

# Salida Tree Board

Salida City Hall  
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*A town without trees isn't fit for a dog!*

## **Board Meeting September 8, 2015**

**Members Present:** Kevin Crowley, Kathryn Hardgrave, Marilyn Moore, Dan Osborn

**Riverside Tree Troubles:** Several of the trees in Riverside appear to be struggling. Two hackberries, including the most recently planted one along the diagonal walk, are looking sickly. Too much water? Curtis reported when he planted the new hackberry that the soil was sodden and anaerobic smelling. The little leaf linden is constantly wilted. Is it getting too little water? Kevin reported that PW has cut back on the duration of irrigation the irrigation cycles, but the sprinklers in the park may need to be adjusted. The bark on the gingko (by the volleyball court) was damaged by a weed-whacker. The Biglow memorial cottonwood has thrown up a large number of suckers indicating it may have been planted too deep.

**Memorial Garden:** Kelly Finkowski worked on suggestions for the construction of a memorial garden at Thonoff Park before she left, and the new Community Development intern, Danielle Campbell, has done some additional tweaking. Dan will email the final proposals to the tree board members.

**Pool Projects:** Two large spruce have already been removed to make way for the expansion of the locker rooms. Construction of the outdoor soaking pool and splash pad, recently approved by council, will require the removal of three to four more trees. If these trees are required by ordinance to be replaced, whose budget will that come out of? Tree board's? The project's?

**River Trail:** Construction has begun on the Salida River Trail down at Sand Lake. When work there is completed, the contractor will begin behind the Touber building. The budget for the project includes replacement trees. Dan would like also to plant one hundred or more shrub willows. Kathryn said that bare root willows are available from the Colorado State Forest Service. She also suggested that unrooted willow cuttings shoved into moist soil along the river would likely root on their own. Permission to take cuttings from private or public land would be required, or the city could take cuttings from the existing willows at Marvin Park.

**Removal List:** Bob sent a list of trees "scheduled" to be removed. Is this work that is actually on the calendar? Who will do the removals? Is Dufur still intending to remove the enormous cottonwood by 748 W. 3<sup>rd</sup>? If not, the \$1200 earmarked for that removal can be used to remove trees on the "schedule".

**Trees on Poncha:** There are a number of trees on the north side of Poncha Boulevard that are dead or dying. As they are under power lines, the city cannot prune or remove them. Dan will contact Excel and try to get them dealt with.

**Street Projects:** Unfortunately, street projects that include curb replacement will mean that we are going to lose even more of our big old shade trees. It will take *years* before replacement trees even begin to approach them in size.

**NEXT TREE BOARD MEETING: Tuesday, October 13, 8 AM, River's Edge**