

RESOLUTION NO. 2000-72

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF POMONA
ADOPTING THE HISTORIC SITES TREE PROTECTION AND
PRESERVATION PROGRAM**

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF POMONA DOES RESOLVE AS
FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS, the City Council believes that mature trees represent a resource in our community and on historic sites that is worth preserving;

WHEREAS, recent public works projects and line clearance activities have made it apparent that the city needs to develop a clear policy on public works projects and trees and landscaping maintenance for historic sites;

WHEREAS, Section .5809-13 C 1 of the Historic Preservation Ordinance defines alteration as any exterior change or modification through public or private action, to the character-defining or significant physical features of historic sites including cutting or removal of trees, landscaping or other natural features;

WHEREAS, alterations to historic sites require approval of Certificate of Appropriateness;

WHEREAS, City Council Resolution 73-68 protects specimen, or heritage, trees by prohibiting removal of specimen trees, unless the tree becomes infected or infested beyond control, detrimental or hazardous to the public health, safety or welfare;

WHEREAS, the City's Tree Preservation Ordinance defines mature significant trees, requires maintenance and protection of the trees, establishes a permit process for their removal and creates penalties for violation of the ordinance;

WHEREAS, the goal is to develop a tree protection and preservation program for historic sites that will achieve historic preservation goals and be consistent with existing city ordinances on street trees, landscaping and the city's street tree master plan;

WHEREAS, the city is responsible for all trees and landscaping in the city right-of-way;

WHEREAS, inappropriate landscaping or poorly maintained trees can create liability issues;

WHEREAS, the historic sites tree preservation program must ensure that all landscaping in the parkway or on city property is maintained in a manner that does not endanger lives, or create hazards that could threaten public or private property;

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WHEREAS, on April 5, 2000, the Historic Preservation Commission adopted Resolution No. 2000-06 recommending that the City Council adopt and implement the Tree Protection and Preservation Program for historic sites.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED:

SECTION 1. The City Council hereby adopts the Tree Protection and Preservation Program outlined below.

- 1) **Coordination with Southern California Edison on Line Clearing Activities.**
 - a) *Annual Line Clearing Schedule Notification.* Annually, Southern California Edison shall submit to the City Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department a schedule of anticipated tree trimming in all City Historic Districts. The schedule shall identify contractors and locations.
 - b) *Palm Tree Identification.* Annual notification shall include identification of all palm trees in Historic Districts that have the potential to encroach on power lines.
 - c) *Line Clearing Standards.* All line clearance work on mature significant trees, specimen (heritage) trees, or city street trees shall be in compliance with the utility pruning standards established by the International Society of Arboriculture and the Utility Arborists Association. A summary of the standards is presented in Exhibit A.
 - d) *Historic Preservation Commission Notification.*
- 2) **Certificates of Appropriateness Required.** No *character-defining landscaping* shall be removed or trimmed on any historic site without a certificate of appropriateness, unless an emergency situation exists that could threaten, lives, property or the provision of essential services such as electrical power or communications.
- 3) **Historic Sites.** Historic sites shall include historic landmarks and contributing and non-contributing structures within historic districts. Structures legally exempted from the historic district shall not be subject to the private property restrictions of this ordinance. Landscaping within the public right-of-way adjacent to an exempted structure shall be subject to this ordinance.
- 4) **Character-Defining Landscaping.** Character-defining landscaping shall include the following: mature significant trees, designated specimen (heritage) trees and street trees. In existing historic districts, Lincoln Park and Wilton Heights, specimen (heritage) trees shall include all the trees currently designated by the City. In proposed historic districts, the applicants will be required to identify mature significant trees and specimen (heritage) trees as part of the application process.
- 5) **Mature Significant Trees.** Mature significant trees may be located on either public or private property and shall be defined consistent with the City of Pomona Tree Preservation Ordinance and include
 - a) Oak trees with trunks more than eight inches in diameter, and
 - b) Other trees with trunks more than ten inches in diameter, or
 - c) Multi-trunk trees with a total circumference of 38 inches or more.
 - d) Diameter or circumference of the tree trunk is measured at breast height.

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- 6) **Specimen (Heritage) Trees.** Specimen (heritage) trees shall be defined consistent with City Council Resolution No. 73-68 any rare or endangered species or any tree that is considered outstanding because of size, age, appearance, or relationship to historic events. Specimen (heritage) trees may be located on either public or private property.

