

Jeanne Evilsizer

From: Duffy Price <duffy555@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 11, 2014 10:37 AM
To: Berin Fank; Bob Johnson; Debbie Dexter; Duffy Price; Gary Waldeck; Jeanne Evilsizer; Jeanne Evilsizer; Melvin Vaughn; Rich Larsen; Stu Farwell; Stu Farwell
Cc: Jeanne Evilsizer; Dan Siegel; Joshua McClenahan; Carl Cahill; Richard Chiu
Subject: Request by the LAH City Council
Attachments: Dead Tree Removal -Radford Memo(1).docx

Importance: High

FOR YOUR INFORMATION – BROWN ACT APPLIES – DO NOT RESPOND.**Subject: Dead Pine Trees Due to the Drought – Request by LAH City Council; Agenda Item 10 d.**

The LAH City Council was oriented at last night's LAH City Council meeting to the District's Dead Tree Program and priority methodology for removal of both dead/dying pine trees and eucalyptus pruning and/or removal. (See attached report.)

However, based on the recent drought, the LAH City Council requested last night that due to the large number of dead or dying pine trees that the District's priorities for the work on Eucs be suspended in order to work on the dead pine trees in various easement locations in the Town of Los Altos Hills.

Based on the Town arborist's assessment, the Town will submit a list of trees that rank in high priority for removal (primarily on easements along roads and on private property whereby owners have been notified by the Town of the hazardous conditions that exists – thereby eliminating the need to obtain the homeowner's approval to do the work.)

Carl Cahill, City Manager and Richard Chiu, Public Works Director will provide the list to Stu Farwell, the LAHCFD Fire Consultant.

We will discuss the request to implement the change in priorities in order to take action at the next Commission meeting on November 18, 2014.

Duffy Price, President
 LAHCFD
 650-948-0596

Memorandum

To: John Radford, Mayor Los Altos Hills
CC: Carl Cahill, Deborah Padovan
From: Duffy Price, President LAHCFD
Date: 11/11/2014
Re: Agenda Item 10 D. – November 10, 2014; Request Dead or Dying Pine Trees
Removal Prioritization

The following information is submitted in response to your Agenda Item 10 D. request to the Los Altos Hills County Fire District to Prioritize the Removal of Dead or Dying Pine Trees. As a result of the recent drought conditions, the District is well-aware of many more pine trees dying. Our efforts have been increased to address this issue.

A brief outline of the ongoing program is provided below. Should you request more information or have additional suggestions, the District would be pleased to respond.

Dead Tree Program & Eucalyptus Tree Program

Background:

Dead Tree Program initiated ~ mid-2000.

Following the 2006 incident of a Eucalyptus tree branch falling during a storm killing the bicyclist on Natoma Road, the program was expanded to cover Eucalyptus trees.

Process:

The District (Town & Unincorporated Areas) is divided into 6 areas, sequentially over a one year period residents in each area are invited to participate. Residents receive a letter describing the program and a request card to return to the District indicating their tree problem.

This is a voluntary program – property owner (not renters) must request tree(s) be inspected.

Procedure:

1. Resident's must send in cards to request service/inspection of dead trees.

2. Following inspection by Stu Farwell & Josh McClenahan, removal of trees is prioritized by criteria of dangerous/hazardous/or dead.
3. During the year the Fire District may receive additional requests from outside specific regional area that is being worked on to look at potentially dead trees. Accommodation is made to evaluate the requests.
4. FY 2014-15 Dead tree program allocation: \$1,650,000
5. FY 2014-15 Eucalyptus Tree Program: \$850,000

How Many Trees Removed/Pruned?

Since 2011:

- Dead trees removed: 2,872
- Eucalyptus Trees Pruned: 1307
- Eucalyptus Trees removed: 1600