



# CITY OF COSTA MESA

## Agenda Report

77 Fair Drive  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

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**File #:** 25-405

**Meeting Date:** 8/14/2025

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**TITLE:**

**DONATION OF A MEMORIAL TREE AND PLAQUE AT TEWINKLE PARK**

**DEPARTMENT:** PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT/MAINTENANCE SERVICES DIVISION

**PRESENTED BY:** ROBERT RYAN, MAINTENANCE SERVICES MANAGER

**CONTACT INFORMATION:** ROBERT RYAN, MAINTENANCE SERVICES MANAGER (714)  
754-5123

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Parks and Community Services Commission accept the donation of a memorial tree and plaque to be installed in TeWinkle Park in memory of Jim Ortiz.

**BACKGROUND:**

The City is in receipt of a letter from James Ortiz, requesting permission from this Commission to donate a memorial tree and plaque to be installed in TeWinkle Park in memory of his father, Jim Ortiz, who passed in December 2024 (Attachment 1).

Jim Ortiz dedicated his career to the City of Costa Mesa; he was employed with the City for twenty-three years from 2001 to 2024. He began his career at the Costa Mesa Country Club, working in landscape maintenance and rose through the ranks. Jim held several positions in the Public Works Department including Supervisor and Superintendent. Becoming a certified arborist was by far his greatest accomplishment that he felt the most pride in achieving. He was an active participant in several community programs, notably the Neighbors for Neighbors program and Arbor Day. He built strong, positive relationships with his coworkers and the patrons he served.

Jim and his son, James, have created countless memories in the city and throughout the community. TeWinkle Park has always held a special place in their hearts, where they spent time together enjoying the ponds, the wildlife, and the trees. A memorial at TeWinkle Park would not only honor Jim's life but also serve as a place where family, friends, and community members can reflect on the joy he brought to those around him.

**ANALYSIS:**

The request meets the requirements set forth by City Council Policy 800-4 (Attachment 2). Staff has reviewed the proposed location in TeWinkle Park and determined a suitable location for the memorial tree and plaque (Attachment 3). Staff will work with the donor to schedule the installation.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

The Commission may deny the request for the donations or may suggest an alternate location.

**FISCAL REVIEW:**

Upon approval by this Commission, the installation of the tree and plaque will have minimal fiscal impact on the City.

**LEGAL REVIEW:**

No legal review is required for this item.

**CONCLUSION:**

Staff recommends that the Parks and Community Services Commission accept the donation of a memorial tree and plaque to be installed in TeWinkle Park in memory of Jim Ortiz.