

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

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ROADS & EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

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DIRECTOR'S MEMORANDUM

445-7652 445-7377

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TO:

Land Use Division

FROM:

Thomas K. Mattson, Director

ADMINISTRATION

FACILITY MAINTENANCE

BUSINESS ENGINEERING

DATE:

08/11/2014

RE:

DEPARTMENT POLICY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF STREET TREES

In absence of direction by the Board of Supervisors or the Planning Commission, the following policy shall be used to preserve street trees within the public right of way in urban and urbanizing areas:

- 1. Street trees shall not be removed except when any of the following conditions exist:
 - The tree is hazard, is dead, or is dying
 - The tree must be removed in order to facilitate orderly development; including, but not limited to: constructing a driveway apron, road, sidewalk, or other public improvements; repairing damaged road, curb, gutter, or sidewalk
- 2. Any street tree removed shall be replaced with a new tree so that there is no net loss of street trees. The replacement tree does not need to be the same species as the tree being removed. The replacement tree does not need to be replanted in the same location as the tree that was removed; however, it should be planted as near as practical to maintain uniformity of spacing among the other street trees along the road.
- 3. While trees are exempt from the County's Visibility Ordinance (County Code Section 341-1 et seq.), consideration shall be given to avoid placing trees within the visibility triangle.
- 4. The planting of any street tree shall be done to the satisfaction of the Director.
 - The species of the tree to be planted shall be approved by the Director.
 - A root barrier system approved by the Director shall be installed when a tree is planted.
- 5. When maintenance of street trees has been assumed by an entity (such as McKinleyville Community Services District), the Department shall seek consensus from the entity in regards to supporting the removal of the tree; the species of replacement tree to be planted; the location of where the tree will be planted; and the planting specifications for the replacement tree.

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