



City of Fort Bragg

416 N Franklin Street
Fort Bragg, CA 95437
Phone: (707) 961-2823
Fax: (707) 961-2802

Meeting Agenda Public Works and Facilities Committee

Thursday, August 18, 2016

3:00 PM

Town Hall, 363 N. Main Street

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[16-327](#) Approve Minutes of June 22, 2016

Attachments: [Attachment 1 - Minutes 2016-06-22.pdf](#)

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

[16-328](#) Receive Report and Make Recommendations to City Council Regarding Adaptive Management of Coastal Parks

Attachments: [08182016 Coastal Tr Adapt Mgmt.doc](#)

[Coastal Tr adapt mgmt, Attach 1 guide table.pdf](#)

[Coastal Tr adapt mgmt, Attach 2 S Tr sketch.pdf](#)

[Coastal Tr adapt mgmt, Attach 3 Ch 9-70.pdf](#)

[16-329](#) Receive Report and Discuss Replanting Vegetation in City Right-of-Way at North End of North Harrison Street

Attachments: [08182016 Replant Veg, N Harrison St.doc](#)

[08182016 N Harrison, attach 1.pdf](#)

[08182016 N Harrison, attach 2.pdf](#)

[16-331](#) Receive Oral Update from Staff on Departmental Activities

MATTERS FROM COMMITTEE / STAFF

ADJOURNMENT

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
)ss.
COUNTY OF MENDOCINO)

I declare, under penalty of perjury, that I am employed by the City of Fort Bragg and that I caused this agenda to be posted in the City Hall notice case on August 15, 2016.

Crystal Prairie, Public Works Project Analyst

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

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- *Such documents are also available on the City of Fort Bragg's website at <http://city.fortbragg.com> subject to staff's ability to post the documents before the meeting*

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Text File

File Number: 16-327

Agenda Date: 8/18/2016

Version: 1

Status: Business

In Control: Public Works and Facilities Committee

File Type: Minutes

Approve Minutes of June 22, 2016



City of Fort Bragg

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Meeting Minutes - Draft Public Works and Facilities Committee

Wednesday, June 22, 2016

3:00 PM

City Hall Conference Room, 416 N. Franklin Street

Special Meeting

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Committee Member Turner at 3:11pm. Staff members present: Marie Jones, Crystal Prairie, Tom Varga, Scott Schneider.

Present: 2 - Dave Turner and Lindy Peters

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approve Minutes of May 19, 2016

Approved as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Consider Draft Regulations for Electric Personal Assistive Mobility Devices (EPAMDs)

Public Works Director Varga gave a brief overview of staff report and draft regulations.

There was discussion of only having EPAMDs on paved surface vs. gravel surface. Decision was made to remove section stating no use on gravel surface.

There was discussion of insurance requirements as well as business license requirements.

There was discussion of potential use of EPAMDs on sidewalks as well as having people on the roadway (or in bike lanes.)

Lynne Baumgartner talked about possible locations for tours for her potential business. Glass Beach Drive to trestle. Cemetery. Harold Street to Otis Johnson Park. Cedar Street to Timberwolf Stadium. Behind skate park. Coastal Trail is not an option at this point. 8 people is full tour. Pointed out that the Healdsburg example given in staff report was from 2003. Updated laws (2008) do mention EPAMDs. City can regulate, but regulations can not be less stringent than State.

Public works Director Varga read a letter from Alice and Douglas Chouteau against use of EPAMDs in Fort Bragg.

Direction was given to staff to send regulations to City Attorney's office and then bring to Council for approval.

Receive Report and Discuss Special Events and Other Public Uses of Coastal Trail Property

Public Works Director Varga gave an overview of the staff report and draft guidelines. He also read an email from Alice and Douglas Chouteau in opposition to events on the Trail.

Chuck Greenberg stated the Kite Festival (benefiting Habitat for Humanity) needs to use amplified sound, as well as sell food at the event. There was discussion about adding that regulation to the Encroachment Permit process.

Community Development Director Jones mentioned that there is an area around the runway on the south trail that wasn't acquired with Coastal Conservancy dollars. It's 2 acres and could be used for different types of events that don't have to be regulated. It was clarified that Noyo Headlands Park is 92 acres. Coastal Conservancy only bought 35. The rest of the property was donated by GP. Research needs to be done to find out if all of the property has the deed restriction. The 100 person limit is problematic for things such as runs. The 4 hour limit also seems problematic. Change it to a case by case basis. TAC would get involved for an event over 100 people and an encroachment permit will be required. The Phase II Trail has several parts that will not be paid for with Coastal Conservancy dollars. A suggestion was made to break up regulations geographically (Site A - Coastal Conservancy Funded site and Site B - Non Coastal Conservancy funded site.) Start a three tier permit process. Different fees for non profit vs. commercial. There was discussion of the "non-refundable fee," versus a cleaning deposit. There was discussion about fees to be charged for a "for profit" event. Possible base fee of \$3,000 for all 5 acres with a lower fee for using less land, or have a lower base fee and take a percentage.

There was discussion of potentially setting up "fair grounds" at some point in the future. There was discussion of using the dog park for events as the property is not restricted by the Coastal Conservancy Deed Restriction.

