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NEWPORT BEACH

PB&R Commission Staff Report

Agenda Item **VII-A**
February 3, 2026

TO: Parks, Beaches & Recreation Commission

FROM: Municipal Operations Department
John Salazar, Acting Municipal Operations Deputy Director
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PREPARED BY: Kevin Pekar, Parks and Trees Superintendent
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TITLE: Reforestation Request – 2660 Vista del Oro (Front 1)

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that PB&R Commission consider the reforestation request of a Gold-Medallion tree (*Cassia leptophylla*) located at 2660 Vista del Oro due to concerns with the current tree.

The applicant, Mr. Greg Brawley (residing at 2658 Vista del Oro), has provided the required association board meeting minutes along with the association board signature of approval to remove and replace the tree. If approved by the Commission, there will be a one-for-one replacement with a Forest Pansy (*Cercis canadensis* 'Forest Pansy') 36-inch box tree installed at the applicant's cost.

DISCUSSION:

The applicant, Mr. Greg Brawley (residing at 2658 Vista del Oro), contacted the City to request the removal of a Gold-Medallion tree (*Cassia leptophylla*) located at 2660 Vista del Oro due to view blockage from the street to the applicant's home, poor aesthetics, seedpod drop and the potential of public sidewalk damage.

Staff inspected the tree and determined that the tree was in good condition and did not meet the criteria for removal referenced in the City Council Policy G-1 – *Retention, Removal, and Maintenance of City Trees*. The applicant was advised of the reforestation process as an option.

Mr. Brawley has provided the required association board meeting minutes along with the association board signature of approval to remove and replace the tree. Additionally, Mr. Brawley has agreed to pay for the removal and replacement of the tree with a Forest Pansy (*Cercis canadensis* 'Forest Pansy') 36-inch box tree.

NOTICING:

Mr. Brawley, Council Member Robyn Grant, and North Bluff Park Community Association have received a copy of this report. The tree was posted with information regarding the reforestation request, and postcard notifications were sent by the City to property owners within 500 feet of the subject tree's location. The agenda item has also been noticed according to the Brown Act (72 hours in advance of the meeting at which PB&R Commission considers the item).

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. Reforestation Application
- B. North Bluff Park Community Association Meeting Minutes/Approval
- C. Tree Removal Report/Review
- D. Info Sheet – Forest Pansy
- E. Postcard Notification Map