



## **PARKS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE COMMISSION**

City Hall Council Chambers  
1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, CA

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### **AGENDA**

THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2019, 7:00 PM

**1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL:**

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JUNE 13, 2019**

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

For persons desiring to address the Commission on an item that is not on the agenda please note that each speaker is limited up to three (3) minutes. The Brown Act limits the Commission ability to take and/or discuss items that are not on the agenda; therefore, such items are normally referred to staff for comment or to a future agenda.

**4. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Staff and Commission member announcements, reports and updates of status.

**4-1. Ocean View Community Garden Sub-Committee Update**

**4-2. Juneteenth Event Recap**

**4-3. 4<sup>th</sup> of July Event Recap**

**4-4. Friends of Albany Parks Upcoming Clean-up**

**5. PRESENTATIONS:**

**5-1. Discussion of Draft Climate Action and Adaptation Plan Strategies**

Staff will present an overview of the planning process and actions in the draft Climate Action and Adaptation Plan.

Recommendation: Review the Draft Climate Action & Adaptation Plan and provide feedback on proposed strategies and actions.

**6. STREET TREE REMOVAL APPLICATIONS:**

**6-1. Memorial Park Tree Removal for (1) Acacia**

Recommendation: Approve the removal of the Acacia tree in Memorial Park.

**6-2. Street Tree Removal Application for (1) Camphor at 808 Ramona Avenue**

Recommendation: Approve the Tree Removal Application for 808 Ramona Avenue.



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### **6-3. Street Tree Removal Application for (1) Camphor at 968 Talbot Avenue**

Recommendation: Approve the Tree Removal Application for 968 Talbot Avenue.

## **7. DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION ON MATTERS RELATED TO THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:**

### **7-1. Terrace Park Replacement Tree Options**

Staff will present three tree replacement options for the area west of the basketball court in Terrace Park

Recommendation: Select replacement trees

### **7-2. Dog Sub-Committee Recommendation**

Sub-Committee members will present their recommendations to the Commission.

Recommendation: Review and approve proposed recommendation to Council to officially designate Section B as a Dog Park with the following:

1. No change in current hours or rules
2. Add additional signage in area about rules (larger & clear)
3. Add a double gate entry and benches in area
4. Relocate entry to the gate near the athletic field and add auto-locking entry gate
5. Sprinklers on at 8:15 pm to enforce hours
6. Plantings around perimeter of area and trees for shade in area.

### **7-3. Albany Hill Interpretive Signage Sub-Committee Update**

Sub-Committee will present a proposed plan to move forward and get input from Commissioners.

Discussion Only

## **8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

Commissioners announce requests for future agenda items. No public comment will be taken on announcement of future agenda items.

## **9. NEXT MEETING: Thursday, September 12, 2019 7:00 pm, City Hall Council Chambers, 1000 San Pablo Ave. Please Note: there are no public meetings in August.**



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### **10. ADJOURNMENT:**

#### **NOTICE**

As a general policy, the Commission/Committee/Board will not begin discussion or consideration of an agenda item after 10:00 pm.

Agendas are posted for public inspection in advance of meetings at the City Hall, the Albany Community Center, and the Albany Senior Center. Agendas and supporting documents can also be found online at: [www.albanyca.org](http://www.albanyca.org). Supporting documents and any public comments received will be made available for public inspection at City Hall. If you have any questions pertaining to any agenda item or meeting procedure, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 510-528-5710 or [cityclerk@albanyca.org](mailto:cityclerk@albanyca.org).

Council and Commission meetings are broadcast live on KALB and streamed live on the City website and YouTube. Audio recordings of Committee meetings will be uploaded to the City website and YouTube within one week of each public meeting. Archives of past City meetings are available on the City website and YouTube. Please note that if you provide your name and address when speaking before the Committee it will become part of the official public record, which will be posted on the Internet and broadcast on KALB.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and State Law, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Administration Office 510-528-5710. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting (28 CFR 35.102.104 ADA Title II)". Upon request, we will provide written agenda materials in appropriate alternate formats, of disability related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services to enable individuals with disabilities to participate in public meetings. Please deliver a written request, including your name, mailing address, phone number and brief description of the requested materials and preferred alternative format or auxiliary aid or service at least two (2) days before the meeting. Request should be sent to: [cityclerk@albanyca.org](mailto:cityclerk@albanyca.org) or City Clerk, 1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, CA 94706.

The City of Albany is dedicated to maintaining its small-town ambience, responding to the needs of a diverse community, and providing a safe, healthy and sustainable environment.



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### **MINUTES**

THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2019, 7:00 PM

**1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL: 7:01 pm**

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MAY 9, 2019**

Motion to approve: Vice Chair Sardiñas  
Seconded by Commissioner Abbott  
Vote: Favor All; Motion carried

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

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**4. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Staff and Commission member announcements, reports and updates of status.

**5. PRESENTATIONS:**

**6. STREET TREE REMOVAL APPLICATIONS:**

**7. DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION ON MATTERS RELATED TO THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:**

**7-1. Lower Codornices Creek Restoration Project Phase IV 8th Street to 10th Street**  
Staff presented 90% plans for Phase IV of the Codornices Creek Restoration Project, which includes a path connection between 8th Street and 10th Street.

Motion to approve: Vice Chair Sardiñas  
Second: Commissioner Abbott  
Vote: All in Favor; Motion carried

**7-2. Ocean View Bocce 90% Plans**

RGD Staff presented the 90% project documents for the Bocce Courts at Ocean View Park.



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Motion to approve design and recommend project for public bid with the following clarifications: 1. Ping Pong Table removed from design and handled separately; 2. Fencing improvements and path extension remain in designs as bid alternates.

Motion: Commissioner Noble  
Second: Commissioner Cooper  
Vote: 5 in Favor; 2 opposed; Motion carried

### **7-3. Dog Sub-Committee Update**

Sub-committee provided an update on the process of public engagement and share the feedback and survey results received from the various methods (in-person surveys, online surveys, public workshop).

Information Only

### **7-4. Terrace Park Playground Surface Change**

Staff presented information about converting the surface from sand to engineered wood fiber (EWF) in the 5-12-year-old playground.

Motion to approve the removal of sand from the playground and installation of engineered wood fiber (EWF) at Terrace Park 5-12-year-old playground.

Motion: Commissioner Abbott  
Second: Commissioner Marten  
Vote: All in Favor; Motion carried

## **8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

Commissioners announce requests for future agenda items. No public comment will be taken on announcement of future agenda items.

## **9. NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, July 11, 2019 7:00 pm, City Hall Council Chambers, 1000 San Pablo Ave. Please Note: there are no public meetings in August.

## **10. ADJOURNMENT: 10:07 pm**

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**CITY OF ALBANY  
MEMORANDUM**

DATE: July 11, 2019  
TO: Parks, Recreation, & Open Space Commission  
FROM: Claire Griffing, Sustainability & Resilience Manager  
SUBJECT: Draft Climate Action & Adaptation Plan

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**RECOMMENDATION**

Review the Draft Climate Action & Adaptation Plan and provide feedback on proposed strategies and actions.

**BACKGROUND**

The City's first Climate Action Plan (CAP), adopted in 2010, outlined a course of action for the City and the Albany community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 25% by 2020 to combat global climate change. The CAP focused on reducing emissions in six sectors: building energy efficiency, transportation and land use, waste reduction, green infrastructure, water conservation, and food and agriculture. Successful CAP programs have included commercial and residential energy efficiency partnerships, establishment of a 100% carbon-free electricity source through East Bay Community Energy (EBCE), municipal building upgrades and LED streetlights, implementation of the City's Active Transportation Plan and Safe Routes to School Program, and execution of land use and waste reduction policies. Along with State and regional initiatives, the City's programs have contributed to an estimated 27% reduction in emissions from 2005 to 2017, and a 32% reduction from 2005 to 2018 when EBCE's carbon-free electricity source is taken into account.

After years of implementation, the CAP is nearing completion, with a large percentage of measures accomplished or in progress. Staff continues to work toward greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals by implementing CAP measures that are in progress or ongoing, focusing specifically on energy efficiency upgrades, renewable energy, and clean and active transportation projects.

In March 2018, Council approved the development of a new Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP), which will guide the City towards its emissions reduction goals outlined in the General Plan: 60% reductions by 2035 and carbon neutrality by 2050.

**DISCUSSION**

With assistance from Cascadia and Rincon consultants, the City of Albany has developed a new draft Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) following an extensive public engagement process. The CAAP aims to reduce emissions and adapt to a changing climate.

This Plan represents the culmination of over a year-long, community-wide development process. In designing the planning process, the City sought to solicit local expertise, bring in diverse perspectives, and tie engagement into existing activities and processes. The goal was to craft a plan that reflects and leverages the shared vision and momentum of the community. Many Albany residents and City staff have informed development of this Plan through community surveys, one-on-one interviews with City staff, a public workshop, stakeholder focus groups (landlords and property owners, transportation, business associations, and green infrastructure), and ongoing engagement with community groups and City committees and commissions. In particular, the resident-led Climate Action Committee and subcommittees identified, assessed, and formalized the Plan goals and strategies.

### Plan Goals

The four main objectives of the Plan are:

1. **Electrify our buildings.**
2. **Transition to low-carbon transportation.**
3. **Make our economy carbon-free.**
4. **Accelerate resilience for all.**

Ultimately, success will be seen through the widespread significant reduction of fossil fuel use, improved quality of life, and global climate stabilization that ensures a sustainable, resilient City for current and future generations.

Strategies and actions have been evaluated for impact, feasibility, community costs, City costs, leadership opportunity, and equity. Development of this new CAAP included a strong grounding in assessing and addressing feasibility of action implementation. Co-benefits and potential unintended consequences have also been considered.

### Implementation

An Implementation Plan will be included in the final version of the CAAP. Each strategy will come with detailed actions, a responsible entity and key partners to lead them, and a timeframe for implementation. An Implementation Matrix will also be included, with key performance indicators, funding strategies, and other key factors necessary for successful implementation.

### **NEXT STEPS**

The Draft Climate Action & Adaptation Plan was released for public review on June 21<sup>st</sup>, and the City is soliciting public comment via email, at public meetings, and through a survey until July 19<sup>th</sup>. Sustainability staff will be attending Committee and Commission meetings in June and July to obtain additional feedback. After the results of the public comment period are analyzed and incorporated into a final plan, and the Implementation Plan is drafted, the final CAAP will be reviewed for approval by the Climate Action Committee and the City Council early this fall.

Please note that this draft version of the Plan is not fully designed and formatted. Thus, please focus your review on the content, and not the formatting of the document.

**Attachment:** Draft Climate Action & Adaptation Plan for Public Review





**CITY OF ALBANY  
PARKS RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE COMMISSION AGENDA  
STAFF REPORT**

Agenda Date: July 11, 2019

Reviewed by: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUBJECT:** Memorial Park **Acacia Tree Removal**

**REPORT BY:** John Hawkrige, Urban Forester

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**SUMMARY**

The action before the Commission is to approve the removal and replacement of a 72' Blackwood acacia tree at the northwest corner of the Memorial building in Memorial Park. The tree meets the Non-Emergency Tree Removal criteria as put forth in the City Tree Removal Policy and Procedures, Section 2.1.a: "The City Tree is determined by the Urban Forester to be damaged, diseased, or borer infested beyond reclamation" and Section 2.1.b: the City Tree, due to its own physical condition, is determined by the Urban Forester to be an unacceptable risk to the City.

The tree is recommended for removal based on presence of Gandoderma fungus infection and accompanying decay realized through micro-resistance testing, coupled with the trees proximity to several targets in a public park including a community garden, tennis courts, ballfield, and the Albany Veterans Memorial building. A replacement tree (or trees) can be planted in the same location or a different area of the park since the current location is a community garden area with restricted sunlight. Species may be Red Oak, Red Maple, Big Leaf Maple, Coast Live Oak, Coastal Redwood, all species which are currently present in the park, the last three of which are California native species.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends approval of the tree removal based on criteria and analysis performed by qualified individuals using industry accepted standards of tree risk assessment, specifically micro-resistance testing which methodically tests the integrity of sound wood and the extent of decayed wood in the trunk and root zone of a tree, and the replacement of tree with Big Leaf Maple (*Acer macrophyllum*), a California native species, or other approved species during the 2019-2020 planting season.

**BACKGROUND**

On March 18 and 20, 2019, Aaron Wang of Tree Management Experts, an ISA Certified Arborist and Tree Risk Assessment Qualified (TRAQ) individual, began a Level 2 tree risk

assessment of all trees in Memorial Park as requested by Albany Public Works as part of risk assessment on trees in all Albany parks.

On March 27, 2019, Aaron sent an email with concerns about a couple of trees he felt needed urgent attention including this acacia tree due to discovering a Gandoderma conk at the base of the tree and it's proximity to both the memorial building and recreation areas. In his final report on April 8, 2019, Aaron's recommendation was to remove the tree immediately.

The removal proposal was presented to the PROS Commission on April 11, 2019. The Commission decision was to get a second opinion and revisit this at a later meeting.