Public Works Director Varga mentioned having similar regulations to the proposed for smaller events, and anything over 100 people would have to go through TAC. Anything that restricts access triggers a Coastal Development Permit. A suggestion was made that anything over 2,000 people goes to City Council for review.

Administrative Services Director Schneider stated the trail is a big asset that should be utilized and not overly restricted at this point. There was discussion about potential festivals and events that could happen in the future.

There was discussion about marketing the trail to draw people to Fort Bragg.

A suggestion was made that a "standing reservation" be held for events like Paul Bunyan Days and the Kite Festival.

Direction was given to staff to refine regulations based on discussion and bring back to committee at future date.

Receive Oral Update from Staff on Departmental Activities

Summers Lane Reservoir excavation is mostly done. Building under drain currently.

Chestnut Street multi-use path Request for Authorization is in process. May be constructed by the

end of 2016.

Otis Johnson Park there will be maintenance during late June and possibly middle of July. Strong candidates for caretaker.

Independence Day weekend fireworks set up.

Water Tank Project CDBG application underway.

MATTERS FROM COMMITTEE / STAFF

Committee Member Peters mentioned that there is narrow sidewalk on Chestnut where there are bushes encroaching on sidewalk and people have to go out in the street. Community Development Director Jones will pass along information for Code Enforcement letter.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:55pm by Committee Member Turner.



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Text File

File Number: 16-328

Agenda Date: 8/18/2016

Version: 1

Status: Business

In Control: Public Works and Facilities Committee

File Type: Staff Report

Receive Report and Make Recommendations to City Council Regarding Adaptive Management of Coastal Parks



CITY OF FORT BRAGG

416 N. FRANKLIN, FORT BRAGG, CA 95437
PHONE 707/961-2823 FAX 707/961-2802

COUNCIL COMMITTEE ITEM SUMMARY REPORT

MEETING DATE: August 18, 2016
TO: Public Works & Facilities Committee
FROM: Tom Z. Varga, Public Works Director
AGENDA ITEM TITLE: **Receive Report and Make Recommendations to City Council Regarding Adaptive Management of Coastal Parks**

ISSUE:

The Coastal Trail and the new Noyo Headlands Park open up a new range of uses and activities for the City and the community. On-going discussions have taken place with the most recent at the June 22nd meeting of the Public Works and Facilities Committee. Commercial versus non-commercial uses have been discussed. The deed restrictions placed by the State Coastal Conservancy cover much, but not all of Noyo Headlands Park. Since the last Committee meeting, the strategy for policy guidance has evolved to one of adaptive management for our coastal parks. Adaptive management is an interactive/iterative process of decision-making when the specific outcomes cannot be predicted and a more hands-on process of reducing this uncertainty is desired. A variety of issues will be considered: special events, fire pits, beach glass, Glass Beach staircase, and distribution of handbills. While the focus will be on the large and popular Coastal Trail, the rest of Noyo Headlands Park as well as Pomo Bluffs Park and Noyo Beach will benefit from the decisions made.

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

Special Events

At its last meeting, the Committee gave a great deal of guidance on how to potentially regulate events held within Noyo Headlands Park. Attachment 1 is a synthesis of this discussion. In general, events can be broken down into three sizes depending on the number people expected to attend. A fourth type of event does not need further analysis if it is small enough so that it occurs within the bounds of normal public recreation and does not adversely impact the enjoyment of the park by the rest of the public, (e.g. small gatherings, picnics, etc.). A large portion of the park was purchased with funds from the State Coastal Conservancy. They placed restrictions on the deed emphasizing the passive recreational nature of park usage. This has been interpreted to preclude commercial activities, motorized vehicles, and the like. Some of the park was acquired as part of a property exchange with Georgia Pacific. Attachment 2 shows these areas within the southern portion of the park. These acquisitions are not bound by the

Coastal Conservancy deed restrictions. The southerly 20 feet of the northern parking lot by Elm Street was part of this exchange too, but is not a practical part of this discussion. Likewise, the eastern portion of the southern parking lot and a small area next to it is of an awkward size, shape, and location to be useful. Of interest though is the dog park area and adjoining abandoned runway. The dog park area is approximately 80 feet to 120 feet wide and 850 feet long, (about 2 acres in size). The relevant portion of the runway starts at the southern parking lot and extends 1,500 feet to the north, (covering about 1.7 acres). It is primarily used for overflow parking during large events.

It should be noted that staff is actively negotiating with Georgia Pacific for the acquisition of land for the central portion of the Coastal Trail that will connect the existing northern and southern sections. This will be a multi-acre acquisition that could accommodate events without the Coastal Conservancy deed restrictions.

Regulations for the areas in or out of the deed restricted portions of the park can be the same with the details of specific conditions handled during the permitting process. The number of participants in an event which define its size for regulatory purposes should be confirmed as to what the desired threshold numbers will be. The summary tables notes a few other considerations which staff is requesting additional clarification. In addition, the entire park is within the coastal zone and many events may either require Coastal Development Permits and/or Limited Term Permits.

