



City of Los Banos

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AGENDA

TREE COMMISSION MEETING

CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
520 J Street
Los Banos, California

FEBRUARY 10, 2021

In accordance with Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20, with guidance from the California Department of Public Health, and in order to minimize the spread of the COVID-19 virus, the City Hall Council Chambers will be closed to the public during this Tree Commission Meeting. The following alternatives are available to members of the public who wish to watch the meeting and/or provide comments to the Commission before and during the meeting.

Audio/Video Broadcast: This Tree Commission meeting can be accessed in real time from your computer, tablet, or smartphone using GoToMeeting at the following link: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/311234445>. Get the free GoToMeeting application now and be ready when the meeting starts: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/311234445>. You can also dial in to listen to the meeting using your phone by calling (786) 535-3211 and using Access Code: 311-234-445.

Public Comment: If you wish to make either a general public comment for items not on the agenda and under the jurisdiction of the Commission or to comment on a specific agenda item, please submit your comments via email, preferably in advance of the meeting, by 4:30 p.m. on the day of the meeting. Please reference the agenda item you are commenting on and submit your comments to the Tree Commission Secretary at jelene.demelo@losbanos.org. Your comments will be placed into the record for the meeting. To be read into the record, your email subject line must include "Public Comment – Not on the Agenda" or "Public Comment – Agenda item #[insert item #]".

If you require special assistance to attend or participate in this meeting, please call the City Clerk's Office @ (209) 827-7000 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

The City of Los Banos complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990.

Si requiere asistencia especial para atender o participar en esta junta por favor llame a la oficina de la Secretaria de la ciudad al (209) 827-7000 a lo menos de 48 horas previas de la junta.

La Ciudad de Los Banos cumple con la Acta de Americanos con Deshabilidad (ADA) de 1990.

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Tree Commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the meeting and in the City Clerk's office located at City Hall, 520 J Street, Los Banos, California during normal business hours. In addition, such writings and documents may be posted on the City's website at www.losbanos.org.

Cualquier escritura o los documentos proporcionaron a una mayoría de la Tree Commission con respecto a cualquier artículo en este orden del día será hecho disponible para la inspección pública en la reunión y en la oficina del City Clerk del City Hall, 520 J Street, Los Banos, California durante horas de oficina normales. Además, tales escrituras y los documentos

1. CALL TO ORDER.

5:00 PM

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

3. ROLL CALL:

Heaton ____, Kaljian ____, Lieb ____, Ramos ____

4. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

Recommendation: Approve the agenda as submitted.

5. NOMINATION AND SELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR FOR 2021.

Recommendation: Receive nominations and appoint new Chair/Vice Chair.

6. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE ACTION MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 12, 2020.

Recommendation: Approve the minutes as submitted.

7. PUBLIC FORUM. (Members of the public may address the Tree Commission on any item of public interest that is within the jurisdiction of the Tree Commission; includes agenda and non-agenda items. No action will be taken on non-agenda items. Speakers are limited to a five (5) minute presentation.

8. PARKS & RECREATION OPERATIONS MANAGERS REPORT.

9. ACTING PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR/CITY ENGINEER REPORT.

10. COMMISSIONER REPORTS.

A. Laurel Heaton

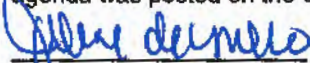
B. Tom Kaljian

C. Gene Lieb

D. Trinidad Ramos

11. ADJOURNMENT.

I hereby certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California, that the foregoing agenda was posted on the City Hall bulletin board not less than 72 hours prior to the meeting.