Reference: The ANSI (American National Standards Institute) Tree Risk Assessment standard [ANSI A300 (Part 9)-2017 Tree Risk Assessment a.Tree Failure], is incorporated into the ISA (International Society of Arboriculture) TRAQ (Tree Risk Assessment Qualification).

There are 3 levels of TRAQ assessments:

- Level 1 – This is a limited visual assessment of an individual tree or population of trees. It can be performed as a “drive-by” assessment in the case of many trees or even as a limited assessment as might be performed during an estimating request.
- Level 2 – The Level 2 assessment is a 360-degree visual evaluation of a tree where the crown, trunk, trunk flare, above-ground roots, and site conditions are evaluated in regard to targets. Under the TRAQ methodology, the Level 2 assessment is often carried out using the ISA Basic Tree Risk Assessment form.
- Level 3 – This category would include any risk assessment that would exceed the Level 2 category including aerial assessments, decay detection through drilling or tomography, and root crown examinations.

The TRAQ methodology has improved risk assessment by teaching assessors to follow a consistent format for examining a tree. If done properly, a qualified risk assessor will be able to evaluate trees objectively. For example, a qualified assessor will note the presence of both positive and negative conditions and/or growth patterns and match these with target assessment to give an accurate understanding of tree risk to their clients.

## **DISCUSSION**

In response to the commission’s request, a second opinion was solicited from Michael Black, also an ISA Certified Arborist and TRAQ qualified individual, with Brightview Tree Care Services, who also conducted a Level 2 risk assesement on the acacia. In a letter dated May 1, 2019, he stated that the Gandoderma conk was the primary concern, and although a tree might exist for years without causing catastrophic failure, due to the size of the tree and its location next to a garden with constant occupancy, and a building with

constant occupancy, and other park-like areas with frequent occupancy, the tree should be considered for removal, and estimated that the it is possible for the tree to fail within the next 12 months, with high likelihood of impact to targets, with consequences of failure to be extreme to severe. He gave the tree a risk rating of Moderate for the next 12 months. This second assessment point towards removal of the tree

To get a better idea of the risk and possible time frame of failure, Public Works engaged Dryad, LLC which is owned and operated by Torrey Young, a Registered Consulting Arborist, ISA Board Certified Master Arborist, and TRAQ qualified individual (<http://www.dryadllc.com/about-arboriculture-consultant-tree-evaluation-sf-bay-area-ca.php>) to perform a more thorough, Level 3 assessment, which included micro-resistance testing (Resistograph), a method of measuring the amount of decay present within the trunk and root crown of a tree through use of an instrument that detects decay and cavities in trees and timber. Through resistograph technology, an arborist is able to detect wood decay, stages of rot, hollow areas, cracks and ring structure. The resistograph is an ideal device for estimating tree stability and longevity. As the micro drill enters the tree, the resistance of the wood changes the rotation speed of the drill. These variations are translated into a graph, which looks a lot like an EKG print out. The tiny drilling hole closes itself up without any damage to the tree.

Torrey assessed the tree on June 7, 2019 and submitted his report on June 17, 2019. His findings show several issues with the tree, but most notably significant interior decay in the trunk of this tree at 48”, and to greater extent at 12” and 6” from ground level, as determined through the use micro-resistance testing.

His assessment considered possible mitigation alternatives to removal such as pruning, bracing and cabling, but felt that the combination of fungal decay and other structural weaknesses observed in the canopy of the tree were irreversable, that mitigation efforts would be futile and therefore recommended prompt tree removal.

## **ANALYSIS**

The tree in question meets the Non-Emergency Tree Removal criteria as put forth in the City Tree Removal Policy and Procedures, Section 2.1.a: “The City Tree is determined by the Urban Forester to be damaged, diseased, or borer infested beyond reclamation” and Section 2.1.b: the City Tree, due to its own physical condition, is determined by the Urban forester to be an unacceptable risk to the City.

## **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT**

Although removal of this tree will mean loss of a mature tree for our community, replanting with an appropriate species will afford future Albany generations the many benefits of a large shade tree. While still inconclusive, many studies show that a young vigorous tree is able to sequester carbon more quickly than a mature tree. The carbon already sequestered by this tree would be retained in the form of tree mulch to be used in

the community as part of our mulch distribution program. Further, Blackwood Acacia (*Acacia melanoxylon*) is included in the “Not Allowed” list for Marin County Municipal Water District partly due to its invasiveness and partly due to its inhibiting affect on the germination and growth of native species in the understory and is given a ‘limited’ invasiveness rating per the California Invasive Plant Inventory. There is also some concern over the allergenic properties of Blackwood Acacia which is a heavy pollen producer.

Per the Migratory Bird Treaty Act as well as California State Codes 3503 and 3503.5, bird nests (for all species except European Starling and House Sparrow) are to be protected while there is active nesting. California Department of fish and Wildlife have defined nesting season as February 1<sup>st</sup> through August 15<sup>th</sup>. This tree can be monitored for any nesting activity prior to the removal and postponed until after August 15<sup>th</sup> if activity is observed.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

Cost of removal estimated at \$4900 with use of a crane. \$9500 without crane.

### **Attachments**

1. Memorial Park Acacia Report\_5\_1\_2019
2. 190408 Memorial Park TRAQ Report
3. Letter-report, Dryad, LLC (19026) 06-17-19 v2

# Tree Management Experts

## Consulting Arborists

3109 Sacramento Street  
San Francisco, CA 94115

Member, American Society of Consulting Arborists  
Certified Arborists, Tree Risk Assessment Qualified

cell 415.606.3610

FAX 415.921.7711

email [roy@treemanagementexperts.com](mailto:roy@treemanagementexperts.com)



### City of Albany

Attn: John Hawkrige, Urban Forester  
540 Cleveland Avenue  
Albany, CA 94710

RE: Memorial Park

Date: 4/8/19

## ARBORIST MEMORANDUM

### Assignment

- Provide field inspections to evaluate the risk posed by larger mature trees in the park.
- Based on a preview of the site there will be inspections made for 37 trees including: 3 liquidambar, 1 big-leaf linden, 1 brazilian pepper, 2 deodar cedars, 7 redwoods, 1 cork oak, 1 camphor, 2 callery pears, 9 sycamores, 1 chinese elm, 5 coast live oaks, 1 Victorian box, 1 silver dollar gum eucalyptus, 1 black acacia, and 1 valley oak.
- The areas assessed will not include the school or landscaped area between the playing field fences and the sidewalks adjacent to the school and will not include the memorial building courtyard enclosed by the iron fence.
- Provide health and risk assessment, documenting risk factors and determining a risk rating for each tree.
- Provide an Arborist Report of findings and to write specifications for tree service.

### Methodology

The property was visited by Aaron Wang on March 18 & 20, 2019 to evaluate the trees in question.

Field work was conducted using TreeWorks from the Kenerson Group in ESRI ArcGIS, with a Trimble Juno 3B running Treeworks in ERSI ArcPAD used as the field GPS and data recorder. Trees were tagged in the field using 1-1/4" circular aluminum tree tags affixed roughly at breast height (4'6" above grade).

For risk assessments, the target was a considered to be a pedestrian using the park in a normal manner and, in the case of trees in striking distance of neighboring properties, those properties were also considered as targets.

### Analysis

32 trees were assessed. 28 were found to be Low Risk, 3 were found to be Moderate Risk, and 1 was found to be high risk. 1 trees was recommended for removal.

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Risk ratings take into account the occupancy rate of a target area, the likelihood of failure, and the expected damage if a tree part strikes a target. A dead tree that could fall any minute in the middle of an uninhabited forest has no target and thus is low risk. A single small broken limb from a tree hanging over a busy freeway could strike a car or cause one to swerve and cause a fatal collision, and could be considered an extreme risk. Tree risk is assessed by Tree Risk Assessment Qualified (TRAQ) arborists and provides a rating that can be included in decisions by a property manager.

The trees in the park are overall in fairly good condition, but some pose hazards.

The London planetrees on site have been pollarded in the past and this pruning hasn't been maintained. This has led to weak attachments, that may fail unpredictably but regular maintenance to retrain them to the pollarding can reduce the risk of failure.

The large coast redwoods should be pruned regularly to remove deadwood and to reduce end weight.

The smaller trees in the park are in fair condition, they will require normal maintenance and training pruning.

The large silver dollar gum behind the memorial building is oversized and has large end-heavy limbs. These limbs should be reduced to mitigate the risk of branches tearing out.

The large blackwood acacia behind the memorial building presents a high risk as it exhibits extensive decay and may fail unpredictably and hit the building, tennis courts, or baseball fields. It should be removed immediately.

## Data Interpretation

### Tree Data

*Tag Number:* The number engraved on the tag affixed to the tree to identify it in the field. A 1-1/4" circular aluminum tree tag affixed with an aluminum nail is attached to each tree.

*Site ID:* The unique identifier used by the database to identify each tree record.

*Inspector:* Person performing the inspection and risk assessment for each tree.

*Park:* Name property where tree was found

*Species:* Binomial name used to identify the species of the subject tree.

*Common Name:* The colloquial name associated with the binomial species name.

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*Diameter:* Diameter at Breast Height ( $d$ ) (DBH) of the stems(s) measured by taking a circumference ( $C$ ) at a point on the tree 54 inches above ground level using a measuring tape marked in increments of  $\pi$ -inches.

*Height:* The average height of the tree in feet as determined by eye in the field.

*Spread:* The average spread of the canopy of the tree in feet as determined by eye and pacing in the field.

*Condition Rating:* A percentage rating of the condition, in terms of health and structure, of the tree, ranging from 0% (dead), 30% very poor (the lowest live condition), to 100% (an ideal specimen).

*Risk Rating:* A rating of the risk presented by a tree, ranging from Low, Moderate, High, and Extreme.

*Site ID:* The unique identifier used by the database to identify each tree record.

*Defect:* Specific issue found in the tree.

*Defect Type:* Divided in to Cultural, Structural, and Insects/Disease to delineate the type of issue noted.

*Site ID:* The unique identifier used by the database to identify each tree record.

*Task:* The type of work needed on the tree to help improve health and mitigate risk.

*Task Detail:* Detail on the type of work necessary.

*Priority:* The relative priority of work prescribed for the tree. Includes 1-high, 2-medium, and 3-low.

*Notes:* Amplifying remarks on the work necessary on the tree.

### TRAQ Data

*Site ID:* The unique identifier used by the database to identify each tree record.

*Tree Part:* the part of the tree being assessed for failure risk, divided into: branch, trunk, or roots.

*Concern:* The mode of failure for the tree part being considered.

*Part Size:* Largest diameter of the tree part under consideration for failure risk.

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*Fall Distance:* The maximum unobstructed fall distance for the tree part should it fail.

*Probability of Failure:* The possibility of the tree part under consideration failing, rated with increasing likelihood as Improbable, Possible, Probable, and Imminent.

*Likelihood of Impact:* The probability of a failure of the tree part impacting a target, based on frequency and duration of occupancy, rated in increasing order as Very Low, Low, Medium, and High.

*Failure & Impact:* Based on the previous two ratings, the combined probability of a tree part failing and striking a target, rated in increasing order as Unlikely, Somewhat Likely, Likely, and Very Likely.

*Consequences:* The consequences resulting from a tree part striking an unprotected target. Rated in increasing order as Negligible, Minor, Significant, and Severe.

*Risk Rating:* The result of the combined Failure & Impact and Consequences. Rated in increasing order as Low, Moderate, High, and Extreme.

*Notes:* Additional notes explaining and expanding on risk ratings.



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## Assumptions and Limiting Conditions

1. Any legal description provided to the consultant is assumed to be correct. Title and ownership of all property considered are assumed to be good and marketable. No responsibility is assumed for matters legal in character. Any and all property is appraised or evaluated as though free and clear, under responsible ownership and competent management.
2. It is assumed that any property is not in violation of any applicable codes, ordinances, statutes or other governmental regulations.
3. Care has been taken to obtain all information from reliable sources. All data has been verified insofar as possible. The consultant can neither guarantee nor be responsible for the accuracy of information provided by others.
4. Various diagrams, sketches and photographs in this report are intended as visual aids and are not to scale, unless specifically stated as such on the drawing. These communication tools in no way substitute for nor should be construed as surveys, architectural or engineering drawings.
5. Loss or alteration of any part of this report invalidates the entire report.
6. Possession of this report or a copy thereof does not imply right of publication or use for any purpose by any other than the person to whom it is addressed, without the prior written or verbal consent of the consultant.
7. This report is confidential and to be distributed only to the individual or entity to whom it is addressed. Any or all of the contents of this report may be conveyed to another party only with the express prior written or verbal consent of the consultant. Such limitations apply to the original report, a copy, facsimile, scanned image or digital version thereof.
8. This report represents the opinion of the consultant. In no way is the consultant's fee contingent upon a stipulated result, the occurrence of a subsequent event, nor upon any finding to be reported.
9. The consultant shall not be required to give testimony or to attend court by reason of this report unless subsequent contractual arrangements are made, including payment of an additional fee for such services as described in the fee schedule, an agreement or a contract.
10. Information contained in this report reflects observations made only to those items described and only reflects the condition of those items at the time of the site visit. Furthermore, the inspection is limited to visual examination of items and elements at the site, unless expressly stated otherwise. There is no expressed or implied warranty or guarantee that problems or deficiencies of the plants or property inspected may not arise in the future.

