

Harbor Blvd. Tree Replacement Project

In December 2018, the City of Oxnard removed 53 dead Cypress trees along Harbor Blvd. As part of the removal, Districts Staff and the City Arborist have been in discussion about what trees should be planted in the removal area. Below are suggestions of item to be planted in the empty areas and a reason for the suggestion. Please note that all the suggested items are trees and bushes that are already established in the planter bed. This will provide continuity to the District.

New Zealand Christmas Tree (*Metrosideros excelsa*)



Grows up to 25 metres (82 ft) high, with a spreading, dome-like form. It usually grows as a multi-trunked spreading tree. Its trunks and branches are sometimes festooned with matted, fibrous aerial roots. The oblong, leathery leaves are covered in dense white hairs underneath.

The tree flowers from November to January with a peak in mid to late December. Drought resistant and smog tolerant. Forms areal roots that descend to the ground and take root. These can become extra trunks that provide additional support. Resistant to salt spray. A good coastal tree. Can grow taller if conditions a right. Grows 24 inches per year. This tree is considered drought tolerant using average water and good in salty climates.

Melaleuca Pink Lady (*Melaleuca nesophila*)



Melaleuca nesophila (Pink Melaleuca) - This Melaleuca has a moderately fast growth rate and becomes a large shrub or small tree (to 20+ feet tall and about 12 feet wide) with bark that is thick and spongy and peels off in broad strips and branches that are twisted and sculptural; they form an asymmetrical greyish-white frame structure on which the small (3/4 inch long) bright green, elliptic to oblong-obovate leaves grow. Plant in full sun to light or part sun and irrigate occasionally to very little. It is hardy to about 20 degrees F. This tree is considered drought tolerant having low water needs and fire resistant.

Mousehole tree (Myoporum laetum)



It is a fast growing shrub, readily distinguished from others in the [genus](#) by the transparent dots in the leaves which are visible when held to a light. The evergreen shrub or small tree which sometimes grows to a height of 10 metres (30 ft) with a trunk up to 0.3 metres (1 ft) in diameter, or spreads to as much as 4 metres (10 ft). It often appears dome-shaped at first but as it gets older, distorts as branches break off. The bark on older specimens is thick, corky and furrowed. The leaves are lance-shaped, usually 52–125 millimeters (2–5 in) long, 15–30 millimeters (0.6–1 in) wide, have many translucent dots in the leaves and edges which have small serrations in approximately the outer half. This tree is considered drought tolerant having low-medium water needs.

Eucalyptus lehmannii



Bushy Yate is an attractive medium-sized shade tree, screen tree or patio tree. It is usually multi-trunked, having a pleasing appearance with its clean light green fragrant foliage. It prefers temperate coastal conditions, where it tolerates dryness and salt spray. It has a hardiness estimate between 25 and 28°F. This tree is considered drought tolerant using average water and good in salty climates. This tree is not to be confused with the traditional Eucalyptus tree which residents have expressed concern about. This tree is not similar to those Eucalyptus trees located on Rose Ave.

Area of Replanting

Due to the slope within the replanting area and the necessity to maintain integrity of the existing retaining wall, there are some stumps that will not be able to be removed or ground down. These stumps will be “painted” with a pesticide application to suppress any off-shoot growth of the trees or the invasion of undesirable pests. A location adjacent to the stump will be selected for the replanting of the new tree and over time, the remaining stump will be covered by the new growth. Prior to replanting, the area will be cleared of any dead vegetation.

Fiscal Impact

Item	# of items	Cost per item	Total Cost
New Zealand Christmas Tree (15 gal)	8	\$ 67.50	\$ 540.00
Melaleuca Pink Lady (15 gal)	9	\$ 59.75	\$ 537.75
Mousehole Tree	9	\$ 53.25	\$ 479.25
Eucalyptus lehmanni	9	\$ 59.25	\$ 533.25
Re-establish Irrigation	1	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Staff Time for Replanting	1	\$ 3,969.75	\$ 3,969.75
Green Waste Disposal	1	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Contingency	1	\$ 1,440.00	\$ 1,440.00
Grand Total			\$ 12,000.00

Recommendation

Staff is recommending the replanting of existing plant material to the area along Harbor Blvd. where the dead trees were removed. The variety of above plant material is consistent with the current landscape and incorporates both medium and fast growing plants which will help to re-establish the sound barrier that is so important to the residents of Mandalay Bay. It has also been recommended by the City Arborist to plant the smaller 15 gallon options to allow the trees to acclimate to the salty air and soil that is indicative of beach communities. While we will be purchasing the trees from local growers which allow the trees to acclimate easier, we want to provide as much opportunity as possible for the new trees to succeed in their new environment.

Contact Information

Jeri Cooper, M.P.A
Project Manager
City of Oxnard - Assessment Districts
Ph: (805) 200-5334
E-mail: jeri.cooper@oxnard.org