

**TO:** JAMES L. APP, CITY MANAGER  
**FROM:** ED GALLAGHER, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR  
**SUBJECT:** OTR 11-009 - Request To Remove One Oak Tree At The City Water Booster Station Located At 1680 Kleck Road (City Initiated)  
**DATE:** OCTOBER 18, 2011

**Needs:** For the City Council to consider a City-initiated request to remove one oak tree before it causes damage to City water facilities.

- Facts:**
1. The subject oak tree is a 7-inch Live Oak (*Quercus Agrifolia*) located adjacent at the City water booster station at 1680 Kleck Road. (See Vicinity Map, Attachment 1)
  2. As described in the letter from A&T Arborists (Attachment 2), the tree was planted too close to the Water Department equipment and building and will being to interfere with the equipment and building in the future.
  3. The tree was planted as a landscape tree at the time of the construction of the booster station in 2003.
  4. Before the tree begins to cause damage, the request is to remove the tree. A 2-inch replacement Live oak tree is proposed to be located in a public area.
  5. Planning Staff went out to the site to review the tree. Since the tree shows signs of growth the Director could not make the determination that the tree is "clearly dead or diseased beyond correction." Therefore, Section 10.01.050.C of the Oak Tree Ordinance would consider the tree "healthy" and require that the City Council make the determination of whether the tree should be removed or not, after consideration of the factors listed in Section 10.01.050.D.

**Analysis  
And**

**Conclusion:** According to Section 10.01.050.D, there are several factors that the City Council needs to review when considering the removal of a "healthy" oak tree. These factors along with Staff's analysis of each factor are listed below:

- D. If a request is being made to remove one or more healthy oak trees for which a permit to remove is required, the director shall prepare a report to the City Council, outlining the proposal and his recommendation, considering the following factors in preparation of his recommendation.*

1. *The condition of the oak tree with respect to its general health, status as a public nuisance, danger of falling, proximity to existing or proposed structures, interference with utility services, and its status as host for a plant, pest or disease endangering other species of trees or plants with infection or infestation;*

If the tree were to remain, the growing characteristics of the tree would likely damage the City equipment and building foundation.

2. *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. In this context, it shall be the burden of the person seeking the permit to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the director that there are no reasonable alternatives to the proposed design and use of the property. Every reasonable effort shall be made to avoid impacting oak trees, including but not limited to use of custom building design and incurring extraordinary costs to save oak trees;*

There is no development associated with the tree removal. The application has been filed by the Public Works Department in an effort to eliminate the possibility of future damage to the City equipment and building.

3. *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 director shall consider how either the preservation or removal of the oak tree(s) would relate to grading and drainage. Except as specifically authorized by the planning commission and city council, ravines, stream beds and other natural water-courses that provide a habitat for oak trees shall not be disturbed;*

There would not be any negative effects on soil retention, water retention or surface water flows for the neighborhood, if this tree were to be removed.

4. *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;*

The tree was planted as a landscape tree with the construction of the booster station. There are other trees and landscaping in the area of the City facility.

5. *Good forestry practices such as, but not limited to, the number of healthy trees the subject parcel of land will support.*

See comments above.

As required by the Oak Tree Ordinance, one (1) 2-inch replacement Live Oak Trees will be planted in a public area at a time and place to be determined by the Street Superintendent.

**Policy**

**Reference:** Paso Robles Municipal Code Section 10.01.010 (Oak Tree Ordinance)

**Fiscal**

**Impact:** None.

- Options:**
- A. Adopt Resolution No. 11-xx approving OTR 11-009, allowing the removal of the 7-inch Live oak tree, based on the tree being a young landscape tree and not a native tree, and since the tree is growing too close to City equipment and building and will most likely cause damage to the City facilities if the tree were to remain, and require one (1) 2-inch diameter replacement tree to be planted in a public area at a time and place to be determined by the Street Superintendent;
  - B. Amend, modify or reject the above options.