## Disclosure Statement

Arborists are tree specialists who use their education, knowledge, training, and experience to examine trees, recommend measures to enhance the beauty and health of trees, and attempt to reduce the risk of living near trees. Clients may choose to accept or disregard the recommendations of the arborist, or to seek additional advice.

Arborists cannot detect every condition that could possibly lead to the structural failure of a tree. Trees are living organisms that fail in ways we do not fully understand. Conditions are often hidden within trees

# Tree Management Experts

## Consulting Arborists

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and below ground. Arborists cannot guarantee that a tree will be healthy or safe under all circumstances, or for a specified period of time. Likewise, remedial treatments, like any medicine, cannot be guaranteed.

Treatment, pruning, and removal of trees may involve considerations beyond the scope of the arborist's services such as property boundaries, property ownership, site lines, disputes between neighbors, and other issues. An arborist cannot take such considerations into account unless complete and accurate information is disclosed to the arborist. An arborist should then be expected to reasonably rely upon the completeness and accuracy of the information provided.

Trees can be managed, but they cannot be controlled. To live near trees is to accept some degree of risk. The only way to eliminate all risk associated with trees is to eliminate the trees.

## Certification of Performance

I, Aaron Wang, Certify:

- That we have inspected the trees and/or property evaluated in this report. We have stated findings accurately, insofar as the limitations of the Assignment and within the extent and context identified by this report;
- That we have no current or prospective interest in the vegetation or any real estate that is the subject of this report, and have no personal interest or bias with respect to the parties involved;
- That the analysis, opinions and conclusions stated herein are original and are based on current scientific procedures and facts and according to commonly accepted arboricultural practices;
- That no significant professional assistance was provided, except as indicated by the inclusion of another professional report within this report;
- That compensation is not contingent upon the reporting of a predetermined conclusion that favors the cause of the client or any other party.

I am a member and Certified Arborist with the International Society of Arboriculture.

I have attained professional training in all areas of knowledge asserted through this report by completion of a Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry and Natural Resources, by routinely attending pertinent professional conferences and by reading current research from professional journals, books and other media.

I have rendered professional services in a full time capacity in the field of horticulture and arboriculture for more than 5 years.

*Signed:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Date:* 4/8/2019

Memorial Park  
Tree Data

Tag #	Site ID	Inspector	Park	Botanic Name	Common Name	diameter (in)	height (ft)	spread (ft)	Trunks	Condition (%)	Site ID	Defect	Defect Type	Site ID	Task	Task Detail	Priority	Notes
331	18	Aaron Wang	memorial	Sequoia sempervirens	coast redwood	48	75	50	1	70	18	deadwood	structural	18	prune	end weight reduction	3-low	
331	18		memorial								18				prune	crow clean	2-medium	
330	19	Aaron Wang	memorial	Platanus x acerfolia	london planetree	15	35	25	1	70	19	deadwood	structural	19	prune	crow clean	3-low	
330	19		memorial								19	branch architecture	structural	19	prune	end weight reduction	3-low	
326	20	Aaron Wang	memorial	Platanus x acerfolia	london planetree	12	30	20	1	70	20	deadwood	structural	20	prune	crow clean	3-low	
326	20		memorial								20	branch architecture	structural	20	prune	end weight reduction	3-low	
329	21	Aaron Wang	memorial	Platanus x acerfolia	london planetree	24	30	35	1	70	21	deadwood	structural	21	prune	crow clean	3-low	either reduce crown or restore
329	21		memorial								21	branch architecture	structural	21	prune	end weight reduction	2-medium	pollarding
329	21		memorial								21	trunk decay	structural	21				
325	22	Aaron Wang	memorial	Platanus x acerfolia	london planetree	11	30	25	1	70	22	deadwood	structural	22	prune	end weight reduction	3-low	
325	22		memorial								22	branch architecture	structural	22	prune	crow reduce	3-low	
324	23	Aaron Wang	memorial	Platanus x acerfolia	london planetree	11	30	25	1	70	23	deadwood	structural	23	prune	crow clean	3-low	
324	23		memorial								23	branch architecture	structural	23	prune	end weight reduction	3-low	
328	24	Aaron Wang	memorial	Platanus x acerfolia	london planetree	20	30	30	1	70	24	deadwood	structural	24	prune	end weight reduction	2-medium	either reduce crown or restore
328	24		memorial								24	branch architecture	structural	24	prune	crow clean	3-low	pollarding
328	24		memorial								24	trunk decay	structural	24				
323	25	Aaron Wang	memorial	Platanus x acerfolia	london planetree	20	35	30	1	70	25	deadwood	structural	25	prune	crow clean	3-low	
323	25		memorial								25	branch architecture	structural	25	prune	end weight reduction	2-medium	reduce crown or restore
323	25		memorial								25	trunk decay	structural	25				
327	26	Aaron Wang	memorial	Platanus x acerfolia	london planetree	18	30	20	1	70	26	deadwood	structural	26	prune	end weight reduction	2-medium	either reduce crown or restore
327	26		memorial								26	branch architecture	structural	26	prune	crow clean	3-low	pollarding
327	26		memorial								26	trunk decay	structural	26				
327	26		memorial								26	trunk cavity	structural	26				
322	27	Aaron Wang	memorial	Platanus x acerfolia	london planetree	25	35	35	1	70	27	deadwood	structural	27	prune	crow clean	3-low	
322	27		memorial								27	branch architecture	structural	27	prune	end weight reduction	2-medium	either reduce crown or restore
322	27		memorial								27	trunk decay	structural	27				
322	27		memorial								27	trunk cavity	structural	27				
319	28	Aaron Wang	memorial	Quercus lobata	valley oak	10	25	20	1	70	28	co-dominant stems	structural	28	prune	train	3-low	
319	28		memorial								28	deadwood	structural	28	prune	end weight reduction	3-low	
319	28		memorial								28	canker	insects/disease	28				
318	29	Aaron Wang	memorial	Cinnamomum camphora	camphor tree	20	25	30	3	70	29	branch architecture	structural	29	prune	crow clean	1-high	
318	29		memorial								29	co-dominant stems	structural	29	prune	end weight reduction	1-high	mulch under tree to mitigate
318	29		memorial								29	compacted soil	cultural	29	root collar		2-medium	compaction

Memorial Park  
Tree Data

Tag #	Site ID	Inspector	Park	Botanic Name	Common Name	diameter (in)	height (ft)	spread (ft)	Trunks	Condition (%)	Site ID	Defect	Defect Type	Site ID	Task	Task Detail	Priority	Notes
321	30	Aaron Wang	memorial	Pyrus calleryana	flowering pear	12	25	25	1	70	30	hanger	structural	30	prune	prune	1-high	hanger in adjacent cypress
321	30		memorial								30	co-dominant stems	structural	30	prune	end weight reduction	3-low	
321	30		memorial								30	branch architecture	structural	30				
321	30		memorial								30	deadwood	structural	30				
320	31	Aaron Wang	memorial	Pyrus calleryana	flowering pear	10	25	25	1	70	31	co-dominant stems	structural	31	prune	end weight reduction	3-low	
320	31		memorial								31	branch architecture	structural	31	prune	prune	3-low	
320	31		memorial								31	deadwood	structural	31				
317	32	Aaron Wang	memorial	Sequoia sempervirens	coast redwood	40	75	40	1	70	32	branch architecture	structural	32	prune	end weight reduction	2-medium	
317	32		memorial								32	deadwood	structural	32	prune	prune	3-low	
316	33	Aaron Wang	memorial	Sequoia sempervirens	coast redwood	52	50	40	1	70	33	branch architecture	structural	33	prune	prune	2-medium	
316	33		memorial								33	deadwood	structural	33	prune	end weight reduction	3-low	
316	33		memorial								33	topped	cultural	33				
315	34	Aaron Wang	memorial	Sequoia sempervirens	coast redwood	38	60	35	1	70	34	branch architecture	structural	34	prune	prune	3-low	
315	34		memorial								34	deadwood	structural	34	prune	end weight reduction	2-medium	
315	34		memorial								34	co-dominant stems	structural	34				
314	35	Aaron Wang	memorial	Sequoia sempervirens	coast redwood	55	55	40	3	70	35	branch architecture	structural	35	prune	prune	2-medium	
314	35		memorial								35	deadwood	structural	35	prune	end weight reduction	2-medium	
314	35		memorial								35	co-dominant stems	structural	35				
314	35		memorial								35	topped	cultural	35				
313	36	Aaron Wang	memorial	Sequoia sempervirens	coast redwood	32	40	30	1	70	36	branch architecture	structural	36	prune	prune	3-low	
313	36		memorial								36	co-dominant stems	structural	36	prune	end weight reduction	2-medium	
313	36		memorial								36	crook	structural	36	root collar		add mulch under tree	
313	36		memorial								36	compacted soil	cultural	36				
313	36		memorial								36	conk/fungus fruit	insects/disease	36				
312	37	Aaron Wang	memorial	Quercus suber	cork oak	8	15	10	1	70	37	lawnmower	cultural	37	prune	prune	2-medium	add mulch ring and exclude lawnmowers
312	37		memorial								37			37	root collar			
311	38	Aaron Wang	memorial	Cedrus deodara	deodar cedar	13	25	25	1	70	38	branch architecture	structural	38	prune	prune	1-high	
693	39	Aaron Wang	memorial	Sequoia sempervirens	coast redwood	16	40	20	1	80	39			39	prune	prune	3-low	
309	40	Aaron Wang	memorial	Sequoia sempervirens	coast redwood	7	15	10	1	70	40	foreign object	cultural	40	prune	prune	3-low	
309	40		memorial								40			40	root collar			cut back fabric from base of tree
310	41	Aaron Wang	memorial	Tilia cordata	littleaf linden	11	20	20	1	70	41	co-dominant stems	structural	41	prune	prune	2-medium	remove crossing branches
310	41		memorial								41	branch architecture	structural	41	prune	end weight reduction	2-medium	
308	42	Aaron Wang	memorial	Schinus terebinthifolia	brazilian pepper	14	20	30	1	50	42	branch architecture	structural	42	prune	prune	2-medium	
308	42		memorial								42	co-dominant stems	structural	42	prune	end weight reduction	2-medium	
308	42		memorial								42	trunk decay	structural	42				
308	42		memorial								42	trunk decay	structural	42				

Memorial Park  
Tree Data

Tag #	Site ID	Inspector	Park	Botanic Name	Common Name	diameter (in)	height (ft)	spread (ft)	Trunks	Condition (%)	Site ID	Defect	Defect Type	Site ID	Task	Task Detail	Priority	Notes	
306	43	Aaron Wang	memorial	Acacia melanoxylon	blackwood acacia	36	60	45	1	50	43	crown scar	structural	43	remove		1-high	extensive decay at base of tree	
306	43		memorial								43	trunk decay	structural	43					
306	43		memorial								43	conk/fungus fruit	insects/disease	43					
306	43		memorial								43	basal decay	structural	43					
306	43		memorial								43	co-dominant stems	structural	43					
306	43		memorial								43	branch architecture	structural	43					
307	44	Aaron Wang	memorial	Corymbia citriodora	lemon-scented gum	35	60	60	1	70	44	branch architecture	structural	44	prune	end weight reduction	2-medium		
307	44		memorial								44	crook	structural	44	prune	crown clean	2-medium		
307	44		memorial								44	deadwood	structural	44					
305	45	Aaron Wang	memorial	Pittosporum undulatum	victorian box	11	20	15	3	70	45	deadwood	structural	45	prune	crown clean	3-low		
305	45		memorial								45	co-dominant stems	structural	45	prune	end weight reduction	2-medium		
305	45		memorial								45	trunk scar	structural	45					
304	46	Aaron Wang	memorial	Quercus agrifolia	coast live oak	14	25	15	1	70	46	branch architecture	structural	46	prune	crown clean	3-low		
304	46		memorial								46	co-dominant stems	structural	46	prune	end weight reduction	3-low		
304	46		memorial								46	deadwood	structural	46					
301	47	Aaron Wang	memorial	Cedrus deodara	deodar cedar	15	15	20	1	70	47	deadwood	structural	47	prune	crown clean	2-medium		
301	47		memorial								47	lean	structural	47					
303	48	Aaron Wang	memorial	Quercus agrifolia	coast live oak	13	25	20	2	70	48	deadwood	structural	48	prune	crown clean	2-medium		
303	48		memorial								48	co-dominant stems	structural	48					
302	49	Aaron Wang	memorial	Quercus agrifolia	coast live oak	18	20	20	3	70	49	co-dominant stems	structural	49	prune	crown clean	3-low		
302	49		memorial								49	deadwood	structural	49					