Noyo Beach Fire Pits

Following the Independence Day fireworks event, the Fort Bragg Fire Department suggested that a few fire pits be installed Noyo Beach to reduce the amount of driftwood and illegal campfires on the beach. Staff recommends that two simple pits be placed on the beach on a trial basis to see how this concept may work. Due to the nature of the sand on this beach, access for installation of the fire pits will be the first challenge. Public Works is investigating ways to accomplish this with minimal use of mechanical equipment. Other issues to monitor and manage adaptively will be use of the pits by transients and possible smoke impacts on the surrounding neighbors. Enforcement of any regulations will need to be managed collaboratively with the Police and perhaps the Fire Department.

Glass Beach Management Issues

Glass Beach is a world-renowned destination with its unique, polished glass pieces. Many visitors wish to take home special souvenirs of their visit to Fort Bragg and Glass Beach. Some visitors unfortunately are overzealous and may take glass by the pound. The management question is whether it is possible for visitors to take a keepsake or two versus hauling off all the glass in a few years. Is there a practical way to sign or otherwise regulate the reasonable taking of a memento? What would this look like? How can it be enforced?

Beyond the attraction of the glass on Glass Beach, access to the beach itself has become a management issue. The cable stairs installed in 2015 are difficult to negotiate. A portion of the lower bluff under the stairs is affected by a seep that has washed away the soil under the steps. In addition, winter storm waves damage the bottom of the stairs. City staff has engaged in discussions with a local engineer and are prepared to bring forward a contract for an engineer to examine ways to improve the footing at the bottom of the stairs and add a handrail. Nevertheless, the ocean's shore is an exceptionally demanding environment that requires a major investment in maintenance. Staff wishes to discuss with the Committee what would be the appropriate cost commitment to maintain this stairway. The stairway can be potentially

relocated, but at a significant cost. As a point of reference, the original cable stair installation cost \$8,600.

A future beach access staircase to Soldier Bay is under consideration as part of the future middle section of the Coastal Trail. Access decisions to Glass Beach may help to inform the design process of this next access as applicable.

Handbills

During the latter part of July, an incident occurred on the north Coastal Trail near the parking lot, involving the handing out of brochures by a private party. Two persons had a rack of brochures mounted on a small hand truck which was placed near the access between the west end of the parking lot and the trail. It was placed in such a way as to not interfere with any pedestrian traffic. The individuals were respectful and did not actively proselytize passersby. The brochures were available to the public and the individuals would speak to anyone interested in doing so. They did not leave any litter and left after a few hours.

This incident generated a fair amount of concern about litter and whether distribution of literature was appropriate in the City's parks. The City has some ability to regulate how speech is made, but not its content.

Presently, the City regulates handbills, generally on private property, through Chapter 9.70 of the Municipal Code, (Attachment 3). There is not much in this Chapter that applies to public spaces, property, or rights of way. Staff recommends, modifying the chapter to include all City parks. However, a discussion of what is to be regulated and how it might be accomplished will be helpful for staff.

Regarding the use a hand truck as a mobile distribution rack, the City has more tools at its disposal. Chapter 9.60 of the Municipal Code generally prohibits placing articles in public streets with only certain limited exceptions. This is further refined in Chapter 9.72 with the issuance of Encroachment Permits (EPs) to regulate this kind of activity. These permits primarily cover construction, street furniture, and the display of merchandise. There is however language that applies to, "...occupy, with other items...in or upon any...other public place or City right-of-way or property..." only with an encroachment permit. However, an EP can be avoided by personally carrying any material or keeping the hand truck regularly moving. Chapters 9.60 and 9.72 may warrant some updating as well.

RECOMMENDATION:

There are several distinct, but related topics to consider. Following its review and discussion, the Committee may wish to exercise further outreach or consideration of these matters in the spirit of adaptive management.

ATTACHMENTS:

