

# Salida Tree Board

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

## **Board Meeting June 12, 2018**

**Members Present:** Dave Hinman, David Lady, Marilyn Moore, JT Shaver, Diana Smith, Will Talifero

**Adopt-a-Tree:** Twenty-three trees were adopted, and two homeowners purchased and planted a second tree on the city right-of-way. Planting two of the trees required that the sidewalk be cut for tree wells. We had more requests to adopt trees than the budget (\$4000) would cover, but city Finance Director Jodi McClurkin said that we could spend up to \$3000 more. As we have not yet received Curtis' bill for labor and materials, the total cost to purchase and plant the trees is not yet known.

**Palmer Street:** Five homeowners on Palmer adopted trees that were planted in the graveled area between the new sidewalk and new curb. Curtis reported that at 401 Palmer, the gravel was 13 inches deep!

**Arbor Day:** The tree board purchased and paid to plant an Arbor Day tree at 647 H Street, at a total cost of \$287. Arbor Donations were solicited via letter from recent adopters and past contributors and in a Mountain Mail article, but only \$175 was received.

**Soft Scale Treatment for American Elms:** Front Range Arborists treated thirty-four American elms for soft scale with a soil drench of imidicloprid and acephate. Jake will arrange for them to spray those trees with horticultural oil next year. FRA does all the tree work for the Canon City forestry department; they expressed an interest in doing more tree work in Salida and would like to bid on up-coming projects.

**Tree Guards:** The tree guards have been installed in Riverside Park, just in time for FibArk. Michael Varnum will work with David on a mini-grant for tree guards for the downtown trees.

**Riverside Park Trees:** The enormous cottonwood southwest of the band shell dropped a large limb several days ago during the middle of the day when there was a sizeable number of people in the park. Fortunately, no one was injured! David wondered about

taking the tree out and replacing it with several new trees. Now that we know that the tree is definitely a safety threat, it should probably be removed, though there will almost certainly be public outcry. Lance-leaf cottonwoods would be the most rapidly-growing replacements. The hackberry at the southwest end of the diagonal walk is not looking at all well and probably needs to come out.

**EAB Monitoring:** Marilyn has sent a letter to all the arborists licensed in Salida requesting their help in monitoring for emerald ash borer. We have two recently licensed arborists: Caleb Hathaway with Mountain Shadows Tree Service and Roger Swaim with Swaim Tree Service. Caleb turned in a particularly good tree test. JT said that Kayla Martinez, who is responsible for the EAB monitoring on the Front Range, might be willing to come to Salida to do a program for homeowners on EAB.

**Forest Update:** JT reported that thousands of MCH pheromone packets have been deployed around St. Elmo. They are effective at controlling for Douglas-fir beetle, and may be effective for spruce bark beetle as well. The Western spruce budworm outbreak may be abating. Pinyon are showing a lot of damage from pinyon needle scale and pitch mass borer. With wildfires raging, homeowners in the forest are showing considerably more interest in treating their properties to mitigate fire hazards.

**NEXT TREE BOARD MEETING: Tuesday, July 10, 8 am, Methodist Mountain Room at the Toubert Building**