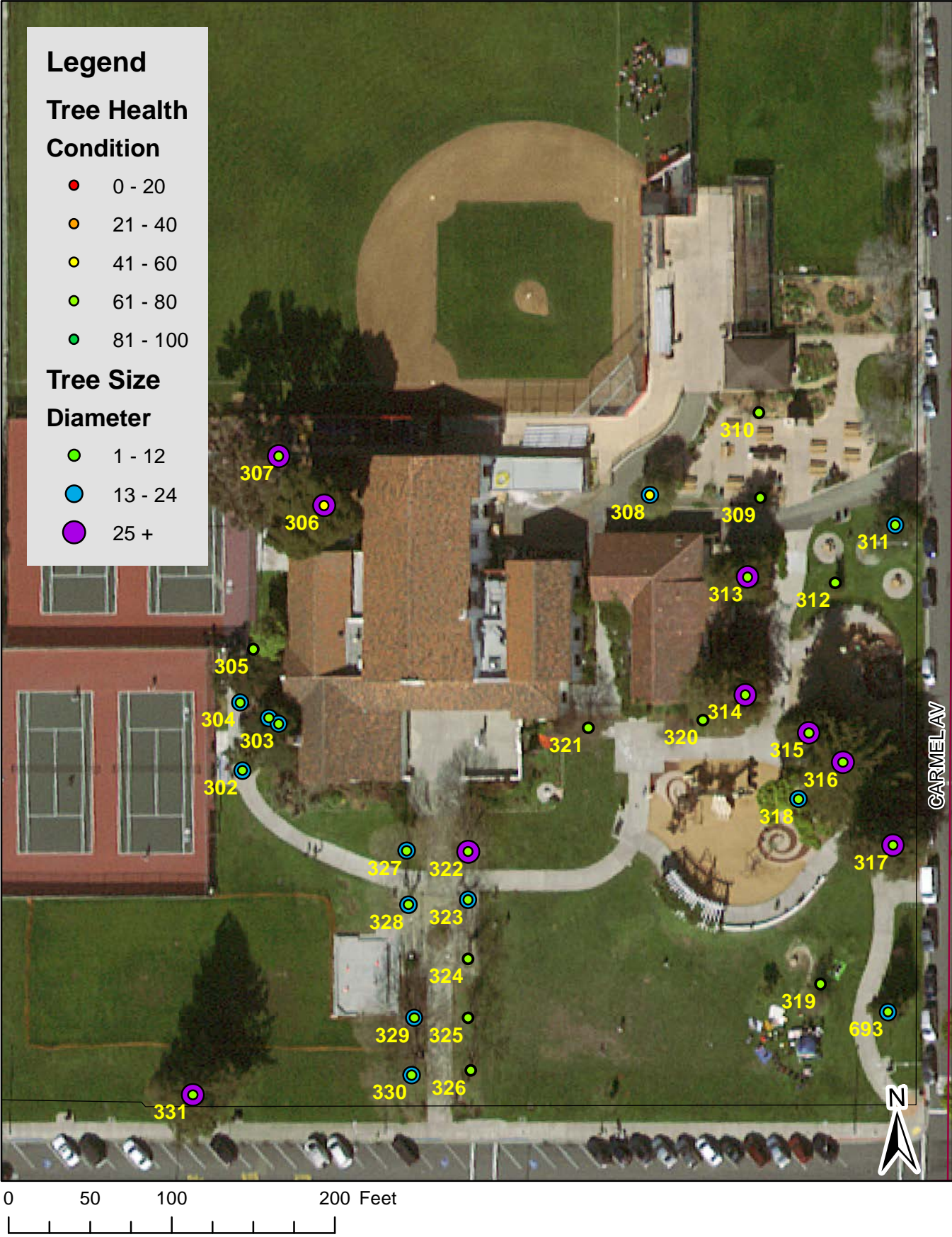
Memorial Park  
TRAQ Data

Site ID	Tag #	Tree Part	Concern	Part Size (in)	Fall Distance (ft)	Probability of Failure	Likelihood of Impact	Failure & Impact	Consequences	Risk Rating	Notes
18	331	branch	end heavy	4	20	Possible	Low	Unlikely	Severe	Low	
19	330	branch	end heavy	3	10	Possible	Medium	Unlikely	Minor	Low	
20	326	branch	end heavy	3	20	Possible	Medium	Unlikely	Minor	Low	
21	329	branch	weak attachment	4	25	Possible	Medium	Unlikely	Significant	Low	
22	325	branch	end heavy	2	15	Improbable	Medium	Unlikely	Significant	Low	
23	324	branch	end heavy	4	15	Possible	Medium	Unlikely	Significant	Low	
24	328	branch	weak attachment	4	15	Probable	Medium	Somewhat Likely	Significant	Moderate	
25	323	branch	weak attachment	3	20	Possible	Medium	Unlikely	Significant	Low	
26	327	branch	weak attachment	3	20	Possible	Medium	Unlikely	Significant	Low	
27	322	branch	weak	4	15	Possible	Medium	Unlikely	Significant	Low	
28	319	branch	deadwood	2	10	Improbable	Low	Unlikely	Minor	Low	
29	318	branch	end heavy	4	20	Probable	Medium	Somewhat Likely	Significant	Moderate	
30	321	branch	end heavy	2	10	Possible	Low	Unlikely	Minor	Low	
30	321	branch	hanger	2	15	Imminent	Low	Somewhat Likely	Minor	Low	
31	320	roots	end heavy	2	10	Possible	Medium	Unlikely	Minor	Low	
32	317	branch	end heavy	5	20	Possible	Medium	Unlikely	Significant	Low	
33	316	branch	deadwood	2	15	Probable	Medium	Somewhat Likely	Significant	Moderate	
34	315	branch	end heavy	3	15	Possible	Medium	Unlikely	Significant	Low	
35	314	branch	end heavy	4	20	Possible	Medium	Unlikely	Significant	Low	
35	314	trunk	co-dominant	27	50	Possible	Medium	Unlikely	Severe	Low	
36	313	branch	end heavy	5	20	Possible	Medium	Unlikely	Significant	Low	
36	313	trunk	co-dominant	12	25	Possible	Medium	Unlikely	Severe	Low	
37	312	branch	tearing	2	10	Improbable	Low	Unlikely	Minor	Low	
38	311	branch	end heavy	4	10	Possible	Medium	Unlikely	Significant	Low	
39	693	branch	end heavy	2	10	Improbable	Low	Unlikely	Negligible	Low	
40	309	branch	tearout	1	5	Improbable	Very Low	Unlikely	Negligible	Low	
41	310	branch	co dominant	3	10	Possible	Medium	Unlikely	Minor	Low	
42	308	branch	end heavy	3	10	Probable	Medium	Somewhat Likely	Minor	Low	
43	306	branch	end heavy	6	30	Possible	Medium	Unlikely	Significant	Low	
43	306	trunk	basal decay	36	40	Probable	High	Likely	Severe	High	
44	307	branch	end heavy	8	45	Possible	Medium	Unlikely	Severe	Low	
45	305	branch	co dominant	6	10	Possible	Medium	Unlikely	Minor	Low	

Memorial Park  
TRAQ Data

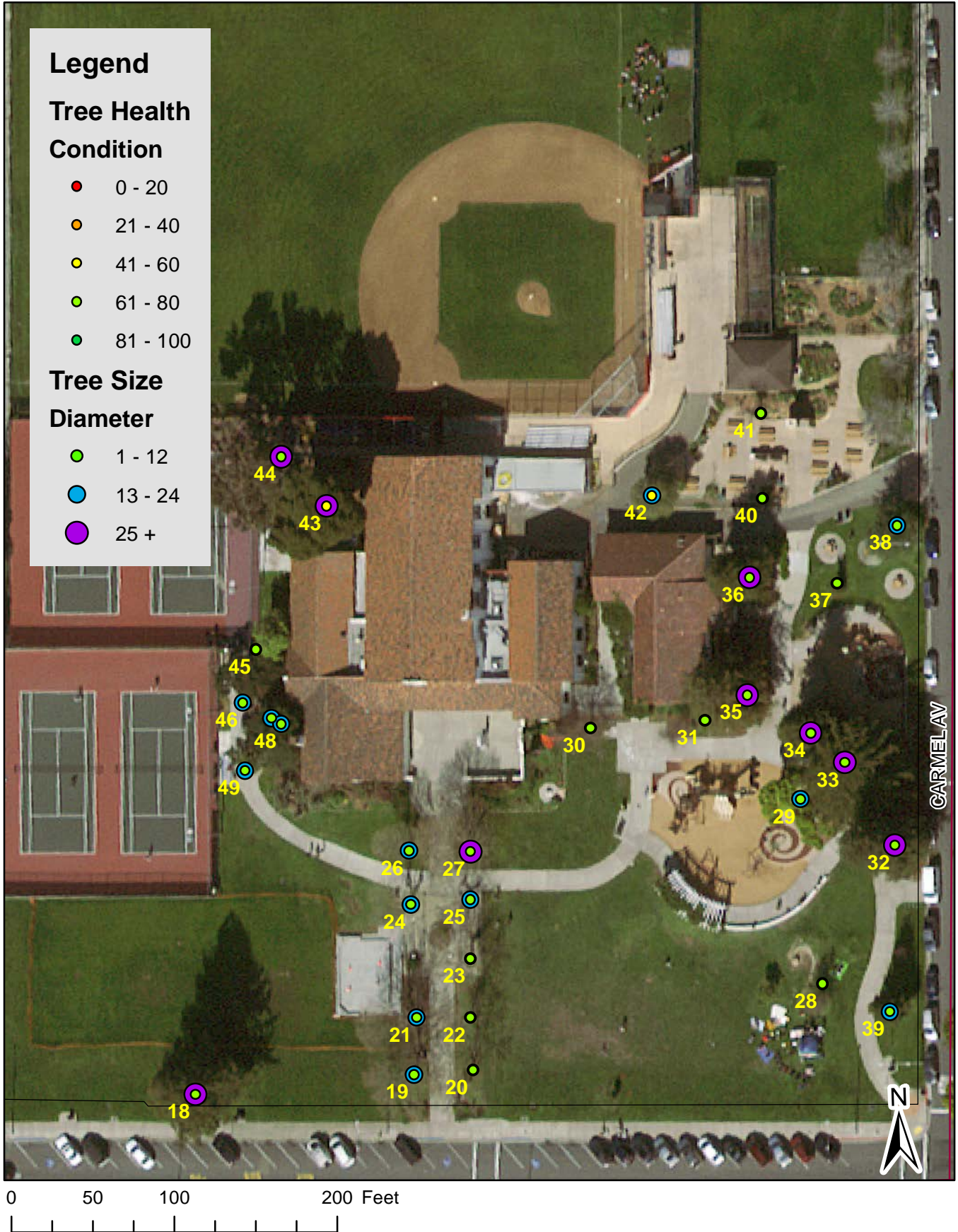
Site ID	Tag #	Tree Part	Concern	Part Size (in)	Fall Distance (ft)	Probability of Failure	Likelihood of Impact	Failure & Impact	Consequences	Risk Rating	Notes
46	304	branch	end heavy	2	10	Possible	Low	Unlikely	Minor	Low	
47	301	branch	deadwood	1	10	Possible	Low	Unlikely	Negligible	Low	
48	303	branch	deadwood	1	10	Possible	Low	Unlikely	Negligible	Low	
49	302	branch	deadwood	1	10	Possible	Low	Unlikely	Negligible	Low	

# Memorial Park Tree Locations By Tag #





# Memorial Park Tree Locations By Site ID



Michael Black  
ISA Certified Arborist, WE-9737A  
BrightView Tree Care Services  
4677 Pacheco Blvd  
Martinez, CA - 94553  
925-525-9613 tel  
925-957-8833 fax



5/1/2019

Mr. John Hawkrige  
Urban Forest464646546546er  
City of Albany Public Works  
540 Cleveland Avenue  
Albany, CA - 94710

Subject: Acacia melanoxydon at Memorial Park

Dear John,

Per your request, I evaluated the black acacia (*Acacia melanoxydon*) located on the northwest corner of the memorial building at Memorial Park in the city of Albany, California. The tree in question is approximately 60 feet tall with a trunk diameter at breast height of approximately 36 inches. The question you posed to me was whether the tree was safe to retain based on a previous report supplied by a consulting arborist.

I arrived on site today, May 1, 2019 around 11:30am. I used a rubber mallet and binoculars to evaluate the tree. My first observation was the presence of a fungal conk on the southeast side of the tree located at its base. The fungal conk was approximately six inches wide and four inches in height with a whitish color. Its appearance is consistent with *Ganoderma applanatum*, a wood decay fungi that affects a number of tree genera. Sounding of the tree with a rubber mallet did not indicate the presence of a substantial cavity above ground, however, it is not uncommon for *Ganoderma* to cause basal decay of trees that cannot be detected by the use of sounding.

While sounding the tree, a large chunk of bark approximately six feet above the fungal conk fell off revealing another shallow cavity that immediately excreted a black, inky liquid. This could be indicative of a larger cavity higher in the tree or it could also be indicative of concomitant infection with *Phytophthora ramorum*, Lab testing would be required to achieve a definitive result.