Specimen (Heritage) Trees in the Lincoln Park Historic District

Number	Common Name	Location	Address
1	Pecan	Right-of-way	160 E. Pasadena
Unknown	Camphor	Right-of-way	E. Pasadena there are 46 trees between Gibbs and San Antonio
Unknown	California Fan Palm	Right-of-way	E. San Francisco there are 139 trees between Eleanor and San Antonio
Unknown	London Plane Tree	Right-of-way	N. Towne there are 49 trees between Lincoln and San Bernardino
1	Crepe Myrtle	Front Yard	588 E. Pasadena
1	Camphor	Front Yard	765 N. Gibbs
1	Ginkgo Bilboa	Front Yard	1180 N. Palomares
1	Cedar of Lebanon	Front Yard	458 E. Jefferson
1	Yew Pine	Front Lawn	502 E. Jefferson

Specimen (Heritage) Trees in the Wilton Heights Historic District

Number	Common Name	Location	Address
1	Walnut	Right-of-way	Southwest corner of Alvarado and Gordon
24	American Sweet Gum	Right-of-way	W. Columbia between White and Wisconsin
21	London Plane Tree	Right-of-way	Chester between White and Wisconsin
25	California Fan Palm	Right-of-way	N. Park Ave. between Orange Grove and Randolph West Side
8	Mexican Fan Palm	Right-of-way	N. Park Ave. between Orange Grove and Randolph West Side

- 7) **Street Trees.** Any tree planted by the city on a city easement, parkway and or dedicated land. Trees or landscaping planted in the public right-of-way by adjacent property owners are not considered street trees.
- 8) **Compliance with City Street Tree Trimming Standards.** All city street trees, mature significant trees, and specimen (heritage trees) on historic sites shall be pruned or trimmed consistent with the adopted trimming policies outlined in the City of Pomona Street Tree Policy Manual and professionally accepted tree trimming standards (Attachment B).¹
- 9) **Exempt Projects.** The following projects do not require a Certificate of Appropriateness
- Trimming or removal of trees that could threaten life, property or the provision of essential services such as electrical power or communications.
 - Trimming of trees or landscaping that block visibility.
 - Removal of any dead or dying trees. Identification of dead or dying trees must be determined by an ISA certified arborist.
 - Removal of any tree or landscaping that blocks visibility, and cannot be trimmed to allow clear sight lines.

¹ Professionally accepted standards include standards established by the following organizations International Society of Arboriculturists (ISA), National Arborists Association (NAA), and American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

EXHIBIT A

SUMMARY OF UTILITY CLEARANCE PRUNING GUIDELINES

The following guidelines are designed to maintain the required clearance of City trees, mature significant trees, and specimen (heritage) trees from high voltage transmission lines. Based upon known tree responses to various pruning techniques, these guidelines were developed to result in minimal re-sprouting and fewer pruning cycles.

- A tree's growth under utility lines is most economically managed by lateral or directional pruning (thinning cuts). Directional pruning is the removal of a branch to the trunk or a significant lateral branch growing away from the conductor. Heading cuts (topping), on the other hand, encourages vigorous sprouting and increases the frequency of pruning cycles and the cost of maintenance.
- All trees should be examined for hazards before commencing with line clearance work. Hangers and dead wood should be removed.
- Where possible, the tree should be allowed to attain normal height, with crown development maturing away from high voltage conductors.
- Pruning should be restricted to removal of branches at crotches within the trees' crown.
- As few cuts as are reasonable should be used to achieve the required clearances.
- When the pruning of a branch will result in the loss of more than one-half (1/2) of the foliage on the branch, it should be removed to the parent stem.
- Precautions shall be taken to pre-cut large limbs to avoid stripping or tearing the bark, and minimize unnecessary wounding. Heavy limbs should be lowered on ropes to avoid damaging bark on limbs and trunks below.
- Placement of pruning cuts shall be determined by anatomy, structure and branching habit. Limbs should not be arbitrarily cut off based on a pre-established clearing limit.
- Final drop-crotch cuts should be made outside the branch bark ridge on the main stem or lateral branch. The remaining branch shall be no smaller than one third (1/3) the diameter of the portion being removed. The removed portion should be pruned out to direct the remaining growth away from the conductors.
- The use of multiple, small-diameter shaping cuts to create an artificially uniform crown form, commonly known as a "roundover", or a hedged side-wall effect, is not cost effective nor consistent with proper pruning practice. Both roundovers and the topping of trees for line clearance shall be prohibited on historic sites in the City of Pomona.