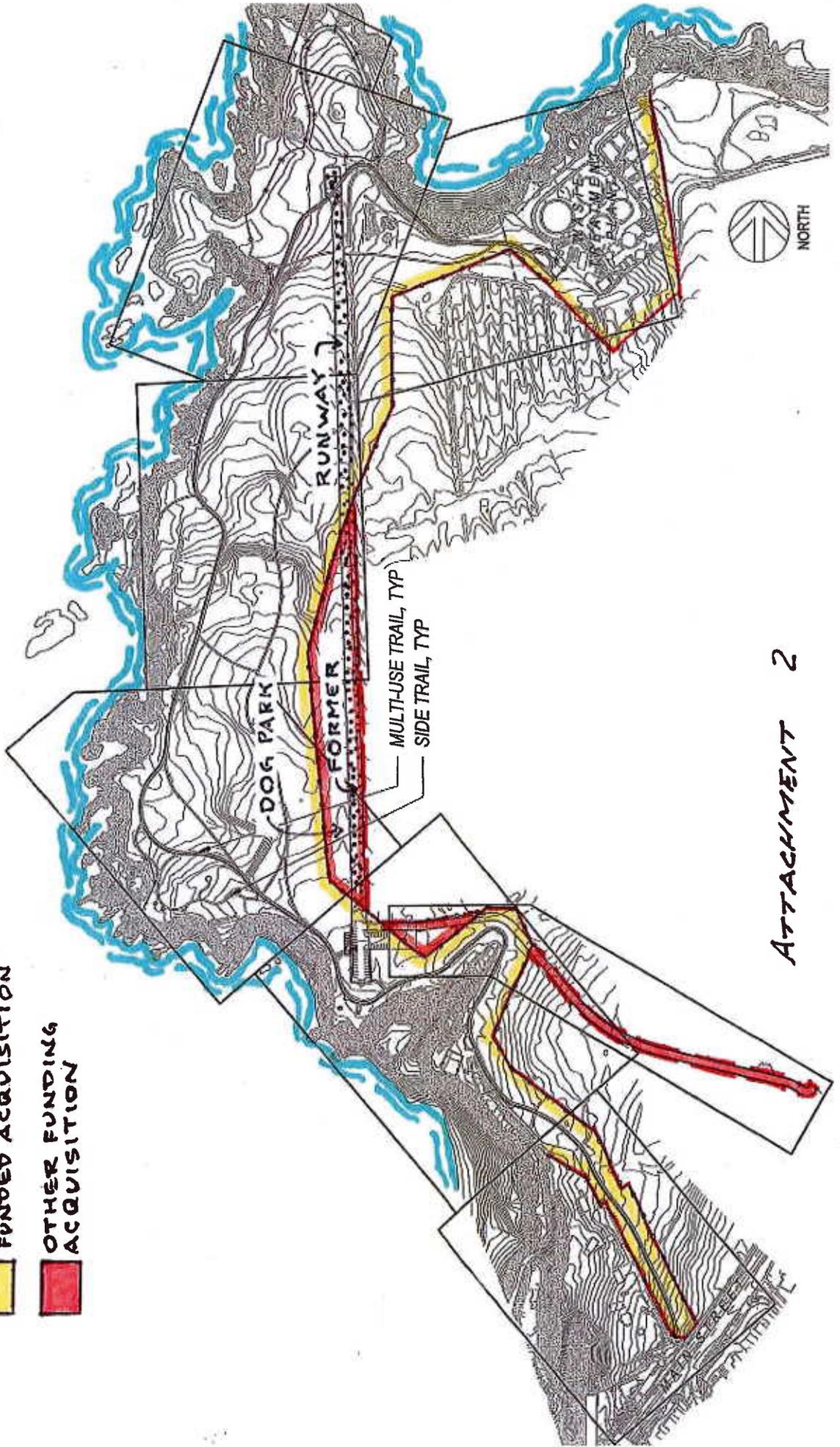
1. Summary Table of Usage Guidelines
2. South Coastal Trail Sketch
3. Municipal Code, Chapter 9.70 - Handbills

Summary Table of Usage Guidelines:

LOCATION	SIZE OF EVENT	APPROVAL MECHANISM	TYPICAL CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS	EXAMPLE EVENTS	NOTES
Deed Restricted – Passive Recreation No entrance admission No access restrictions	< 100 people	Public Works, Encroachment Permit	- 4 to 8 hours - <10 cars - \$400 deposit, 50% refund - Amplified sound? - No chairs, eqpt, etc.	Weddings Tours? Birthdays Filming?	Filming to be coordinated with the Film Permit
	> 100 people & < 1,000 people	Tech. Advisory Cmmtte., Ltd. Term Permit	- LTP conditions - For profit events - Amplified sound OK - Temp eqpt OK	Small festivals Fund raisers	
	> 1,000 people	Full Council or Council Committee	- Event specific conditions - Amplified sound OK - Temp eqpt OK	Paul Bunyan Days Running events Fairs/carnivals Tournaments	June 2016 Coastal Trail celebration OK with Coastal Conservancy
Non-Deed Restricted (see Attachment ___) Dog park & southerly 1,500 feet of runway For profit event requires a CDP	< 100 people	Public Works, Encroachment Permit	- 4 to 8 hours - <10 cars - \$400 deposit, 50% refund - Amplified sound? - No chairs, eqpt, etc.	Weddings Tours? Birthdays Filming?	Filming to be coordinated with the Film Permit
	> 100 people & < 1,000 people	Tech. Advisory Cmmtte., Ltd. Term Permit	- LTP conditions - For profit events - Amplified sound OK - Temp eqpt OK	Small festivals Fund raisers	
	> 1,000 people	Full Council or Council Committee	- Event specific conditions - Amplified sound OK - Temp eqpt OK	Paul Bunyan Days Running events Fairs/carnivals Tournaments	Paul Bunyan Days interested in an area of up to 5 acres

PACIFIC OCEAN

- COASTAL CONSERVANCY FUNDED ACQUISITION
- OTHER FUNDING ACQUISITION



ATTACHMENT 2

CHAPTER 9.70 HANDBILLS

Section

- [9.70.010](#) Purpose - intent
- [9.70.020](#) Definitions
- [9.70.030](#) Prohibition on delivery to posted residents
- [9.70.040](#) Name and address of sponsor or distributor required on handbill
- [9.70.050](#) Distributor's failure to provide such notice
- [9.70.060](#) Placing in vehicles
- [9.70.070](#) Distributing on private property
- [9.70.080](#) Hours of distribution limited
- [9.70.090](#) Exemptions
- [9.70.100](#) Penalty

9.70.010 PURPOSE - INTENT.

A. The purpose of this chapter is to protect the rights of City residents who desire not to receive unwanted print or other written materials, whether commercial or noncommercial in nature, including unsolicited newspapers. The right of privacy affords citizens an unquestionable and enforceable right to determine and limit the materials they will allow to be delivered on their private property. A person may not be compelled to listen to or view any unwanted communication, spoken or written, whatever its merit, in the privacy of his or her home. When a resident affirmatively provides notice that he or she desires not to receive delivery of unsolicited print or other written materials, to deliver is, in effect, a trespass against the resident.