By using my binoculars I also observed, at the first crotch, approximately 25 feet above grade, what could be a cavity between the two main scaffold branches. Because an aerial inspection was not undertaken, it was not possible to determine definitively if a cavity exists at this location. I can complete an aerial inspection to investigate further at additional cost. Lastly, I observed a broken branch with an approximate diameter of 6 inches approximately 35 feet above grade.

The primary concern as it relates to this tree is the fungal conk at the base. *Ganoderma* can exist on a tree for several years without causing catastrophic failure but due to the size of the tree and its location next to a garden with constant occupancy, a building with constant occupancy, and other park-like areas frequented by people with

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frequent occupancy, the tree should be considered for removal. Additionally, the possibility of a concomitant fungal infection that can cause sudden oak death should also be weighed while determining the fate of the tree. At a minimum, the tree should undergo an aerial inspection and the broken limb removed.

If you have any further questions or if there is anything more I can do to serve you, please let me know. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Black".

Michael Black  
ISA Certified Arborist WE-9737A  
TRAQ Qualified Tree Risk Assessor  
BrightView Tree Care Services  
(925)525-9613  
michael.black@brightview.com

June 17, 2019

John Hawkrige, Urban Forester  
City of Albany Public Works, Urban Forestry  
540 Cleveland Avenue  
Albany, CA 94710

Re.: Tree evaluation and risk assessment.  
Site: Memorial Park, Albany

Mr. Hawkrige;

I am writing in response to your request for a report of my observations and findings relative to my recent tree inspection. You explained that there is an existing tree removal; application and your request to me was for an evaluation of the condition of the tree, including micro-resistance testing (Resistograph®)<sup>1</sup> and a tree risk assessment consistent with the guidelines of the International Society of Arboriculture Tree Risk Assessment Qualification program (TRAQ)<sup>2</sup>. This letter comprises my report.

I inspected<sup>3</sup>, evaluated<sup>4</sup>, measured and photographed the tree on June 7, 2019. I also performed resistance drilling testing in ten locations including the trunk (48" height) and the base of the tree (~6-12" height). Three of the ten locations were at visible root flares<sup>5</sup>.

**SUMMARY:** Consistent with TRAQ guidelines, I judged a single, primary limb to the southwest, extending over the building, garden and pathway, to present the highest risk of both failure and significant consequences. However, in my opinion, the most likely parts to fail first are one of the numerous, weakly attached secondary branches. Due to their comparatively small size, the severity of damage or injury is much less and the target<sup>6</sup> area smaller, reducing the likelihood of impact with pedestrians. There is also extensive decay present in the trunk and supporting roots, resulting in risk of whole tree failure, which would result in far greater consequences with some property damage inevitable. For these reasons, I conducted a tree risk analysis (TRAQ) for each of the three, unique failure/damage scenarios.

All three scenarios, reflecting differing categories for targets, likelihood of striking targets and resulting consequences, resulted in the same overall risk rating of low. This is due primarily to the low frequency of occupancy for the most significant target, pedestrians. However, the TRAQ process is subjective, categorizes tree risk and does not provide management judgment.

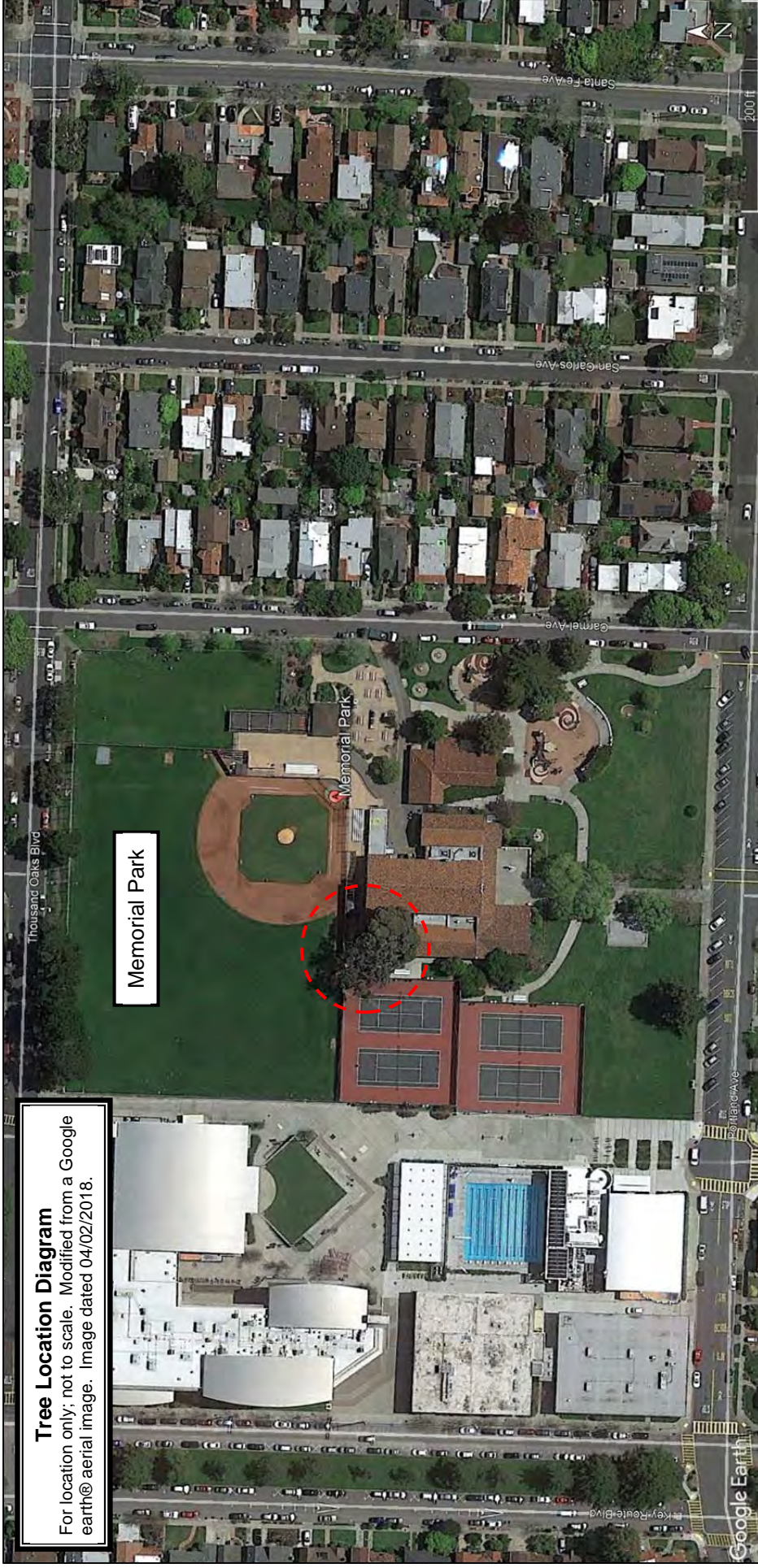
I considered mitigation alternatives to tree removal, including reduction pruning and support systems (cabling & bracing<sup>7</sup>). While such methods could temporarily reduce the potential for failure, the structural weaknesses of the canopy are irreparable and there is no remedy for the trunk and root decay. In my opinion, undertaking mitigation efforts would be futile and only delay the inevitable while not eliminating the risk of failure. Although tree risk is low due to infrequent occupancy, the consequences of failure could be severe. Therefore, I recommend prompt tree removal.



#### OBSERVATIONS:

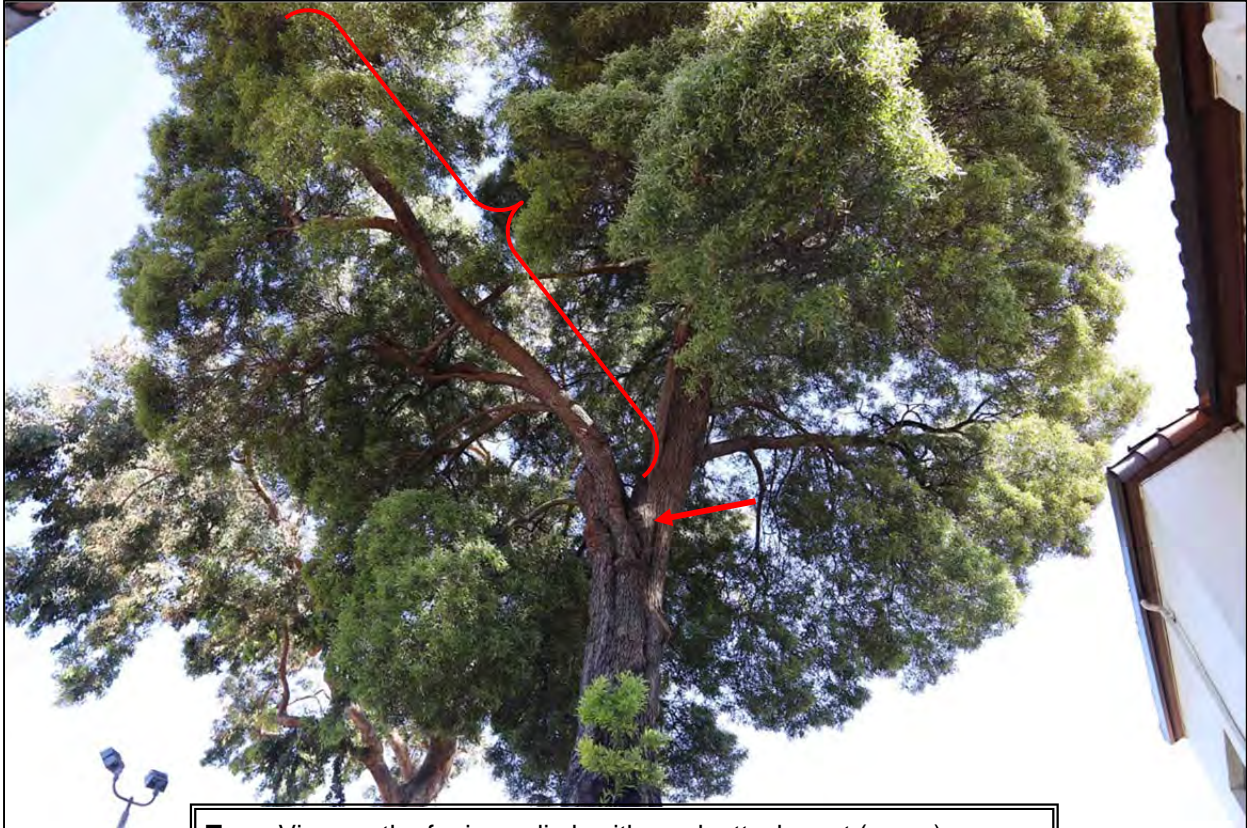
- Common name: Blackwood acacia.
- Genus-species: *Acacia melanoxylon*.
- Diameter: 35 inches diameter (DBH)<sup>8</sup>.
- Height: 72 feet<sup>9</sup>.
- Lean to south of <10 degrees from vertical.
- Significant pruning apparent, including a number of large (~8-12" diameter), lower scaffold limb<sup>10</sup> removals.
- Pruning has left the canopy<sup>11</sup> concentrated in the upper ~40% of tree height.
- Profuse acute-angle branch attachments<sup>12</sup>.
- Wound<sup>13</sup> present from lateral branch failure at acute-angle attachment; ~3-4 " diameter.
- Foliage is dense, vigorous and of good color.
- Multiple scaffold branches originating in close proximity at the remaining, primary juncture.
- Codominant attachment<sup>14</sup> between primary stem and scaffold limb to southwest; embedded bark; limb is concave at top/inside; right angle aspect and response growth suggest limb may have internal cracks.
- Fruiting body (con) present near base to east; appears to be *Ganoderma* sp.<sup>15</sup>



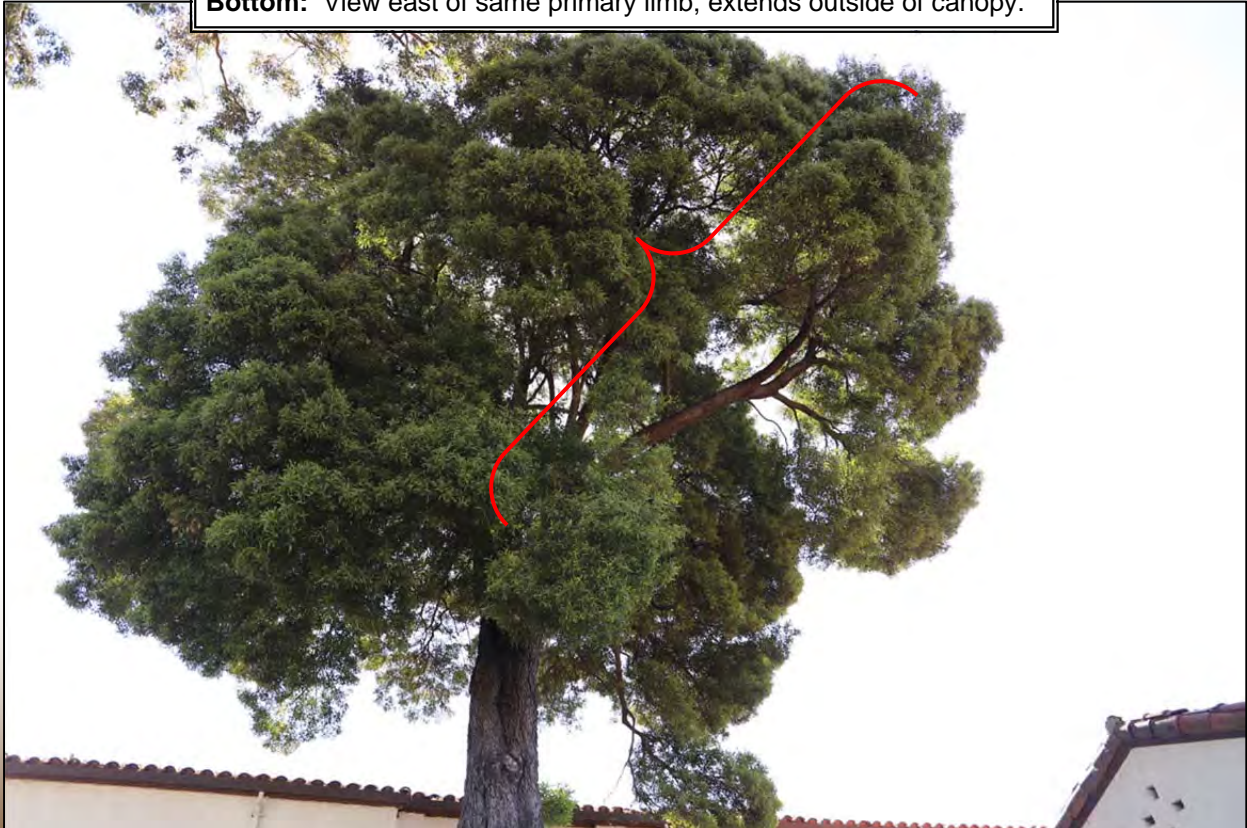


**Tree Location Diagram**  
For location only; not to scale. Modified from a Google earth® aerial image. Image dated 04/02/2018.



