

TO: JAMES L. APP, CITY MANAGER

FROM: BOB LATA, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF PRE-APPROVED CERTIFIED ARBORIST LIST

DATE: JANUARY 21, 2003

Needs: For the City Council to consider adopting a pre-approved Certified Arborist consultant list. This list would be available for City staff use and as a public handout, and is required to be adopted under Chapter 10.01, the Oak Tree Protection ordinance.

Facts:

1. Chapter 10.01.040 of the City Municipal code requires that a person who provides services as an arborist in the City must be certified by the Western Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) and must be on a list of certified arborists approved by the City Council.
2. The purpose of the pre-approved arborist consultant list is to ensure that only ISA-certified arborists are used by applicants in addressing oak tree issues.
3. In October 2002, the City sent out a letter requesting a response to those firms listed as certified by ISA and located within San Luis Obispo County.
4. In accordance with the amended ordinance, the City developed Oak Tree Evaluation Report criteria (see Attachment 3). A copy of the criteria and the amended ordinance was forwarded to each arborist contacted.
5. A total of twelve (12) arborists responded to the letter within the time frame provided (Exhibit A).
6. All arborists returned a signed statement acknowledging that they understand the conditions under which the City will accept them for approval on the List (see Attachment 4).
7. Staff has reviewed the qualifications for each responding arborist and found that all twelve are qualified to provide consulting services and to prepare arborist reports to the City pursuant to Chapter 10.01 requirements.

Analysis  
and

Conclusion: The Oak Tree Protection Ordinance (Municipal Code Chapter 10.01) was amended in September 2002 to strengthen the protection of oaks in the City of Paso Robles. The amended code requires that an arborist consulting in the City must be certified by the ISA as qualified to determine whether an oak tree is diseased, and able to make recommendations regarding pruning, cutting, and preservation measures.

The attached list of arborists was compiled using the latest information available on the Internet and the 2002 ISA member directory. Each arborist was sent a copy of the Oak Tree Protection Ordinance and Oak Tree Evaluation Criteria, and was asked to sign a statement that they have read the Ordinance and agree to conform to the City's criteria for

evaluation reports. All arborists on the list have responded in writing to provide their certification number and current address/telephone and e-mail information. In addition, all arborists were advised of the need to obtain a City Business License to perform work in the City.

Policy

Reference: Zoning Ordinance, Economic Development Strategy.

Fiscal

Impact: Adopting an updated arborist consultant list would expedite the process of selecting a qualified consultant for both the applicant and for City-initiated projects.

Options:

- a. Adopt the attached Resolution with pre-approved consultant list (Exhibit A) valid until January 21, 2004.
- b. Adopt the attached Resolution with pre-approved consultant list (Exhibit A) valid until another date determined by the City Council.
- c. Amend, modify, or reject above options.

Attachments:

1. Resolution Approving Pre-Approved Consultant List
2. Exhibit A (Consultant List)
3. Oak Tree impact Report Evaluation Guidelines
4. Copy of Arborist Certification Statement

I:\cchambers\Misc. PC projects\ADOPT ENV CONSULT & ARBORIST LISTS\2002 Cc rpt ARBOR.doc

RESOLUTION NO. 03-

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PASO ROBLES  
ADOPTING A PRE-APPROVED CERTIFIED ARBORIST LIST

---

WHEREAS, Chapter 10.01.040 of the City Municipal code requires that a person who provides services as an arborist in the City must be certified by the Western Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) and must be on a list of certified arborists approved by the City Council; and

WHEREAS, The purpose of the pre-approved arborist consultant list is to ensure that only ISA-certified arborists are used by applicants in addressing oak tree issues; and

WHEREAS, In October, 2002 the City sent out a letter requesting a response to those firms listed as certified by ISA and located within San Luis Obispo County; and

WHEREAS, In accordance with the amended ordinance, the City developed Oak Tree Evaluation Report criteria, and a copy of the criteria and the amended ordinance was forwarded to each arborist contacted; and

WHEREAS, a total of twelve (12) arborists responded to the letter within the time frame provided; and

WHEREAS, staff has reviewed the list of consultants and each consultant's Certification Statement, and determined that all twelve are qualified to prepare arborist reports and provide consultation services to the City; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FOUND, DETERMINED AND RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of El Paso de Robles to adopt the attached pre-approved ISA-Certified Arborist consultant list (Exhibit A) to expire on January 21, 2004.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Paso Robles this 21<sup>st</sup> day of January 2003 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

---

Frank R. Mecham, Mayor

ATTEST:

---

Sharilyn M. Ryan, Deputy City Clerk