EXHIBIT B

SUMMARY OF CITY PRUNING GUIDELINES FOR STREET TREES, MATURE SIGNIFICANT TREES AND SPECIMEN (HERITAGE) TREES

Excerpts from the City of Pomona Street Tree Policy Manual

1. All tree trimming by the City of Pomona Parks Division, private citizens or private contractors shall be performed in a manner to maintain the natural form and balance of the tree. No tree shall be reduced by more than one third of its height and/or crown in any one trimming.
2. Tree trimming shall be done in a manner that maintains the following minimum clearances.
 - Clearance over residential streets shall be a minimum of eleven feet (11').
 - Clearance over major thoroughfares shall be a minimum height of fourteen feet (14').
 - Clearance over sidewalks shall be a minimum of nine feet (9').

Summary of Professionally Accepted Pruning Techniques


- 1) **Standard Pruning Techniques.** Thinning cuts, sometimes called drop-crotching in mature trees, shall be the standard pruning technique for pruning city street trees, mature significant trees, and specimen (heritage) trees on historic sites. A thinning cut is the removal of a branch at its point of origin, or the shortening of a branch to a lateral that is large enough to assume the terminal role.
 - a) When removing a dead branch, the final cut should be made just outside the branch bark ridge and collar of live callus or woundwood tissue. If the collar has grown out along the branch stub, only the dead stub should be removed. The live collar should remain intact.
 - b) If it is necessary to reduce the length of a branch, the final cut should be made just beyond (without violating) the branch bark ridge of the branch being cut to. The remaining branch should be no less than one third (1/3) the diameter of the branch being removed, and with enough foliage to assume the terminal role.
 - c) Pruning cuts should be clean and smooth, leaving the bark at the edge of the cut firmly attached to the wood. A three-cut process, sometimes referred to as "jump-cutting," should be used to remove larger limbs in order to avoid stripping or tearing of the bark, and to minimize unnecessary wounding.
- 2) **Training Young Trees.** Properly trained trees will develop into structurally strong trees well-suited for their surroundings. These trees should require little corrective pruning as they mature. However, they should be trained so that when the young trees a large mature size, they have a sturdy, tapered trunk with well-spaced branches that are smaller in diameter than the trunk.

- 3) **Pruning Mature Trees.** As trees mature, their need for structural pruning should decrease. Pruning should then focus on maintaining tree structure, form, health and appearance. This shall be accomplished through one of the three methods described below.
- a) ***Crown cleaning***, or cleaning out, is the removal of dead, dying, broken, diseased, crossing, weakly attached, and low-vigor branches from a tree's crown; as well as the elimination of water sprouts, sucker growth and foreign materials from the entire tree.
 - b) ***Crown restoration*** is intended to improve structure and appearance of trees that have sprouted vigorously after being broken, topped or severely pruned using heading cuts. One to three sprouts, on main branch stubs, should be selected to form a natural appearing crown. The vigorous sprouts may need to be thinned or cut to a lateral to control length growth or ensure adequate attachment for the size of the sprout. Crown restoration may require several prunings over a number of years.
 - c) ***Crown thinning***, is the selective removal of branches to increase light penetration and air movement through the crown.
 - When thinning the crown of mature trees, no more than twenty percent (20%) of the tree's live growth should be removed.
 - When thinning the crown of slower growing, or particularly sensitive species (such as Native Oaks), no more than ten percent (10%) of the live growth should be removed.
 - Trees shall always be thinned to their natural form, and should retain well-spaced inner lateral branches with foliage.

[illegible]

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Resolution was passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Pomona, California, and signed by the Mayor of said City at a (an) _____ regular meeting of said Council, held on the 1st day of May, 2000, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:	Councilmembers:	<u>Hunter, Robles, Carrizosa, Lantz, Rothman,</u>
"	"	<u>(Mayor) Cortez.</u>
NOES:	"	<u></u>
ABSTENTIONS:	"	<u></u>
ABSENT:	"	<u>White.</u>
NOT VOTING:	"	<u></u>


City Clerk