B. This chapter is intended to ensure and protect the privacy rights of City residents on their private property and to deter the accumulation of unsolicited literature that might signal that a house is unoccupied. It is further intended to prevent littering and protect the aesthetic appearance of the City by reasonable regulation of the time, place and manner of the distribution and delivery of unsolicited print or written materials in the City.

(Ord. 875, § 48, passed 8-25-2008)

9.70.020 DEFINITIONS.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

ATTACHMENT 3

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COMMERCIAL HANDBILL. Any printed or written matter, any sample or device, dodger, circular, leaflet, pamphlet, paper booklet or any other printed or otherwise reproduced original or copies of any matter of literature, which advertises for sale any merchandise, produce, commodity, or thing; or which directs attention to any business or mercantile or commercial establishment, or other activity, for the purpose of either directly or indirectly promoting the interest thereof by sales; or which, while containing reading matter other than advertising matter, is predominately and essentially an advertisement, and is distributed or circulated for advertising purposes, or for the private benefit and gain of any person engaged as advertiser or distributor.

HANDBILL DISTRIBUTOR. Includes any person engaging or engaged in the business for hire or gain of distributing commercial or non-commercial handbills, other than newspapers distributed to subscribers thereof, and any person receiving compensation directly or indirectly for the distribution of such handbills.

NEWSPAPER. Any newspaper of general circulation as defined by general law, any newspaper duly entered with the Post Office Department of the United States, in accordance with Federal statute or regulation, and any newspaper filed and recorded with any recording officer as provided by general law; and, in addition thereto, shall mean and include any periodical or current magazine regularly published with not less than four (4) issues per year, and sold to the public.

NON-COMMERCIAL HANDBILL. Any printed or written matter, any sample, or device, dodger, circular, leaflet, pamphlet, newspaper, magazine, paper, booklet, or any other printed or otherwise reproduced original or copies of any matter of literature not included in the definitions of a commercial handbill or newspaper.

PRIVATE PREMISES. Any dwelling, house, building, or other structure, designed, or used either wholly or in part for private residential purposes, whether inhabited or temporarily or continuously uninhabited or vacant, and shall include any yard, grounds, walk, driveway, porch, steps, vestibule or mailbox belonging or appurtenant to such dwelling, house, building or other structure.

(Ord. 875, § 48, passed 8-25-2008)

9.70.030 PROHIBITION ON DELIVERY TO POSTED RESIDENTS.

No person, organization, society, association, company or corporation, or their agents or representatives, including but not limited to an authorized agent or the actual deliverer or carrier, shall deliver, distribute, throw, cast or place or cause or permit to be delivered, distributed, thrown, cast or placed any unsolicited print or other written material of any nature whatsoever upon the premises of any City resident who has requested or thereby

ATTACHMENT 3

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provided such notice on their private property that such print or other written material not be delivered to the resident's premises.

(Ord. 875, § 48, passed 8-25-2008)

**9.70.040 NAME AND ADDRESS OF SPONSOR OR DISTRIBUTOR REQUIRED ON
HANDBILL**

A. It is unlawful for any person to distribute, deposit, place, throw, scatter, hand out, cast or circulate any commercial or noncommercial handbill in any place within the City, under any circumstances, which does not have printed on the cover, front or back thereof, a notice substantially conforming to the following:

“Should the recipient of this material desire that further distribution of this material or similar material be discontinued at this address or location, please notify the distributor at the following address or telephone number”

B. The name, telephone number and local address of the person who caused the same to be distributed shall be set forth in the notice; provided, however, that in the case of a fictitious person or club, in addition to such fictitious name, the true names and addresses of the owners, managers or agents of the person sponsoring the handbill shall also appear thereon.

(Ord. 875, § 48, passed 8-25-2008)

9.70.050 DISTRIBUTOR’S FAILURE TO PROVIDE SUCH NOTICE.

Failure of the distributor to place or cause to be placed such notice on the commercial or noncommercial handbill materials as specified above in § [9.70.030](#), or the failure of the distributor to provide a local address and local telephone number to receive communications or telephone calls, or the failure of the distributor to comply with written, or posted notification requirements of the owner or occupant of the property, shall constitute a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punishable as provided in Chapter [1.12](#).

(Ord. 875, § 48, passed 8-25-2008)

9.70.060 PLACING IN VEHICLES.

It is unlawful for any person, either directly or indirectly, to distribute, deposit, place, throw, scatter or cast any handbill in or upon any automobile or other vehicle. The provisions of this section shall not be deemed to prohibit the handing, transmitting or distributing of any handbill to the owner or other occupant of any

automobile or other vehicle or the placing on any vehicle of any handbill by the owner or other occupant of said automobile or vehicle.