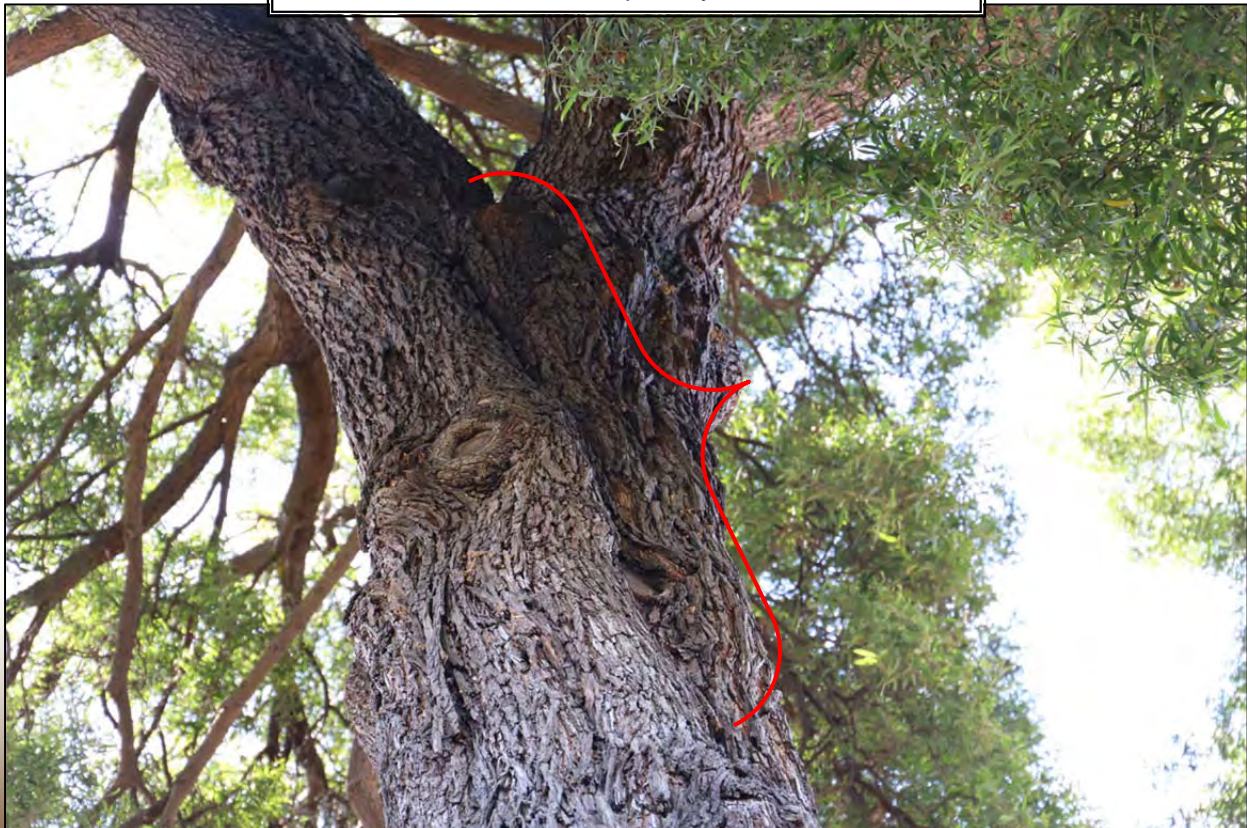


**Top:** View north of primary limb with weak attachment (arrow).  
Subject of Tree Risk Assessment 1.  
**Bottom:** View east of same primary limb; extends outside of canopy.





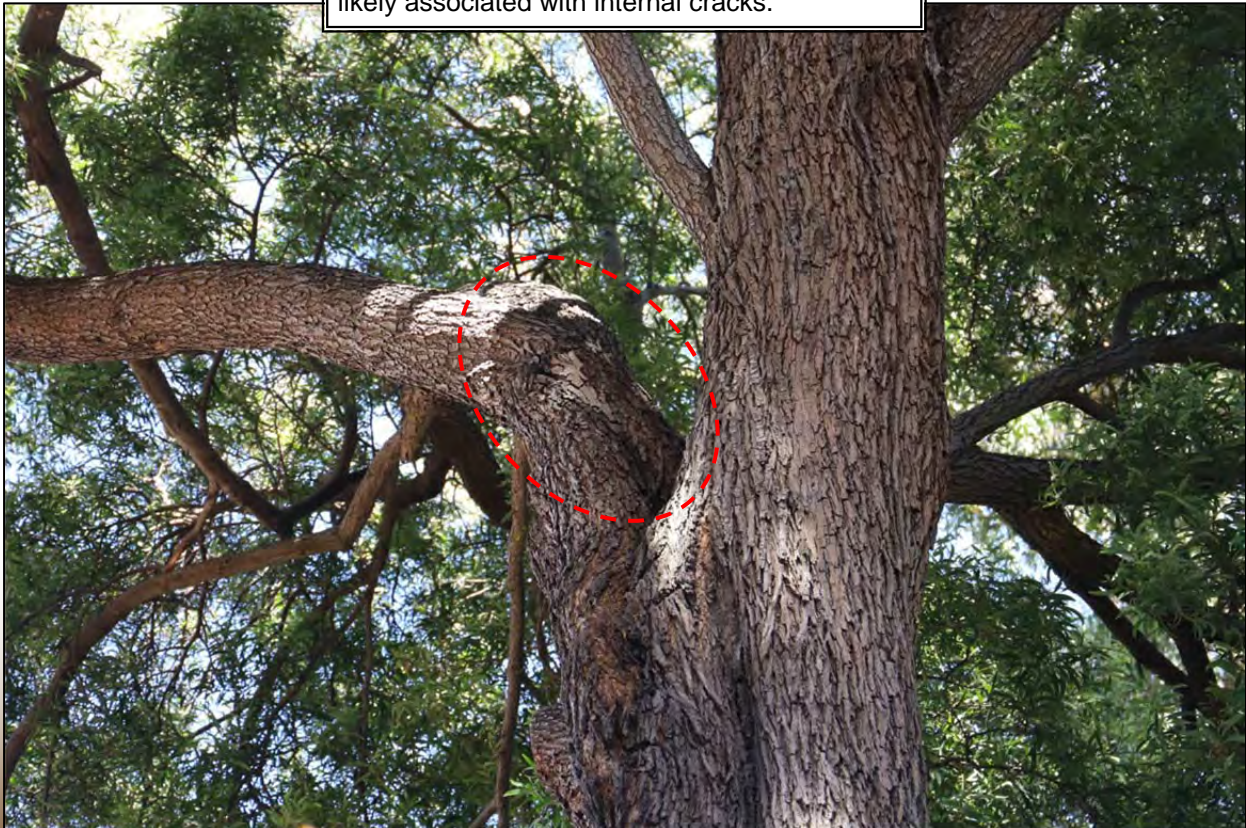
**Top:** View north of primary limb acute-angle attachment.  
**Bottom:** View east of same primary limb attachment.

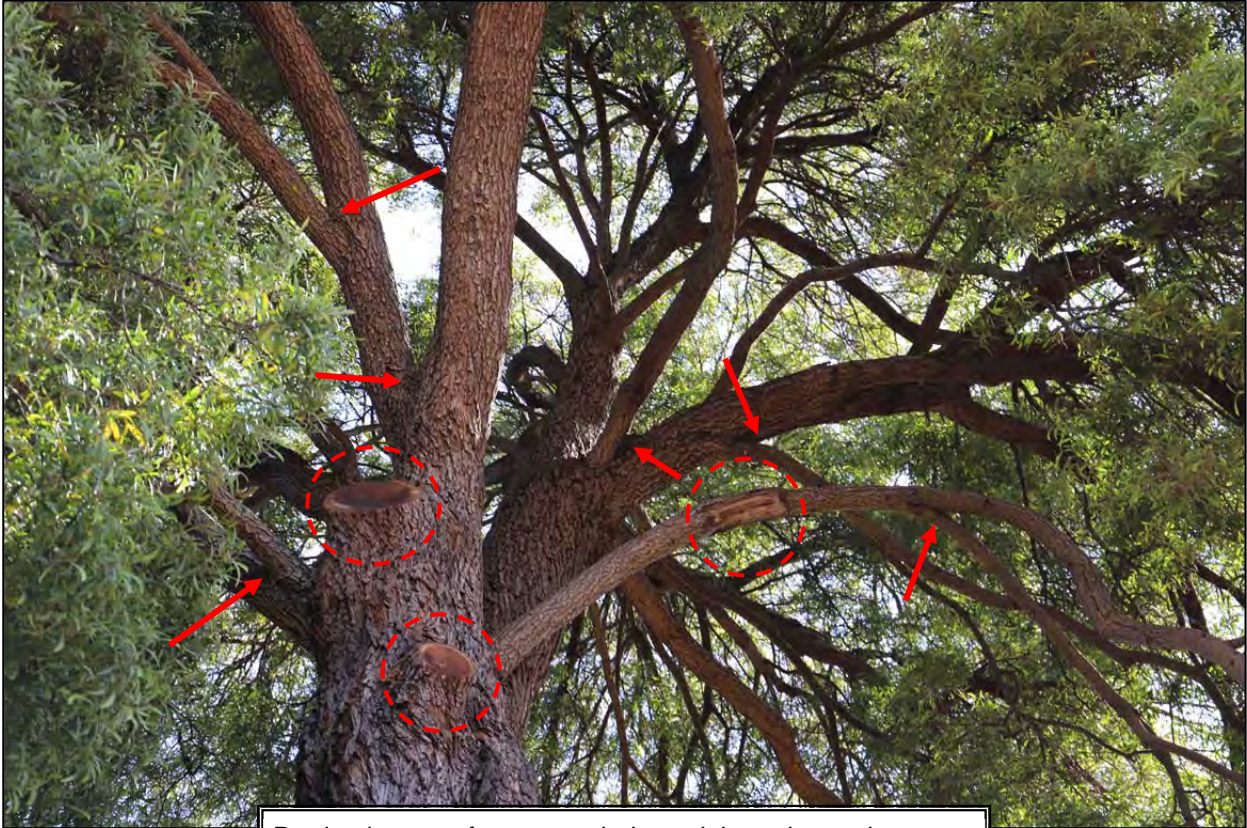






**Above & below:** Primary limb at risk of failure. Area of response growth and anomalies that is likely associated with internal cracks.





Predominance of acute-angled, weak branch attachments, The subject of Tree Risk Assessment 2. Circles indicate recent, major pruning cuts and wound from branch failure...