Jelene de Melo, Secretary

Dated this 3rd day of February 2021

**CITY OF LOS BANOS
TREE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 12, 2020**

**ACTION MINUTES – These minutes are prepared to depict
action taken for agenda items presented to the
Tree Commission.**

***Special Note – This meeting was held by teleconference due to the COVID-19
Pandemic.***

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Kaljian called the Tree Commission Meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Commissioner Lieb led the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL – MEMBERS OF THE TREE COMMISSION PRESENT: Heaton, Kaljian, Lieb, Ramos; Creighton absent.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Public Works Director/City Engineer Fachin, Assistant Public Works Director Pezeshk, Parks and Recreation Operations Manager Heim, Administrative Coordinator de Melo.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Ramos, seconded by Lieb to approve the agenda as submitted. The motion carried by the affirmative vote of all Tree Commission Members present; Creighton absent.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE ACTION MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 13, 2019: Motion by Heaton seconded by Ramos to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion carried by the affirmative vote of all Tree Commission Members present; Creighton absent.

PUBLIC FORUM: MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ADDRESS THE COUNCIL ON ANY ITEM OF PUBLIC INTEREST THAT IS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE CITY; INCLUDES AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS. NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS. DETAILED GUIDELINES ARE POSTED ON THE COUNCIL CHAMBER INFORMATIONAL TABLE. No one came forward to speak, and the Public Forum was closed.

PRESENTATION OF CAL FIRE URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM GRANT REPORT: Operations Manager Heim gave an update on the Cal Fire Urban and Community Forestry Grant, which included a slideshow presentation. Operations Manager Heim stated we recently completed and Request for Proposals (RFP) process, and we will be taking our recommendation to City Council to select a firm to complete the Urban Forestry Management Plan. This plan will identify areas of town that are in need of trees, and identify which species would be appropriate for specific areas. The City does intend to update the City Tree List, which is a requirement of the plan. We are also looking for a software system that will

help us track and maintain tree history/maintenance. This grant does not add additional staff or additional resources, but will give us guidelines to follow for future years. Using some of the funds from the grant, we intend to plant 100 trees at following 5 park locations: Regency Lot D Park, Rail Trail, Cresthills Park, Meadowlands II Park, and Vineyards Basin Park. The City appreciates Cal Fire for giving us this grant.

PARKS & RECREATION OPERATION MANAGERS REPORT: Parks and Recreation Operations Manager Heim reported that construction has been completed at the Dog Park, including the planting of new trees. We have a number of trees that we will be planting on the rail trail, in addition to the grant previously mentioned.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR/CITY ENGINEER REPORT: Public Works Director/City Engineer Fachin stated he will be retiring on December 15th. He introduced Fred Pezeshk, whom will be attending future meetings. Several commission terms are expiring on December 31, 2020, and encouraged Commissioners Kaljian and Creighton to re-apply. Joe has a few exciting things coming up in the future including grant applications for Pacheco Park, annual replanting of 5-7 trees in the downtown area, and planting trees on the rail trail.

COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS:

CREIGHTON: Absent.

HEATON: Has lived in Los Banos over 25 years, enjoys living here. Has observed several trees around town with dead limbs that need to be trimmed and removed. Director Fachin stated that we do not have a tree trimming division, but the Parks division tries to get to hazards as quickly as possible. Encouraged commission to report anything that needs to be addressed.

LIEB: Came to Los Banos in 2001. Was the Publisher of the Los Banos Enterprise. Asked Mark if the Urban Forestry RFP will address missing trees in the Landscape and Lighting Districts. Director Fachin stated those trees need to be replaced with Landscape and Lighting district funds, and we are trying to continually replace those trees as the districts become financially healthy.

RAMOS: Graduated from Merced College with a degree in Landscape Horticulture. Worked in a greenhouse. Now works in a retail nursery. Has a love for plants, and it is a big part of who he is. Has partnered with the Los Banos Campus of the Merced College, helping with landscape projects.

KALJIAN: Has lived in Los Banos for 78 years. Was on the original Tree Committee for a number of years, before it became a commission, and has continued to serve since. He has seen many things change on how we handle the planting of trees and trees in parking lots. Feels we need to improve the 50% shade canopy required in parking lots, as it does not seem as this is being obtained.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at the hour of 5:50 p.m.

APPROVED:

Commissioner

ATTEST:

Jelene de Melo, Secretary