

TO: Thomas Frutchey, City Manager
FROM: Susan DeCarli, City Planner
SUBJECT: San Luis Obispo County - Oak Tree Preservation
DATE: July 19, 2016

Needs: For the City Council to approve a resolution in support of the County's efforts to protect oak trees in Northern San Luis Obispo County.

- Facts:**
1. San Luis Obispo County does not currently have an oak tree preservation ordinance in place to help protect oak trees from damage or unnecessary removal.
 2. The County is addressing a grading code enforcement case that resulted in the destruction of numerous native tree species, most notably oak trees, just outside the City of Paso Robles city limits.
 3. The County is considering options to address oak tree preservation, and may consider including protection of other native trees as well.
 4. The City of Paso Robles implemented its first oak tree preservation ordinance in 1988, which was subsequently updated in 2002, and has been in force since that time.
 5. The City's Oak Tree Preservation Ordinance is intended to protect the public interest and welfare in order to maintain the heritage and character of Paso Robles, as well as preserve the beauty and identity of the community.
 6. The City's ordinance provides measures to help protect oak trees, as well as an implementation process for entities that propose to remove oak trees, including specific criteria and findings, and mitigation measures to reduce the impact of oak tree removals.
 7. The City of Paso Robles supports the County in developing a program to help protect native trees, and oak trees in particular in North County.

**Analysis
and**

Conclusion: The City Council has requested a resolution supporting the County's efforts to protect oak trees in northern San Luis Obispo County. A draft resolution for this purpose is provided in Attachment 1.

Policy

Reference: Paso Robles General Plan, 2006 Economic Strategy, and Oak Tree Preservation Ordinance.

Fiscal

Impact: No fiscal impacts have been identified related to supporting the County's efforts to protect oak trees and/or other native trees.

Options: The City Council may take one of the three options listed below:

1. Approve the attached Resolution A supporting the County's efforts to protect oak trees in Northern San Luis Obispo County.
2. Amend the attached resolution.
3. Take no action.

Attachments

1. Draft Resolution #16-xxx

CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 16-XXX

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO DE ROBLES
TO SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY TO PROTECT OAK TREES**

WHEREAS, northern San Luis Obispo County is a natural habitat for several species of oak trees and other native tree species; and

WHEREAS, these oak trees are an integral component of the City of Paso Robles' heritage, bestow natural beauty to the area, are major contributors to the quality of life and economic health of northern San Luis Obispo County, and represent the character and identity of the county; and

WHEREAS, the City's very name, El Paso de Robles, means "The Pass of the Oaks"; and

WHEREAS, San Luis Obispo County is considering developing measures to protect oak trees, and potentially other native tree species, in the unincorporated areas of San Luis Obispo County; and

WHEREAS, the City of Paso Robles adopted an Oak Tree Preservation Ordinance in 1988 intended to protect the public interest and welfare in order to maintain the heritage and character of Paso Robles, as well as preserve the beauty and identity of the community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Paso Robles supports the efforts of the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors to protect oak trees and other native tree species, particularly in northern San Luis Obispo County.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Paso Robles, that the preservation and protection of oak trees, and other native tree species, is of importance to the heritage, quality of life, and economy of northern San Luis Obispo County, and the City of Paso Robles hereby supports the efforts of the County of San Luis Obispo to protect native oak trees and other native tree species throughout the County.

APPROVED this 19th day of July, 2016 by the City Council of the City of Paso Robles by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Steven W. Martin, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kristen L. Buxkemper, Deputy City Clerk