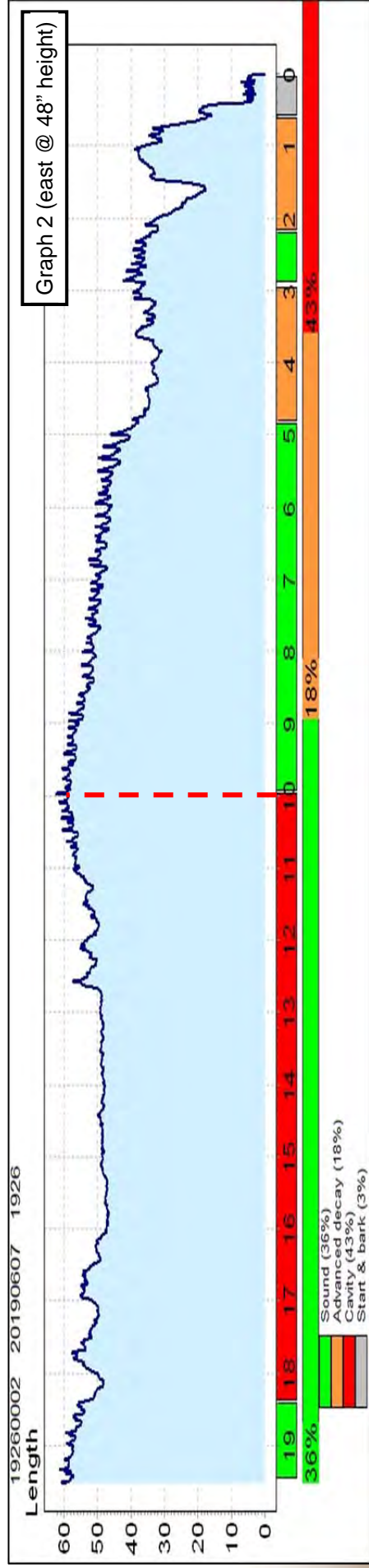
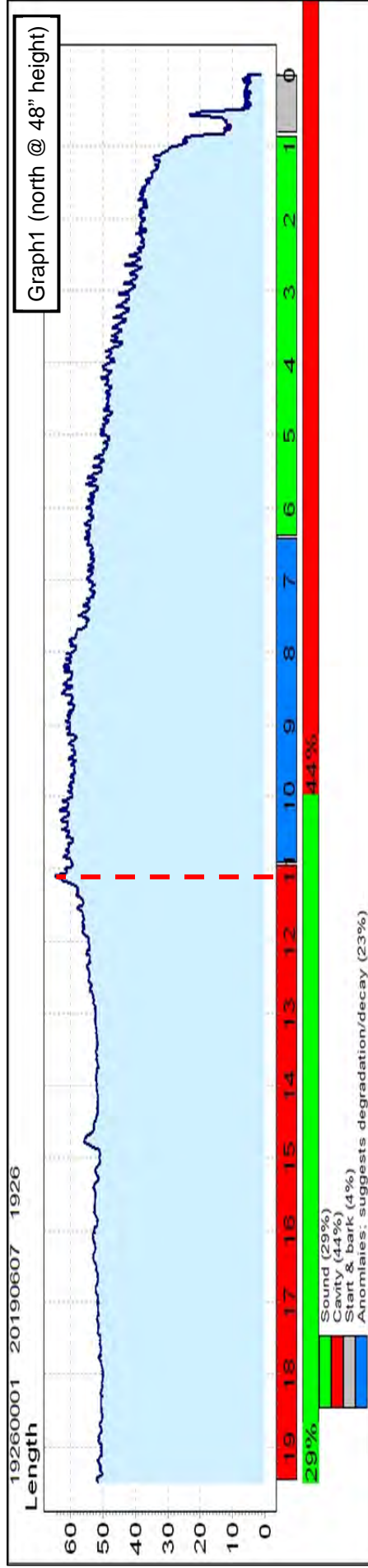
Weak, acute-angled attachment with embedded bark, between tops.

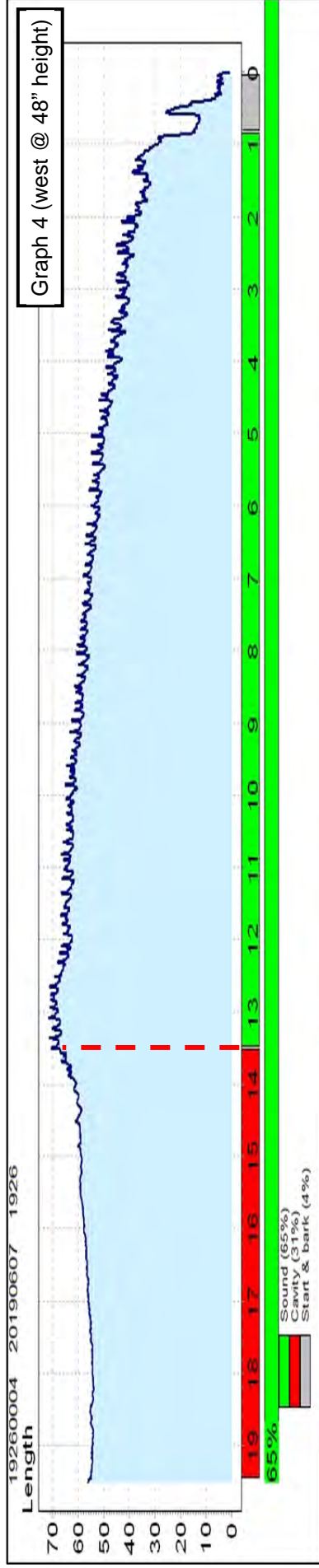
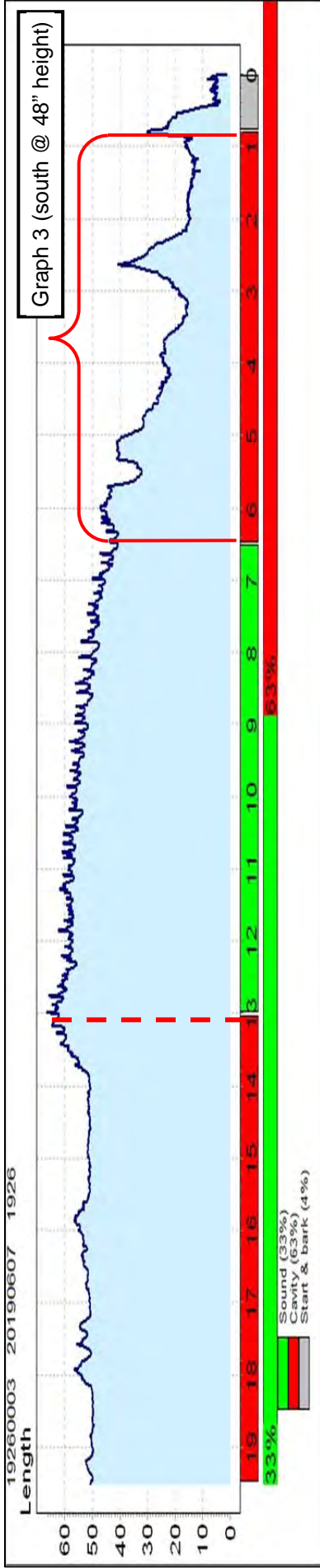


**GRAPHS OF RESISTANCE DRILL TESTING (RESISTOGRAPH®):**

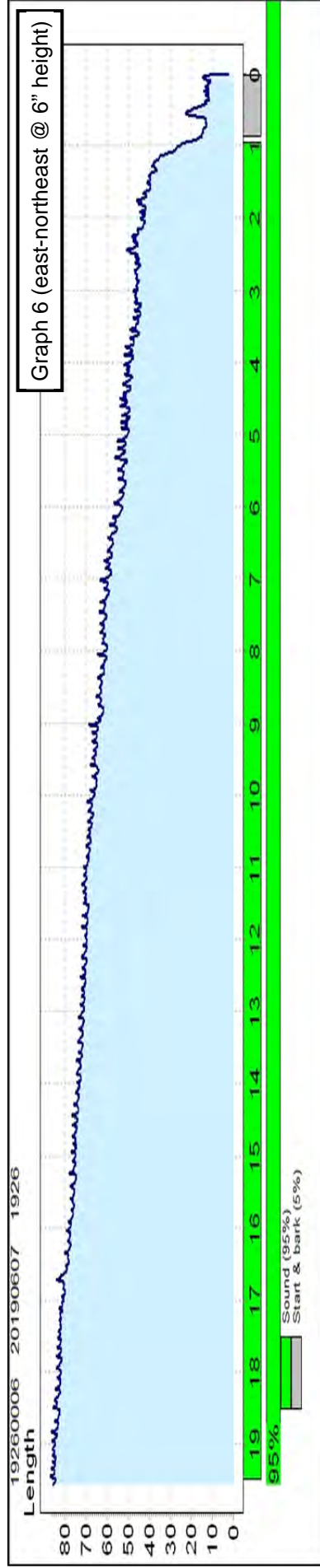
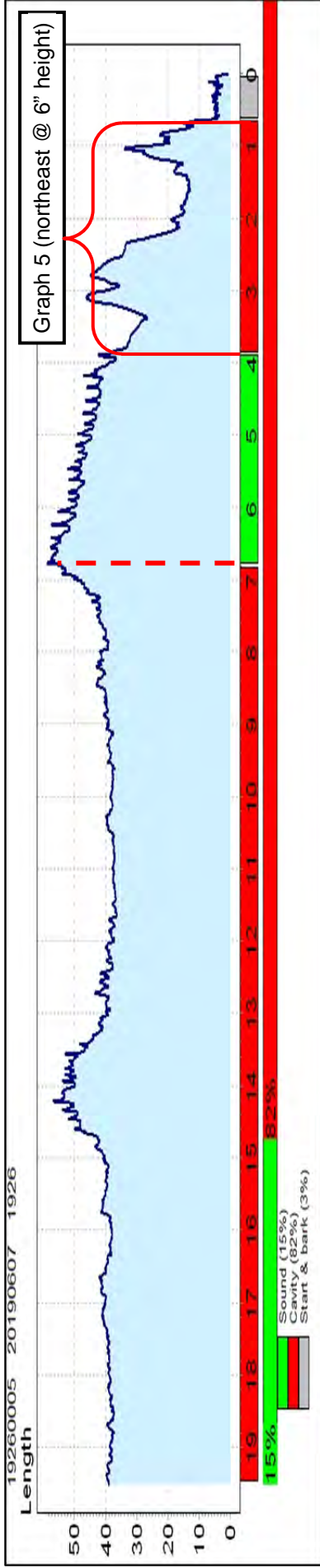
Resistance drilling graphs read from right to left, with zero (inches) being the starting point at the bark of the tree. In very general terms,, a rising graph line indicates sound wood while depressions indicate degrading wood or cavities.

**Graphs 1-4:** were located at the four compass points (N-S-E-W), drilled horizontally into and perpendicular to the trunk, at a height of approximately 48 inches above grade. All four graphs consistently indicate a column of decay starting at an average depth of about 12 inches. This represents a ratio of sound wood within a cross-section of the trunk at about 68%. One school of thought suggests less than 30% sound wood in cross-section represents an unsound tree<sup>16</sup>. Graph 3 also indicates severe decay at a depth between about 1-4 inches (area above conk).