(Ord. 875, § 48, passed 8-25-2008)

9.70.070 DISTRIBUTING ON PRIVATE PROPERTY.

It is unlawful for any person, either directly or indirectly, to distribute, deposit, place, throw, scatter or cast any commercial or noncommercial handbill in or upon any private yard, grounds, walk, porch, steps, mailbox, vestibule, house, residence, building or any other private property if requested by anyone thereon not to do so, or if there is placed on such premises in a conspicuous position near the entrance thereto a sign bearing any of these phrases: "No Trespassing," "No Peddlers or Agents," "No Advertisement," or any similar notice, indicating in any manner that the occupants of such premises do not desire to be annoyed or to have their right to privacy disturbed, or to have any such handbills left upon their premises. The provisions of this section shall not be deemed to prohibit the handing, transmitting or distributing of any handbill to the owner or other occupant of said private yard, grounds, walk, porch, steps, mailbox, vestibule, house, residence, building or other private property when it is so requested.

(Ord. 875, § 48, passed 8-25-2008)

9.70.080 HOURS OF DISTRIBUTION LIMITED.

It is unlawful for any person to distribute any handbill between the hours of 7:00 p.m. of one day and 8:00 a.m. of the following day.

(Ord. 875, § 48, passed 8-25-2008)

9.70.090 EXEMPTIONS.

The provisions of this chapter shall not be deemed to apply to the distribution of the United States mail nor to the delivery of any handbill to any person who has requested delivery of same.

(Ord. 875, § 48, passed 8-25-2008)

9.70.100 PENALTY.

Violations of this chapter are deemed infractions unless specifically enumerated otherwise and upon conviction thereof shall be punishable as provided in Chapter [1.12](#).

(Ord. 875, § 48, passed 8-25-2008)

ATTACHMENT 3
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In Control: Public Works and Facilities Committee

File Type: Staff Report

Receive Report and Discuss Replanting Vegetation in City Right-of-Way at North End of North Harrison Street



CITY OF FORT BRAGG

416 N. FRANKLIN, FORT BRAGG, CA 95437
PHONE 707/961-2823 FAX 707/961-2802

COUNCIL COMMITTEE ITEM SUMMARY REPORT

MEETING DATE: August 18, 2016
TO: Public Works & Facilities Committee
FROM: Tom Z. Varga, Public Works Director
AGENDA ITEM TITLE: RECEIVE REPORT AND DISCUSS REPLANTING VEGETATION
IN CITY RIGHT OF WAY AT NORTH END OF NORTH
HARRISON STREET

ISSUE:

Large, blue gum, eucalyptus trees were planted at the north end of North Harrison Street in the vicinity of the Skunk Train railroad tracks as much as a century ago. These trees had been a source of controversy for some time. Some residents living closest to the trees felt they posed a hazard as a source of dropping limbs, (up to several feet in diameter), from substantial heights. The lowest branches were normally found 20 to 30 feet above the ground. Other residents living, farther away, placed a high value in them as a local windbreak. The trees also grew over a City sewer main and were an on-going maintenance issue due to root intrusion. With the tops of some of these trees exceeding 100 feet, it was increasingly difficult for the City to properly maintain them.

In 2012, an arborist was hired to evaluate these trees and recommend further actions, (Attachment 1). Based on a visual analysis from the ground, conclusions were drawn that the trees appeared to generally be in good health and that the removal of certain lower limbs would be appropriate. One tree was recommended for removal. Some of the neighbors continued to be very concerned about the risk of large limbs. The trees were too tall to trim and reliably maintain without special high reach lifts. A decision was made in 2015 to remove the trees. Almost a year was spent in securing the services of a tree service that could actually do the work. The trees were cut down during the first part of February 2016.

Consequently, the neighbors valuing the trees as a windbreak expressed concerns over the loss of these trees. The City agreed to plant new vegetation to restore the windbreak.

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

During the removal of the old trees, substantial rot and decay were seen within the trees that were not apparent from exterior of the trees.



Regardless of previous investigations, at least some of the trees were ready to come down whether through natural or man-made processes.

To avoid future maintenance issues, vegetation should be chosen that will not grow much taller than 30 feet. It should also be noted that new vegetation planted at the north end of Harrison Street will actually be supplemental to a row of tall pines and cedars located on the other side of the railroad tracks about 100 feet away. Given the previous trees' and existing nearby trees have canopies starting in the 20 to 30 foot range, new vegetation of approximately this height should be a good compliment to the existing trees and vegetation.

Neighbors suggested planting "clumping bamboo". City staff worked with a local bamboo grower, Ryan Deshields, who had been recommended by the neighbors. After reviewing the site, it was noted that the soil under the old trees had been heavily affected by acidic, eucalyptus oil. Without extensive soli amending or even removal, non-eucalyptus plants would have difficulty growing there. In addition to soil problems, Mr. Deshields noted that clumping bamboo tends to be sensitive to wind and sun. Finally, even clumping bamboo is sufficiently invasive that root barriers were recommended, (Attachment 2).

Alternate vegetation is being investigated. Preliminarily, eucalyptus species that are either large shrubs or moderate-sized trees appear to be good candidates. Staff is developing more specific ideas at this time.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Committee review this matter, obtain public input, and provide direction to staff regarding revisions or refinements.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Arborist's Report
2. Clumping Bamboo Report

BECKY DUCKLES
LANDSCAPE CONSULTANT & ARBORIST
SEBASTOPOL, CA
707.829.0555 PH 707.824.0516 FAX

CITY OF FORT BRAGG

ARBORIST'S REPORT
July 23, 2012

Assignment/Scope of Work

David Goble, Director of Public Works asked me to evaluate 6 trees within the City right-of-way, at the north end of Harrison St. Recently a large branch had broken off one of the 5 mature eucalyptus trees in the group and nearby residents had expressed concern. I agreed to inspect the trees from the ground, using hand tools and visual tree analysis.

