

# Salida Tree Board

Salida City Hall  
448 E. 1st Street, Suite 112  
719-539-4555  
[www.cityofsalida.com](http://www.cityofsalida.com)



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

## **SALIDA TREE BOARD Board Meeting February 13, 2018**

**Members Present:** Kathryn Hardgrave, David Lady, Marilyn Moore, Diana Smith, Will Taliaferro

**Also Present:** Larry Lorentzen, City Administrator; Harald Kasper, city councilman

**2018 Budget Request:** Tree board's budget request for 2018, \$43,000, was fully funded. Kathryn suggested that Tree Board go to a council meeting to thank council for their generosity.

**Pruning and Removals:** Only one arborist, Terra Firma Forestry, responded to the request for bids. The cost will be \$1700 per day, as it was last year. Some of the \$37,000 budgeted for tree work will be held in reserve for emergency pruning or removals. Dave, Kathryn, and Marilyn have been looking at trees on the inventory to prioritize trees for removal or pruning. The work will start next week, and David expects that Terra Firma will spend 12 days on removals and 3 days pruning. When green ash are pruned or removed, 3" limbs from the middle of the crown on the south side of the tree will be tagged with the address and sent to public works. Kathryn will train tree board members to identify signs of emerald ash borer infestation.

**Tree Guards:** The tree guards at the BV library are 15" inside diameter, 19" outside diameter and 46" high. The fabricating company, Millstream Metal Works, quoted Diana a price of \$350 each for less than 24 and \$335 for more than that number. There are 10 trees in the parks to be protected, and this size would work fine. For the downtown trees, the hole in the grate is 16". Have them reduce the lower diameter to this size? Other options for making the tree guards compatible with the grates? The grates need to be removable so the wells can be cleaned out. Diana will invite Millstream to Salida to look at the situation and suggest an appropriate design.

**Downtown Trees:** There is an empty grate in front of the old Junque Drawer. Given that a games arcade is going in at that location, a new tree might attract a lot of vandalism. Some of the trees are obscuring business signs, and Angie will be asked to do some quick

clearance pruning. Tree board will get in touch with Vicki Sue Vigil of the Salida Business Alliance to let business owners know that they are not to prune the city tree(s) in front of their business. They should contact the tree board or public works if they feel pruning is necessary.

**Palmer Street Trees:** Council has suggested that perhaps trees should be available for adoption for Palmer Street homeowners at no charge. This certainly didn't work on W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street when that street was redone and homeowners were offered a free tree! Homeowners are more likely to care for the trees if they "have some skin in the game", even if it's only a \$50 contribution towards the cost to purchase and plant. Charge only \$25 for a second tree? Homeowners on Hunt Street were asked to contribute \$50 for each tree, and two trees were planted at one of the homes. David will send out a letter to the residents of Palmer Street reminding them of the Adopt-a-Tree program.

**Code Requirements for Trees:** Developers are not complying with code requirements that specify the size of new trees and how they are to be planted, staked, and protected from deer. We need to get with Community Development and be sure that they are making developers aware of the requirements. Tree Board is willing to be responsible for enforcement. Kathryn suggested that we need to look at the number of trees required by code – is it too many. There need to be sunny areas for homeowners who want a vegetable garden, for instance.

**Touber Building Sewer Replacement and Tree Removals:** The aging sewer lines at the Touber Building have to be replaced, and the spruce to the west of the front entrance and an elm near the fountain on the east grounds will have to come out. Terra Firma will also remove the west-most elm to the west of the entrance; Angie says the tree is diseased though Kathryn didn't see a need for removal.

**NEXT TREE BOARD MEETING: Tuesday, March 13, 8am in the Methodist Mountain Room at the Touber Building**