

Proposed Tree Planting Description: Main Street

Existing Pear Trees

The existing pear trees provide a beautiful tree canopy and an amazing springtime show when they bloom. The trees, unfortunately, have structural flaws that make them susceptible to storm damage. As a practice today, the city does not plant this type of species because of these structural deficiencies.

Tree Planting Recommendation

Since 2011, the city arborist and city engineers, have studied the condition of the trees to determine which trees should remain and which ones should be removed. Staff identified additional damage that had occurred to the street trees and recommended more trees for removal. It became apparent that the trees were in such deteriorating structural condition that they would eventually need to be removed. Ultimately, the city concluded that we would be in a better position to remove all of the existing pear trees, plant new trees (providing a variety of species, all more appropriate as street trees) in an enhanced planting detail, and provide irrigation to help the new trees become established. This approach will provide a beautiful tree canopy for Main Street for years to come. A Tree Removal Hearing for the existing pear trees was held on January 7, 2014.

The existing street trees and the proposed street trees are shown below. The plan will increase the total number of street trees by 20.

- 27 existing pear trees – remove and replant.
- 2 existing trees to remain.
- 20 additional street trees.
- New trees will be 3" to 3 ½" caliper (12' to 15' tall).
- A variety of species is proposed – elms, oaks, honey locust and ginkgo.

New Planting Details

Once the sidewalks and roadway on Main Street are reconstructed, crews will plant new street trees throughout the project area. The new trees will be planted in an enhanced planting detail, including sand based structural soil (SBSS), which provides more space and more access to nutrients for the new trees.