Site Description

The site is at the end of a cul-de-sac in a residential neighborhood, with City trees on both sides of a wooden fence. Two parallel fences enclose a utility right-of-way where a sewer line runs through on the north side of the first fence and the grove of trees. The trees have not been overpruned in the past, and do not have large decayed areas resulting from large pruning cuts. Some branches have failed, and those sites and patterns were evaluated as I inspected the trees.

There is a lot of debris at the base of the eucalyptus trees from past branch failures and foliage that has dropped. It is now dry and should be cleared at some point to reduce the danger of fire and infestation by rodents. Ivy grows densely at the bases and on the trunks of two eucalyptus trees. A resident cut the stems of the ivy growing on one of the trees (#2), which is good because it removes the dense foliage on the trunk which traps moisture and may protect pathogens and rodents, but has left dry stems on the tree above the cuts. The dry ivy stems should be removed a few more feet higher up (8-10') to reduce the chance of fire climbing the dead, woody stems.

Tree #1 - 35" dbh (diameter at breast height, 4'-6") Monterey cypress/*Cupressus macrocarpa*
Condition/Health: Good. Structure: Fair/Good

This is the southernmost tree in the grove, a relatively young cypress suppressed by the eucalyptus trees growing over it. Trunk and root flare were visible and normal. Most of its crown, branches and foliage are growing on the south and east, towards available light. One low, hanging branch can be seen which should be removed. It was probably broken when a larger branch fell from the eucalyptus above it. This tree is relatively healthy, with normal growth and no apparent pests or diseases, and does not need other treatment.

Tree #2 - 54" dbh Blue gum eucalyptus/*Eucalyptus globulus*
Condition/Health: Good Structure: Fair/Good

This mature tree stands a few feet behind the cypress. It has normal growth and branching, approximately 90' tall, with no apparent pests. The single trunk is normal, with good root flare and structure. No decay or abnormalities were noted in the lower trunk and root crown.

The adjacent property owner cut the ivy stems at the base of this tree, as mentioned above. A couple of sites of old branch failures can be seen on the trunks, typical for this species and age. Some large, long branches grow towards the south, over the yard of the adjoining residence. On one low branch, approximately 18" diameter, a tree climber from a qualified tree service should reduce the end weight of at least two of the branches by approximately 20'. They should be cut back to large lateral branches, cutting to those growing upright as much as possible.

ATTACHMENT 1

Tree #3 - 53" dbh Blue gum eucalyptus/Eucalyptus globulus
Condition/Health: Good Structure: Fair/Good

This tree is growing behind the first fence, farther from homes, parking or other targets. Ivy was also cut at the base of the trunk of this eucalyptus. The single trunk, branches and foliage are normal, with no abnormalities, decay or pests noted. Sites of some past branch failures can be seen, but there are no long, poorly-tapered branches or decayed areas or issues which suggest predictable future failures. This tree does not need any remedial work at this time.

Tree #4 - 28" dbh Blue gum eucalyptus/Eucalyptus globulus
Condition/Health: Good Structure: Good

This is a smaller, single-trunk eucalyptus tree growing on the far side of the first fence. It is relatively healthy with good form. It needs no pruning or other treatment

Tree #5 - 74" dbh Blue gum eucalyptus/Eucalyptus globulus
Condition/Health: Fair/Good Structure: Fair

Remove 12"± horizontal lateral branch growing to the south, approximately 30' high on main trunk
Cut ivy stems to allow better monitoring of lower trunk and reduce pathogen and rodent habitat.
Reduce end weight of lateral branches growing towards south on ivy-covered trunk.

Tree #6 - 67" dbh Blue gum eucalyptus/Eucalyptus globulus
Condition/Health: Fair Structure: Poor

This tree has sparse foliage in the upper canopy, suggesting root problems. It has long, curving, over-extended branches with weaker attachments than adjacent trees, with several past branch failure sites. It is very close to a sewer line and cleanout on the north side of the fence, and has probably lost roots when the line was installed and when it has been cleaned. When we cleared ivy from sections of the base, superficial decay could be seen, but not enough to weaken the trunk. This tall tree also arches over power lines and a residence. Because of its poor form and history of branch failures, with low vigor and poor health, this tree should be removed. Because the prevailing winds and winter storms come from other directions, its removal will not adversely affect the other trees.

