

Salida Tree Board

Salida City Hall
448 E. 1st Street, Suite 112
719-539-4555
www.cityofsalida.com



A town without trees isn't fit for a dog!

Tree Board Meeting August 13, 2013

Members Present: Kevin Crowley, Kathryn Hardgrave, Marilyn Moore

Herbicide Injury: Marilyn sent a sample of the hackberry in Riverside Park that is looking so poorly to the plant clinic at Jefferson County. The agent diagnosed herbicide injury, though he could not say that that is the only thing going on with the tree. The 'Sensation' boxelder is also showing distorted leaves consistent with herbicide injury. Kevin says public works is using the same weed and feed product they have always used, so there may have been a problem with over-application. In the future, they will stay well out of the drip-line of the trees and not apply weed and feed when the temperature is above 80 degrees.

New Riverside Trees: Curtis has planted the two lance leaf cottonwood and two hackberries purchased with the CPR grant and Arbor Day donations to replace the four willows removed. He noted that the soil in the holes smelled sour, suggesting that the soil was anerobic and that watering should be cut back.

Marilyn met with Michael Yerman and sited the large shade tree that will be purchased and planted with an anonymous donation. Species selection will depend on what Brady's has available, but an 'Accolade' elm or american or little leaf linden were suggested.

Chisholm Park: The new sidewalk in the park is considerably above the grade of the 'Norwegian Sun' maple planted on Arbor Day. The soil will be graded to direct water away from the tree.

Sidewalks: Public works will be hiring a contractor to grind down uneven side walks that have been heaved by tree roots or, where that is not feasible, remove the concrete and replacing it with crusher fines. The solution is temporary and tree board will be consulted about how to deal with the offending trees.

Downtown Trees: Bob and Kevin have talked with Dara and agreed that the empty grates should be replanted this fall. BV typically plants trees in the fall with good success. The city will be responsible for watering, and pruning the trees. Kevin will make up some door-hangers to let the merchants know that the grates will be replanted. Marilyn has information on the value of trees in business districts (shoppers spend 12 - 20% more) to include with the door hangers. The root-balls on the trees we have been getting from Brady's have been in poor shape, so we may consider another source for the downtown trees. The \$4000 from the NRC should cover the cost to purchase and plant and delivery, too, if necessary.

Budget: Tree board will request an increase to \$3000 for the Adopt-a-Tree program. There should be a public works budget request for funding to prune trees in the city right-of-ways and the parks. Kathryn suggested that enough should be budgeted so all the trees in a given quadrant of the city can be pruned. Ideally, the city would get on a regular pruning rotation.

Dead Trees: Kathryn noted that there is a dead tree over-hanging a newly installed bench by the SteamPlant. There is also a dead silver maple on the south side of Alpine Park along 5th.

NEXT TREE BOARD MEETING: Tuesday, September 10, 8 am, Café Dawn