

Salida Tree Board

Salida City Hall
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www.cityofsalida.com



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

Board Meeting February 14, 2017

Members Present: Kathryn Hardgrave, Dave Hinman, Tom Jacobson, M'Lynne Kenney, David Lady, Marilyn Moore

Also Present: Angie Jensen, Terra Firma Forestry; Jim LiVecchi, Salida Mayor

Hunt and Palmer Project: David would like to distribute tree adoption applications to homeowners adjacent to the curb and sidewalk installations. If applications are returned promptly, and there is an appropriate spot for a tree, planting holes can be dug in the course of the installation. The trees would not be planted until 2018, and those homeowners would get priority for tree adoption that year.

'David' Elm Trial: The Front Range Urban Forestry Council's Select Tree Program is promoting the David elm for 2017. They would like to get more trees planted for further evaluation and are making three trees available to municipalities (though maybe on the Front Range only?) Salida can apply to the program, and if we receive trees, there are planting spots at Alpine Park and the pool. BV planted David elms two years ago and so far they are living.

Pruning and Removals: Board members discussed the up-coming pruning and removals on right-of-ways on D, F, G, and H Streets with Angie, who submitted the winning bid on the project. Any other "scary" trees not on those streets and trees that are impacting curb and sidewalk elsewhere should be prioritized as the project goes forward. A door hanger will notify homeowners of the up-coming pruning and removals, and a later door hanger will give them a specific date when the work will be done on trees in front of their home and vehicles must be removed. David will draft the door hangers. Angie expects to begin mid-March. Homeowners will be informed of the Adopt-a-Tree program should they wish to replace a tree that is removed.

Maples on Poncha Blvd: There are quite a few dead and dying silver maples on the north side of Poncha Blvd. that are directly under high voltage power lines that need to be removed. Regular arborists are not permitted to work under power lines. David will contact Xcel and try to persuade them remove the trees.

Downtown Trees: Bob Salmi was concerned that some of the trees in the grates downtown are getting so big that in a few years they cannot be removed without damaging the sidewalk and curb. That may not be such an issue if when a tree is removed for whatever reason, the stump is ground rather than pulled. Could the grate be replanted? How extensive is the root system of a tree that will be removed? Jake suggested that the dead plum in front of the old Junque Drawer could be pulled so we can take a look at the root system and make a guess about the root systems of the other trees.

Someone has been hacking at the two crabapples in front of ‘Bangs’ salon, removing limbs at random and leaving big stubs. There is so little of the trees left that they should be removed. Do we removed the grates, too, and fill the spot with concrete? Jake is concerned that if the grates are removed, we will eventually lose track of them. We can leave the grates and put planters over the trunk holes, or replant with a very upright, slow-growing cultivar/species of oak.

Guide to Salida Trees: Following the regular board meeting, Kathryn, Jake, Marilyn and M’Lynne worked on revising the booklet, which will not be reprinted but will be updated and posted on the city web site.

NEXT TREE BOARD MEETING: Tuesday, March 14, 8 am, Touber Building, Methodist Mountain Room.