

**THE CITY OF COSTA MESA  
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION  
AND  
CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH  
PARKS, BEACHES & RECREATION COMMISSION  
JOINT SPECIAL MEETING**

**December 7, 2011**

The Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Costa Mesa, California met for a joint special meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 7, 2011, in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 77 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa, California.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. ROLL CALL**

Costa Mesa Commissioners Present:	Chair Jeff R. Mathews Vice Chair Kim Pederson Commissioner Dean Abernathy Commissioner Ethan Temianka Commissioner Dan Vozenilek
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Newport Beach Commissioners Present:	Chair Phil Lugar Vice Chair Kathy Hamilton Commissioner Tom Anderson Commissioner Roy Englebrecht Commissioner Marie Marston Commissioner Jack Tingley
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Commissioners Absent:	Commissioner Ron Cole
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Costa Mesa Officials Present:	Peter Naghavi, Interim Assistant Chief Executive Officer Ernesto Munoz, Interim Public Services Director Bart Mejia, Parks Project Manager Bruce A. Hartley, Maintenance Services Manager
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Newport Beach Officials Present:	Mark Harmon, Municipal Operations Director Mike Pisani, Municipal Operations Deputy Director Laura Detweiler, Recreation & Senior Services Director Dan Sereno, Park & Trees Superintendent
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**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jim Fitzpatrick  
Resident, Costa Mesa  
Mr. Fitzpatrick voiced his concerns to the Commissions. He believes that the tree replacement project should be in-kind. Mr. Fitzpatrick recommended that the Commissions consider the removal of poles and for each city to install a welcoming monument during the project.

**V. ITEM FOR DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION**

**1. Irvine Avenue Median Relandscaping**

Report presented by Mike Pisani and Harry Kobzeff of TCLA, Inc. Mark Harmon, Ernesto Munoz, and Dan Sereno were also present to answer questions by the Commissions.

Discussion among Commissioner Roy Englebrecht, Mr. Pisani, and Mr. Kobzeff ensued on whether or not the African Tulip tree is available in a larger size, on the timeframe to complete the project, on the tree growth of the African Tulip tree, and on the length of time, within a year, that the African Tulip tree will be deciduous.

Vice Chair Kathy Hamilton commented that she is pleased with the density of the low shrubs.

Commissioner Marie Marston said that the design plans are nice.

Discussion between Commissioner Marie Marston and Mr. Kobzeff took place on the root system of the palm tree, and on whether or not the palm tree would topple over should a vehicle hit the tree.

Discussion between Commissioner Jack Tingley and Mr. Harmon occurred on the recommendation to install palm trees, and on the budget for this project.

Commissioner Tom Anderson thanked staff for the report. He also provided pictures to the Commissions and staff in reference to the medians. Commissioner Tom Anderson stated that he would like to see tree species that are bigger, bolder, and majestic.

Chair Phil Lugar stated that he is in favor of this design. He suggested that the landscape architect consider another tree species or another variety of the palm tree. Chair Phil Lugar said that it is a great design and compromise for the area as well as providing safe visibility for traffic.

Discussion between Commissioner Dean Abernathy and Mr. Kobzeff ensued on the growth to full maturity of the palm trees and the African Tulip tree.

Discussion between Vice Chair Kim Pederson and Mr. Kobzeff took place on whether or not all the current plantings will be removed before the project begins.

Discussion between Commissioner Ethan Temianka and Mr. Harmon occurred on whether or not the poles will be removed during this project. Commissioner Ethan Temianka said that he likes the design.

Discussion between Commission Ethan Temianka and Mr. Harmon ensued on the limited options offered in the report for the Commissions to choose from.

Discussion between Commissioner Dan Vozenilek and Mr. Kobzeff took place on various types of tree droppings, and on whether or not the tree droppings will cause safety concerns.

Discussion between Commissioner Dan Vozenilek and Mr. Harmon occurred on installing a more modern type of boarder and not the red stamp concrete.

Public Comments:

1. Jim Fitzpatrick  
Resident, Costa Mesa  
Mr. Fitzpatrick addressed the Commissions. He recommended that the Commissions include the removal of the poles and to install a welcoming monument in the motion.
2. Milo  
Milo voiced his concerns to the Commissions. He suggested that the Commissions consider classic American trees as a tree replacement for the medians.

3. Jim Motzart  
Resident, Newport Beach  
Mr. Motzart addressed the Commissions. He believes that the tree species selected for this project is not appropriate. Mr. Motzart suggested that the Commissions consider using the tree species that are on West Cliff Drive.

Other Related Comments:

4. Brad Wade  
Resident, Costa Mesa  
Mr. Wade called in on December 2, 2011 at 1:35 p.m. He is against the recommendation of the design plan.
5. Charlie and Norma Roberts  
Residents, Costa Mesa  
Mr. and Mrs. Roberts e-mailed their comments on December 7, 2011 at 4:49 p.m. They recommended that the Commissions consider replanting young Eucalyptus Blue Gum trees in the medians instead of palm trees.
6. Bobbie Yates  
Resident, Costa Mesa and Newport Beach  
Ms. Yates called in on behalf of herself and 18 other residents on December 16, 2011 at 8:55 a.m. She suggested that the Commissions consider planting hibiscus for the medians.

Discussion between Commissioner Tom Anderson and Mr. Harmon ensued on the status of the memorial at the site.

Chair Phil Lugar stated that he likes the design and he will support it.

Vice Chair Kim Pederson stated that he will not support replanting Eucalyptus trees, and that he likes the design. Vice Chair Kim Pederson thanked staff from Costa Mesa and Newport Beach for working together on this project.

Discussion between Commissioner Dan Vozenilek and Mr. Munoz took place on the entry monument signage program.

Commissioner Jack Tingley requested that staff provide more design plans for the Commissions to review.

**Motion made by Commissioner Jack Tingley, dies for a lack of second, to recommend City Council approve the proposed conceptual design with the following amendment:**

- **To eliminate the palm trees**

Commissioner Tom Anderson said that he would prefer a majestic type of palm tree or to have other options available to choose from and not what was suggested.

**Motion made by Commissioner Tom Anderson, seconded by Chair Phil Lugar and carried six to zero, with Commissioner Ron Cole begin absent, to recommend Newport Beach City Council accept the conceptual design plan as proposed by the Joint Commissions except for the option of palm trees, which will be presented to the City Council.**

Discussion between Commissioner Ethan Temianka and Mr. Kobzeff occurred on the palm tree selection process.

Discussion between Vice Chair Kathy Hamilton and Mr. Sereno ensued on the care and maintenance of various types of palm tree species.

**Substitute motion made by Commissioner Dan Vozenilek, seconded by Chair Jeff R. Mathews and carried five to zero, with the consensus of the Newport Beach Parks, Beaches, and Recreation Commission members present, to recommend Newport Beach City Council accept the conceptual design plan as proposed with the following exceptions, which will be presented to the Newport Beach City Council:**

- Several palm tree options
- Various design choices for the stamp concrete

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m. to the next regular scheduled agenda review on Wednesday, January 25, 2012, at 5:15 p.m. in Conference Room 1A, followed by the Commission meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Submitted by:



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**ERNESTO MUNOZ**  
Interim Public Services Director