

TO: JAMES L. APP, CITY MANAGER

FROM: ROBERT A. LATA, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO REMOVE ONE OAK TREE - 95 WEST 12TH STREET (KRIJAKIN)

DATE: DECEMBER 3, 2002

Needs: For the City Council to consider a request to remove one 32-inch Blue Oak Tree.

Facts:

1. The City has received a written request from Mr. Ralph Krijakin for the removal one Blue Oak tree on his lot located at 95 West 12th Street.
2. An Arborist Report was performed by Arbor Tree Surgery, where the health of the trees was analyzed in terms of their existing condition as well as what impacts may occur with the proposed house. (See attached report and site plan)
3. The arborist has rated the tree as being a rate of 3, where a rate of 2-5 is considered poor to fair. The arborist recommends removal of the tree, since it is structurally weak due to a 2-foot by 2-foot cavity located on the north side of the trunk at ground level. He suggests that the cavity lowers the structural integrity of the tree greatly.
4. Thirteen other trees are located on the site and were analyzed in the arborist report. The report finds that the Trees No. 2-14 are in a fair to good condition and with proper tree protection fencing would not be impacted by construction of the house.

Analysis

And Conclusion: City policies strongly encourage oak tree preservation. Section 10.01.150 (D) of the Paso Robles Municipal Code states that five factors should be considered when oak trees are proposed for removal. These factors are:

- The condition of the oak tree with respect to its general health: According to the Arborist Report by Arbor Tree Surgery dated May 30, 2002, the report concludes that the tree is structurally weak and due to an excessive cavity in the trees trunk and should be removed.

- The necessity of the requested action to allow construction of improvements or otherwise allow reasonable use of the property for the purpose for which it has been zoned: Mr. Krijakin is planning to build a new house on the vacant lot that is zoned for single family residential use.
- The topography of land, and the potential effect of the requested tree removal on soil retention, water retention, and diversion or increased flow of surface waters: the removal of the tree, if authorized, is not expected to impact drainage runoff.
- The number, species, size and location of existing trees in the area and the effect of the requested action on shade areas, air pollution, historic values, scenic beauty and the general welfare of the city as a whole: With the removal of the proposed tree, thirteen other oak trees would still exist on the site. Replacement trees will also be required with the removal.
- Good forestry practices, such as, but not limited to, the number of healthy trees the subject parcel of land will support: the replacement ratio for removal of the 32-inch tree is 8-inches (32 total diameter inches x 0.25 replacement factor). The replacement could be satisfied by planting five (5) 1.5-inch minimum trunk caliper Blue Oak trees or a combination of larger diameter trees adding up to 8-inches. The replacement trees could be donated to the City for placement within a public park area if there is not room on site for planting.

Policy

Reference: Paso Robles Municipal Code Section 10.01

Fiscal

Impact: None.

Options:

- A. Adopt Resolution No. 02-xx approving the oak tree removal request based on the arborist report identifying that the tree is structurally weak due to a 2-foot by 2-foot cavity in the trunk which has caused the tree to be structurally weak and require replacement ratio of 8-inches of Blue Oaks to be planted in a location that is appropriate for the species of tree as determined by a horticulture professional (e.g. Blue Oaks should be planted in arid environment).
- B. Amend, modify or reject the above options.

Attachments:

1. Vicinity Map
2. Plot Plan
3. Pictures of Tree 1
4. Arborist Report
5. Resolution to Approve

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RESOLUTION NO. 02-

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PASO ROBLES
AUTHORIZING THE REMOVAL OF ONE OAK TREES AT
95 WEST 12TH STREET KRIJAKIN)

WHEREAS, the City has received an application submitted by Mr. Krijakin, to remove one (1) Blue Oak tree (the tree has a diameter of 32-inches) located at 95 West 12th Street; and

WHEREAS, Arbor Tree Surgery prepared an Arborist Report dated May 30, 2002, stating that:

1. The tree is in poor to fair condition.
2. The tree has an excessive cavity and very weak structure in the lower trunk area.

WHEREAS, the Arborist Report includes the arborist's recommendation that the one (1) Blue Oak tree should be removed based on the above-listed facts and findings, and

WHEREAS, if the tree is approved for removal, thirteen (13) other oak trees would still exist on the lot and not be impacted by the construction of the proposed house.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of El Paso de Robles does hereby:

1. Authorize the removal of one (1) Blue Oak tree at 95 West 12th Street.
2. Require the applicant to plant eight 1.5-inch Blue Oak trees or another combination totaling 8-inches on site and/or within a public park area. The Blue Oak trees need to be planted in a location that is appropriate for the species of tree as determined by a horticulture professional (e.g., Blue Oaks should be planted in an arid environment).

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of El Paso de Robles this 3rd day of December 2002 by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

Frank R. Mecham, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sharilyn M. Ryan, Deputy City Clerk