TREE PRESERVATION

Trees are one of the things in historic neighborhoods that residents identify with most. Residents are protective of their neighborhood trees. The City of Pomona recognizes that this is one of the features that give historic neighborhoods their character. The City also recognizes that trees are damaged and eventually die. The guidelines in this section relate to the care of trees and the process if a tree needs to be removed. The City of Pomona is committed to reforesting our historic districts, to protect the character of our neighborhoods and to provide environmental benefits to the public.

Mature trees provide many benefits to the public. They provide shade, which reduces the ambient temperature, and the heat on houses (up to 40 degrees), which reduces the need for air conditioning. The shade also makes the streets more walkable. Trees are also good for the environment by reducing the heat island effect, cleaning the air, and sequestering carbon, which reduces the amount of greenhouse gases in the air.

PROTECTED TREES

The City of Pomona has, as part of the tree protection and preservation program, a protected species list. Any tree listed and meeting the minimum size (diameter) requires approval before it can be removed. Trees that are dead, diseased, or a danger to public welfare, may be approved by Staff. Healthy trees that are not dangerous may be removed with the approval of the Historic Preservation Commission.

TREE PROTECTION ZONES

The protected zone of a tree on historic properties is the area on the ground beneath the "dripline" or canopy of the tree. Any work proposed within the protected zone requires review to determine if the proposed work could affect the tree, causing its death. Alterations to the proposed project may be necessary to protect the tree.

ROOT CUTTING

Great care needs to be taken when cutting roots within the dripline of a tree. cutting too many roots can cause the tree to die, or damage it to a point that it can fall.

IRRIGATION LINES NEAR TREES

Irrigation lines should be placed far enough from the tree to avoid existing and future tree roots. Tree roots can break irrigation lines. This can reduce water pressure, and potentially cause the overwatering of the tree (See Over-Watering Below)

OVER-WATERING

Overwatering trees can cause severe damage to the roots of a tree. Over-watering can lead to root rot, which will damage the tree and make it more vulnerable to falling over in windy conditions.

WATERING STREET TREES

Property owners are required to water street trees in parkways in front of their property. Failure to water street trees could result in Code Enforcement Action. In addition, the City can water the trees and charge the property owner the cost of watering the trees.

TREE TRIMMING STANDARDS

The City of Pomona requires all trees to be trimmed using the ANSI 300 Pruning Standards. Any tree not pruned to these standards could require the evaluation of the tree to determine if replacement of the tree is necessary. Any replacement would follow the City's Replacement Methodology and would be considered retroactive for determination of the replacement amount.

The ANSI 300 Standards **require an Arborist** to oversee any trimming of a tree.

The ANSI 300 tree pruning standards are at the end of this chapter.

TREE REPLACEMENT METHODOLOGY

The City of Pomona has developed a replacement methodology for trees that are approved for removal. The intention of the methodology is to replace a tree with a tree of equal replacement value. It is based on the type of tree proposed for removal, its size (diameter at breast height or dbh)(dbh is equal to 4 feet 6 inches), and the proposed replacement tree species.

The Replacement Methodology is as follows:

Tree Type x Heritage Tree x Retroactive Permit = Total Replacement Value

Maximum Replacement Ratio is 8:1

TREE TYPE

Category 1:

1:1: Any tree replaced with the same species, a tree on the Preferred Tree List, or a tree similar in height and canopy size to the trees on the Preferred Tree List.

For trees not on the Preferred Tree List, City staff and the City Arborist will compare a proposed tree's characteristics with characteristics of the trees on the Preferred Tree List and use iTrees software to verify that the proposed tree is similar to trees on the preferred tree list.

Category 2:

2:1: Any tree replaced with a species that does not meet the Category 1 requirements.

HERITAGE TREES

Any tree removed over twenty-four (24) inches in diameter shall be replaced at a rate double the rate specified under Tree Type (2:1 replacement rate).

RETROACTIVE PERMITS

All applications asking for approval of a tree removed prior to approval is considered a Retroactive approval. Retroactive approval are replaced at double the combined rate of Tree Type and Heritage Tree rates (2:1 replacement rate).

EXAMPLES

The following examples illustrate how the replacement value will be calculated under the research methodology.

Example #1

Approval to replace a 20-inch London Plane tree to be replaced with a London Plane tree.

Tree Type:	1:1 (Same Tree Species)
Heritage Tree:	N/A
Retroactive Permit:	N/A
Total:	1:1

Example #2

Approval to replace a 28-inch American Sweet Gum tree to be replaced with a California Sycamore.

Tree Type:	1:1 (California Sycamore on Preferred List)
Heritage Tree:	2:1
Retroactive Permit:	N/A
Total:	2:1

Example #3

Retroactive removal of a 30-inch diameter Camphor tree to be replaced with a Navel Orange tree.

Tree Type:	2:1
Heritage Tree:	2:1
Retroactive Permit:	2:1
Total:	8:1

MINIMUM TREE SIZE

Minimum tree size for replanting.

The city requires that any replacement tree be a minimum of 15-gallon tree.