

# Salida Tree Board

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

## **SALIDA TREE BOARD Board Meeting December 12, 2017**

**Members present:** Kathryn Hardgrave, Dave Hinman, David Lady, Marilyn Moore, Diana Smith

**Soft Scale Treatment for American Elms:** Jake has gotten no response from Jetco in BV about Merit treatment for the American elms. We may have to do the injections ourselves or pay someone to do the injections. Kathryn said that 15 or more years ago, a Colorado Springs company treated the elms with an insecticide drench. Kathryn will contact the Colorado State Forest Service in Canon City and see if they can recommend an insecticide applicator.

**2018 Tree Board Budget:** Marilyn and David met following the October tree board meeting to put together final numbers for our 2018 budget request. Marilyn presented the 2018 work plan and the budget request to council on October 17. For street trees: Adopt-a-Tree - \$4,000; tree guards - \$5,000; pruning and removals - \$30,000; total = \$39,000. For park trees: tree guards – \$3,000; Merit on elms - \$4,000; prune and plant - \$7,000; total = \$14,000. David said he does not think that the budget request will be significantly cut. Public works' focus next year will be on maintenance of infrastructure rather than major replacement projects. Only E Street from 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> and C Street from Teller to 9<sup>th</sup> will be redone.

**Palmer Street Redo:** The first several blocks of the Palmer Street project have been completed. The area between curb and sidewalk has been filled with 2-4" of gravel (as decided by the previous council), and many of the homeowners are not happy with the appearance. On the west side of the 200 block this area looks to be at least 15 feet wide! Tree board discussed species with low water requirements trees that might be planted, suggesting crabapples in the narrower, and red oak and honey locust in the wider right-of-ways. The current council has suggested that the trees could be planted without requiring the \$50 homeowner contribution. (That certainly did not work on West Second!) Any trees planted need adopters willing to care for them, and the \$50 buy-in encourages care for the tree.

**2018 Pruning and Removals:** The bid packet for pruning and removals will go out in January or early February. Last year it worked really well to ask arborists to submit a daily fee schedule rather than bid tree by tree. Dave already has 30 trees on the pruning/removal list. He suggested that there are maples on Ouray that are in particularly bad shape. The public works crew removed that enormous dead cottonwood at 318 Shavano.

**Topped Trees:** Employees of Complete Tree Care have topped two trees at 1317 I Street. Marilyn asked: will we allow Complete to renew their arborist license? will they be allowed to bid on the city pruning and removals? Marilyn has spoken with the owner and was told the employee responsible has resigned.

**Emerald Ash Borer Monitoring:** The bid packet for removal and pruning should specify that for each green ash, a limb about 3” in diameter should be removed from the middle of the crown and tagged with the address of the tree, so it can be examined for evidence of emerald ash borer: serpentine tunnels, d-shaped exit holes. Other symptoms of infestation are trunk sprouting, crown thinning, and vertical cracks in the bark.

**Tree Removals:** Kathryn reported that BV was very pleased with the job Splintered Forest LLC from Evergreen did with their tree removals.

**NEXT TREE BOARD MEETING: Tuesday, January 9, 8 am, Methodist Mountain Room at the Touber Building**