

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!

Board Meeting November 8, 2016

Members Present: Kathryn Hardgrave, Tom Jacobson, M'Lynne Kenney, Marilyn Moore, Bob Salmi, Diana Smith

Also Present: Dave Hinman, Public Works/GIS; David Lady, Wastewater Treatment Plant Manager

Tree Inventory: Dave Hinman reported the results of his GPS inventory of the trees in the city's parks, at the wastewater treatment plant, the Touber Building, the dog park, and Marvin Park. There were 460 trees inventoried for a total so far of 2,065 city trees. Of the 460, there were 17 that need to be removed, including a dead ponderosa at the wastewater treatment plant that threatens a power line. Dave Lady thought that Excel could be persuaded to at least top the tree. Tree board asked Dave to inventory the deliberately planted trees along the Salida Trail, at the SteamPlant, and along the walk from the SteamPlant west.

Downtown Trees: Tree board discussed watering the downtown trees. The soil level in several of the grates is so high that water runs onto the sidewalk rather than soaking in. Bob has suggested sinking lengths of PVC pipe that could be filled with water to get water down to the roots; the pipe would have to be plugged when it is driven in so it did not fill with soil. The grates over the tree wells might make it difficult to fill the pipes. Twenty gallon tree watering bags can be purchased for a little more than \$20 each, but they would likely be vandalized. Jake suggested a five gallon bucket with a small hole could deliver water slowly enough that it would soak in. At the least, Bob will get a list of the hard-to-water trees from Lynn, and tree board volunteers will try to dig out some of the soil.

Bob cautioned that the downtown trees should not be allowed to get so big that they become difficult to remove.

Tree Mats: Jake purchased a package of three 24" coir tree mats for \$36. There is a 4" hole for the trunk that can be easily cut wider. We will put them out next spring, securing them with landscaping pins, and decide if they are effective at preventing

mowers and string trimmers from damaging the trunk while not interfering with the mowing. Thirty-six inch tree mats are also available.

Guide to Salida Trees: Lauren Guisti still has the file for the pamphlet on a CD, which might make changing and updating it easy. Mark Wiard thought that he could make the changes to the pamphlet online for just a couple of hundred dollars, which would not require applying for a grant. We need to sit down and go through the pamphlet and decide exactly what changes and additions we want to make before we can proceed with Lauren and/or Mark.

NEXT TREE BOARD MEETING: Tuesday, December 13, 8 AM, Toubert Building, Methodist Mountain Room.