Summary

- Tree #1 - Remove hanging dead branch(es)
 - Tree #2 - Reduce end weight on several long lateral branches growing to south towards residence
 - Tree #5 - Remove 12" horizontal branch growing to south; reduce end weight on lateral branches growing to south on ivy-covered trunk. Cut ivy stems climbing tree
 - Tree #6 - Remove tree
- Remove dry debris at base of trees to facilitate inspection and reduce fire danger

Please call if clarification is needed on any of these issues. If further information or evaluation is needed, I'd be glad to provide it.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Duckles

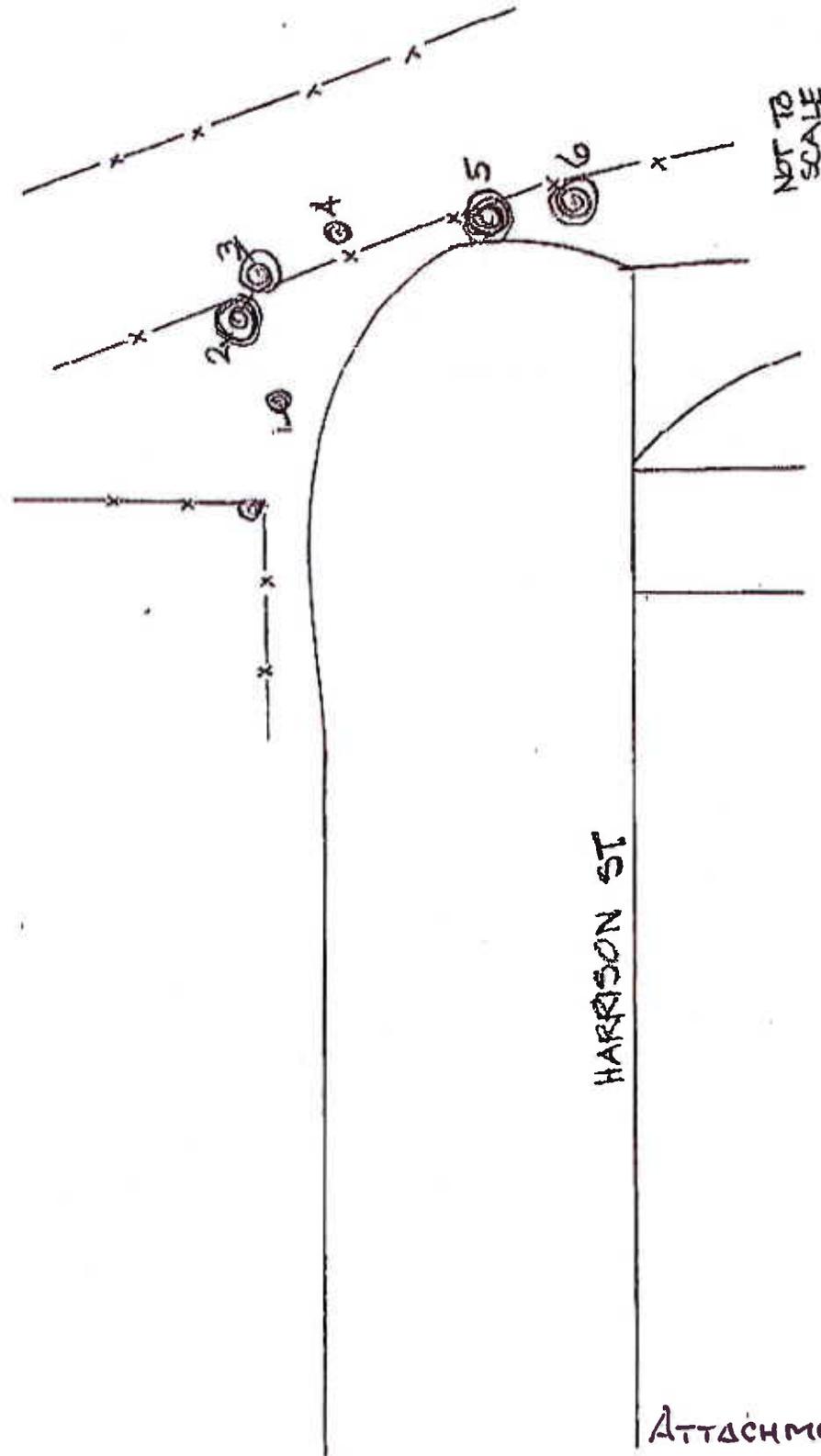
Becky Duckles

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ATTACHMENT I

TREE LOCATION MAP



ATTACHMENT 1

8/8/2016

Allen Palacios
City of Fort Bragg
Maintenance I, Public Works

John Smith
Assistant Public Works Director

Hello,

Recently I had a conversation with Ryan Deshields, a local bamboo grower and collector. We met at the end of North Harrison street, the site where the Eucalyptus trees were removed.

Our discussion comprised of the feasibility to use clumping bamboo as the primary windbreak for the site. We discussed the soil requirements, water intake, sun and wind exposure and the mentholated oils and acids dropped by the leaves, bark and seed pods of the Eucalyptus trees.

The principal problems with the site are the sun, wind and the soil conditions. Clumping varieties of bamboo need large amounts of rich composted loam and water, and are delicate to wind and sun. We can add composted material and water lines to the site.

Ryan also recommended we remove the stumps and use root barriers near the gates.

We are both in agreement that bamboo should not be used as the primary source for a windbreak at this location. If other trees or large shrubs were used as a screen behind the bamboo, then the bamboo could be used as an accent that would be pleasing to the eye and become a part of the overall windbreak as everything matures.

Ryan and I are compiling a list of trees, shrubs and bamboos that will be compatible with this location.

Allen Palacios
Maintenance I, Public Works
City of Fort Bragg



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Receive Oral Update from Staff on Departmental Activities