding the value of the tree.

Commissioner Bogner asked staff if there are records of other resident's concerns and if there are any recommendations for the residents while waiting for results from injecting the tree.

Commissioner Ersoylu asked the residents about the tree at the time of the property purchase.

MOTION/SECOND: Commissioner Erickson moves to deny the tree removal request with the stipulation that the City Arborist work with the resident to provide maintenance to the tree in order to lessen the effect of the droppings/Seconded by Chair McNabb. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Chair McNabb, Commissioner Bogner, Commissioner Erickson, Commissioner Ersoylu

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 4-0

c) Tree Removal Request – 3084 Murray Lane

Mr. Jim Ortiz presents report.

Public Comments:

None.

Chair McNabb closed Public Comments.

MOTION/SECOND: Chair McNabb moves to deny the tree removal request/Seconded by Commissioner Ersoylu. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Chair McNabb, Commissioner Bogner, Commissioner Erickson, Commissioner Ersoylu

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 4-0

11. Maintenance Manager's Report

Item pulled from the agenda.

12. Parks and Community Services Director's Report

Ms. Yvette Aguilar presents report.

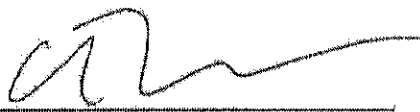
Commissioner Ersoylu gave suggestions regarding the youth basketball and cheer program.

Commissioner Erickson asked for clarification regarding the clean-up events happening in the spring.

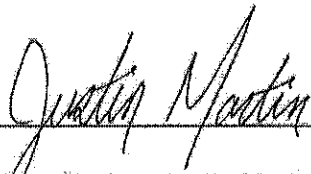
13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chair McNabb at 7:01p.m.

**The Next Regular Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission
is on Thursday, February 28, 2019**

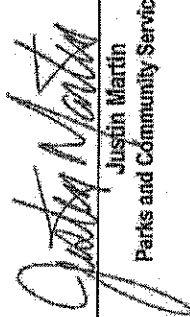


Prepared by Allison Burch
PRC Secretary



Submitted by Justin Martin
Parks and Community Services Director

b) Tree Removal Request – 3117 Killarney Lane	Deny	MOTION/SECOND: Commissioner Erickson moves to deny the tree removal request with the stipulation that the City Arborist work with the resident to provide maintenance to the tree in order to lessen the effect of the droppings/Seconded by Chair McNabb. The motion carried by the following roll call vote: Ayes: Chair McNabb, Commissioner Bogner, Commissioner Erickson, Commissioner Ersoylu Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None Motion Carried: 4-0
c) Tree Removal Request – 3084 Murray Lane	Deny	MOTION/SECOND: Chair McNabb moves to deny the tree removal request/Seconded by Commissioner Ersoylu. The motion carried by the following roll call vote: Ayes: Chair McNabb, Commissioner Bogner, Commissioner Erickson, Commissioner Ersoylu Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None Motion Carried: 4-0


Justin Martin
Parks and Community Services Director

3/7/19
Date