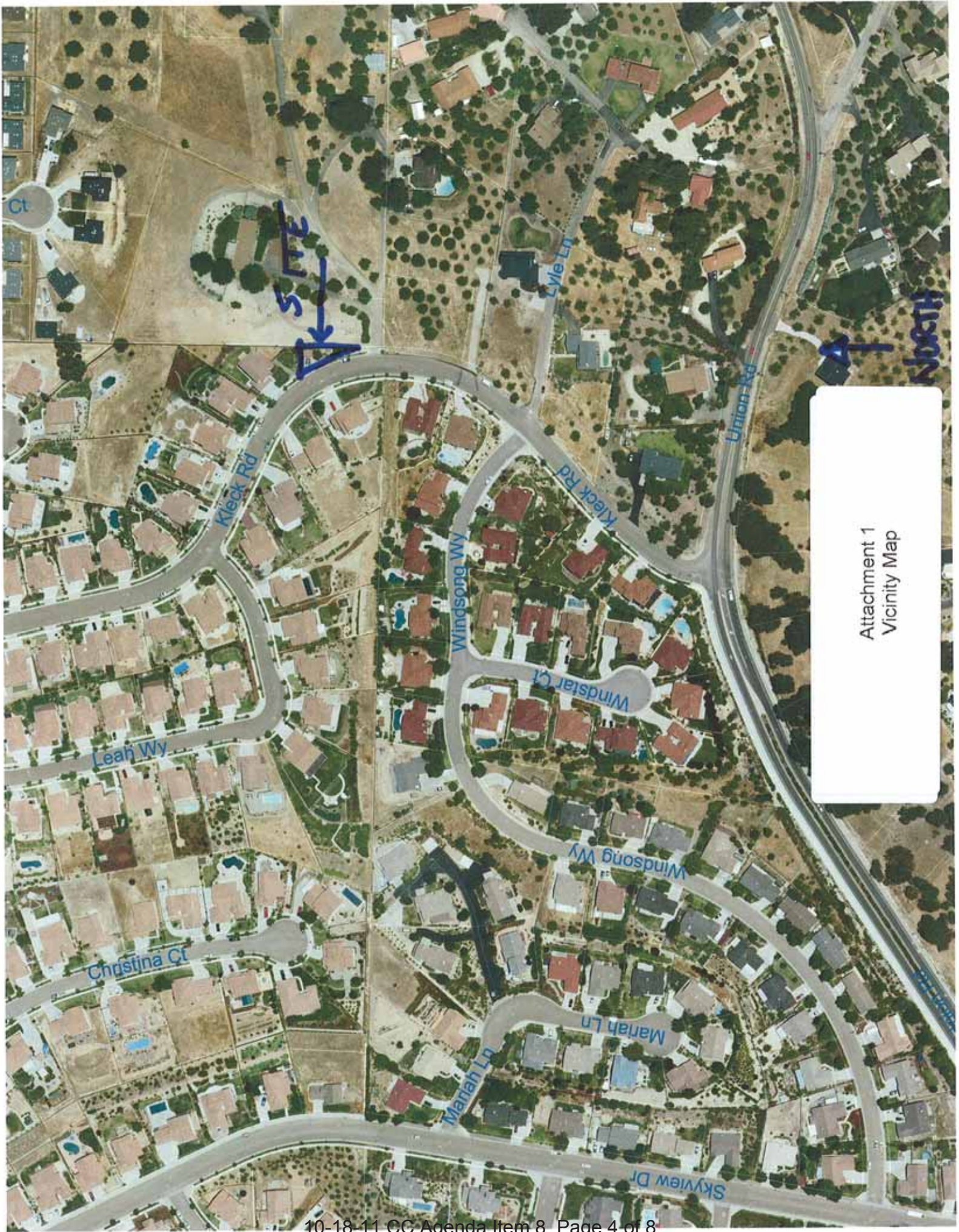
**Report prepared by: Darren Nash, Associate Planner**

**Attachments:**

1. Vicinity Map
2. Arborist Report, with photos, received September 29, 2011
3. Resolution to approve the removal of the tree.

H:\Darren\oaktreeremoval\Kleck Road





Attachment 1  
Vicinity Map



# A & T ARBORISTS

P.O. BOX 1311 TEMPLETON, CA 93465 (805) 434-0131



10-6-11

City of Paso Robles Water Department

Attn: Mike

(805) 237-3866

Re: Coast Live Oak Removal off of Kleck Road

This report is in regard to a seven inch diameter coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*) located near the booster station located off of Kleck Road in Paso Robles. The tree was planted during the beginning of the Montebello Oaks Development. Unfortunately, the location of the tree is too close to water department equipment and it will begin to interfere with the improvements. The two photographs below illustrate the potential root damage and building interference.



Unfortunately, the tree can't be re-located due to its current location and proximity to the equipment. By no means should another replacement tree be planted in the vicinity as there are already several others nearby. Included is the removal permit that calls out for one 2 inch diameter replacement tree to be planted on City property.

Please feel free to call us if there are any questions.

Chip Tamagni  
Certified Arborist #WE 6436-A

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Alvarez".

Steven G. Alvarez  
Certified Arborist #WE0511-A

RECEIVED

OCT 07 2011

Engineering Division

Attachment 2  
Arborist Report with Photos







RESOLUTION NO. 11-xxx

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PASO ROBLES  
AUTHORIZING THE REMOVAL OF ONE OAK TREE  
AT THE CITY WATER BOOSTER STATION  
(CITY INITIATED)

---

WHEREAS, the Public Works Department is requesting to remove a 7-inch Live oak tree that is located at the City water booster station at 1680 Kleck Road; and

WHEREAS, the Community Development Director could not make the determination that the tree is "clearly dead or diseased beyond correction," and therefore, Section 10.01.050.C of the Oak Tree Ordinance would consider the tree "healthy" and require that the City Council make the determination of whether the tree should be removed or not, after consideration of the factors listed in Section 10.01.050.D; and

WHEREAS, Chip Tamagni of A & T Arborists submitted an Arborist Report indicating that the tree was planted too close to the equipment and building and will cause damage to the facilities as the tree grows; and

WHEREAS, the tree was planted along with the other landscaping on the site at the time the booster station was built in 2003; and

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) 7-inch Live Oak tree based on the tree being too close to the City water facilities, and removal of the tree will prevent damage to the facilities in the future;
2. Require the planting of one (1) 2-inch diameter replacement Live Oak to be planted at a time and location to be determined by the City Streets Superintendent. Tree shall be planted prior to the issuance of the permit to remove the tree.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of El Paso de Robles this 18<sup>th</sup> day of October 2011 by the following vote:

AYES:  
NOES:  
ABSTAIN:  
ABSENT:

---

Duane Picanco, Mayor

ATTEST:

---

Caryn Jackson, Deputy City Clerk