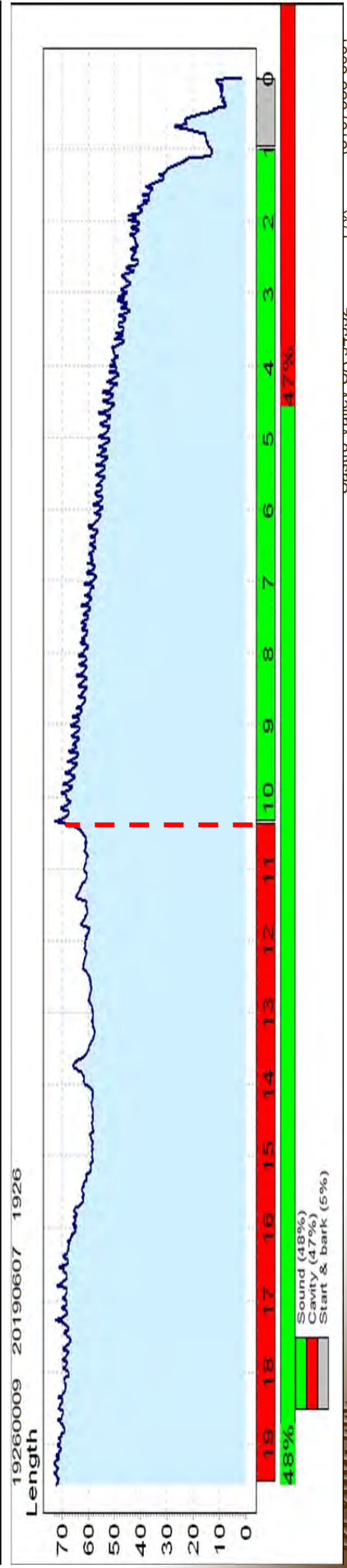
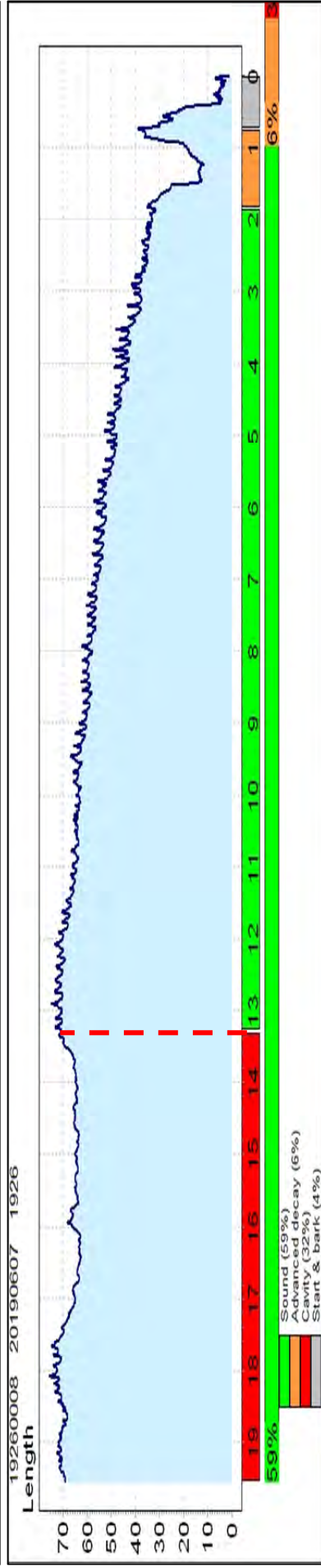
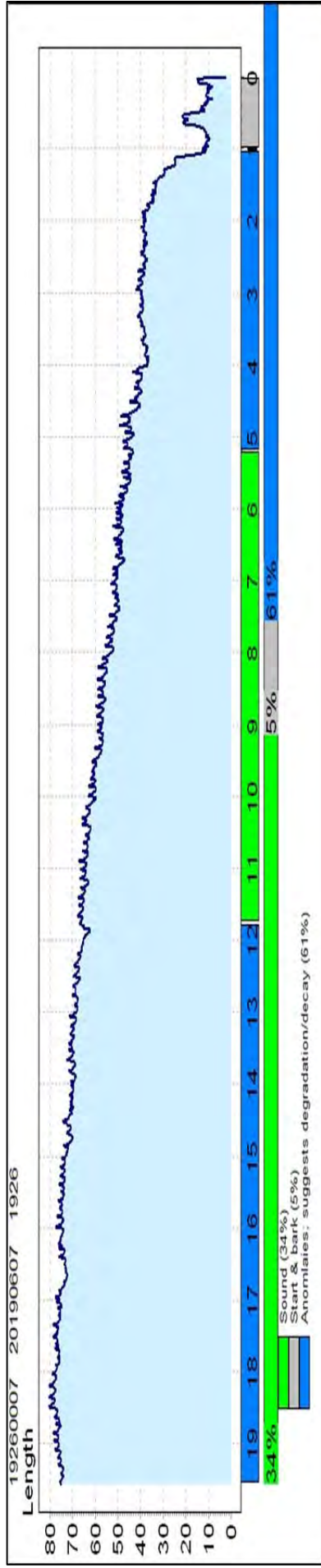




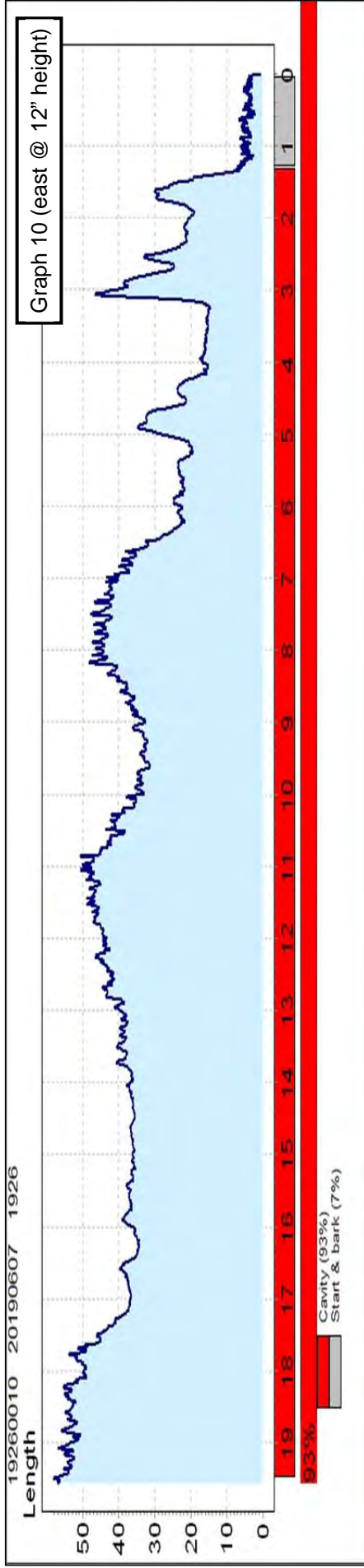
**Graphs 5 & 6:** were located at the a height of about 6 inches above grade, to each side of the decay conk, drilled horizontally into and perpendicular to the trunk. Graph 5 indicates decay at 7 inches that is likely coalesces with the column of decay indicated in graphs 1-4, and an additional area of severe decay between 1-4 inches in depth. Graph 6 illustrates sound wood to the full depth of the drilling needle (19 ins.).



**Graphs 7-9:** were drilled at about 45° to horizontal, into root flares, to each side of the decay conk, drilled horizontally into and perpendicular to the trunk. Graph illustrates some anomalies, but appears to indicate reasonably sound wood. Graphs 8 and 9 indicate advanced decay at about 10-11 inches in depth, but with substantial sound wood.



**Graphs 10:** drilled to the east at 12 inches above grade, immediately above the conk. This graph indicates severe decay for the entire drilling depth (19 ins.). It is my opinion that this is the source of, and coalesces with, the column of decay indicated in graphs 1-4, 8 & 9.







Resistance-drilling test locations. Tag numbers coincide with graph numbers.



## TREE RISK ASSESSMENT MATRICES (TRAQ)

### 1) Risk assessment for primary limb to southwest:

<b>Current risk:</b>					<b>Residual Risk (post-mitigation):</b>						
<b>Tree no.:</b>	1				<b>Tree no.:</b>	1					
<b>Assessment date:</b>	6/7/2019				<b>Assessment date:</b>	6/7/2019					
<b>Part:</b>	Primary limb to southwest				<b>Part:</b>	Primary limb to southwest					
<b>Target:</b>	Pedestrians in garden area and/or on paths.				<b>Target:</b>	Pedestrians in garden area and/or on paths.					
<b>Time-frame:</b>	1-3	years			<b>Time-frame:</b>	1-3	years				
<b>Risk rating:</b>	Low	Consequences are negligible, likelihood of failure and impact is unlikely, or consequences are minor and likelihood is somewhat likely. Mitigation not required.			<b>Risk rating:</b>	N/A					
<b>Mitigation recommended:</b>	Remove tree.				<b>Mitigation recommended:</b>	Remove tree.					
<b>Residual risk:</b>	N/A				<b>Residual risk:</b>	N/A					
<b>Existing Risk</b>					<b>Residual Risk</b>						
<b>Matrix 1: Likelihood of target impact</b>					<b>Matrix 1: Likelihood of target impact</b>						
<b>1) Likelihood of Failure</b>		<b>2) Likelihood of Impacting Target</b>			<b>1) Likelihood of Failure</b>		<b>2) Likelihood of Impacting Target</b>				
		Very Low	Low	Medium	High			Very Low	Low	Medium	High
<b>Imminent</b>	Unlikely	Somewhat likely	Likely	Very likely	<b>Imminent</b>	Unlikely	Somewhat likely	Likely	Very likely		
<b>Probable</b>	Unlikely	Unlikely	Somewhat likely	Likely	<b>Probable</b>	Unlikely	Unlikely	Somewhat likely	Likely		
<b>Possible</b>	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Somewhat likely	<b>Possible</b>	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Somewhat likely		
<b>Improbable</b>	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	<b>Improbable</b>	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely		
<b>Matrix 2: Likelihood of failure &amp; target impact</b>					<b>Matrix 2: Likelihood of failure &amp; target impact</b>						
<b>3) Likelihood of Failure and Impact</b>		<b>4) Consequences of Failure</b>			<b>3) Likelihood of Failure and Impact</b>		<b>4) Consequences of Failure</b>				
		Negligible	Minor	Significant	Severe			Negligible	Minor	Significant	Severe
<b>Very likely</b>	Low	Moderate	High	Extreme	<b>Very likely</b>	Low	Moderate	High	Extreme		
<b>Likely</b>	Low	Moderate	High	High	<b>Likely</b>	Low	Moderate	High	High		
<b>Somewhat likely</b>	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate	<b>Somewhat likely</b>	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate		
<b>Unlikely</b>	Low	Low	Low	Low	<b>Unlikely</b>	Low	Low	Low	Low		
<b>1) Likelihood of Failure</b>		<b>2) Likelihood of Impacting Target</b>			<b>1) Likelihood of Failure</b>		<b>2) Likelihood of Impacting Target</b>				
<b>Imminent</b>	Failure has started or likely to occur in the near future even in the absence of severe weather or increased loads.			<b>High</b>	The failed part will likely impact the target.						
<b>Probable</b>	Failure may be expected under normal weather conditions.			<b>Medium</b>	The failed part could impact the target but is not expected to.						
<b>Possible</b>	Failure is expected during extreme weather conditions but is unlikely during normal weather conditions.			<b>Low</b>	There is a slight chance the failed part will impact the target.						
<b>Improbable</b>	Not likely to fail during normal weather conditions and may not fail under extreme weather conditions.			<b>Very Low</b>	The chance of impacting a specified target is remote.						
<b>3) Likelihood of Failure and Impact</b>		<b>4) Consequences of Failure</b>			<b>3) Likelihood of Failure and Impact</b>		<b>4) Consequences of Failure</b>				
<b>Extreme</b>	Immediate risk - failure is imminent with a high likelihood of impacting the target, and the Consequences of the impact are severe.			<b>Severe</b>	Target impact would likely result in serious personal injury or death, damage to high-value property, serious disruption of critical services or activities.						
<b>High</b>	Immediate risk - Consequences are significant and likelihood of impact is very likely or likely, or consequences are severe and likelihood is likely.			<b>Significant</b>	Target impact would result in substantial personal injury, moderate-to-high value property damage, or significant disruption of critical services or activities.						
<b>Moderate</b>	Consequences are minor and likelihood of failure and impact is very likely or likely, or likelihood is somewhat likely and Consequences are significant or severe. Mitigation may be recommended.			<b>Minor</b>	Target impact would result in minor personal injury, low-to-moderate property damage, or minor disruption of critical services or activities.						
<b>Low</b>	Consequences are negligible, likelihood of failure and impact is unlikely, or consequences are minor and likelihood is somewhat likely. Mitigation not required.			<b>Negligible</b>	Target impact would not result in personal injury, might involve low-value property damage, or repairable disruption of services or activities.						

**2) Risk assessment for secondary branches with weak attachments:**

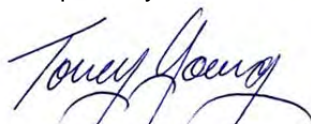
<b>Current risk:</b>					<b>Residual Risk (post-mitigation):</b>				
Tree no.:	1				Tree no.:	1			
Assessment date:	6/7/2019				Assessment date:	6/7/2019			
Part:	Secondary branches with acute-angle attachments.				Part:	Secondary branches with acute-angle attachments.			
Target:	Pedestrians in garden area.				Target:	Pedestrians in garden area.			
Time-frame:	1-3	years			Time-frame:	1-3	years		
Risk rating:	Low	Consequences are negligible, likelihood of failure and impact is unlikely, or consequences are minor and likelihood is somewhat likely. Mitigation not required.			Risk rating:	N/A			
Mitigation recommended:	Remove tree.				Mitigation recommended:	Remove tree.			
Residual risk:	N/A				Residual risk:	N/A			
<b>Existing Risk</b>					<b>Residual Risk</b>				
<b>Matrix 1: Likelihood of target impact</b>					<b>Matrix 1: Likelihood of target impact</b>				
1) Likelihood of Failure	2) Likelihood of Impacting Target				1) Likelihood of Failure	2) Likelihood of Impacting Target			
	Very Low	Low	Medium	High		Very Low	Low	Medium	High
Imminent	Unlikely	Somewhat likely	Likely	Very likely	Imminent	Unlikely	Somewhat likely	Likely	Very likely
Probable	Unlikely	Unlikely	Somewhat likely	Likely	Probable	Unlikely	Unlikely	Somewhat likely	Likely
Possible	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Somewhat likely	Possible	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Somewhat likely
Improbable	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Improbable	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely
<b>Matrix 2: Likelihood of failure &amp; target impact</b>					<b>Matrix 2: Likelihood of failure &amp; target impact</b>				
3) Likelihood of Failure and Impact	4) Consequences of Failure				3) Likelihood of Failure and Impact	4) Consequences of Failure			
	Negligible	Minor	Significant	Severe		Negligible	Minor	Significant	Severe
Very likely	Low	Moderate	High	Extreme	Very likely	Low	Moderate	High	Extreme
Likely	Low	Moderate	High	High	Likely	Low	Moderate	High	High
Somewhat likely	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Somewhat likely	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate
Unlikely	Low	Low	Low	Low	Unlikely	Low	Low	Low	Low

**3) Risk assessment for whole tree failure (uprooting or trunk breakage at grade):**

<b>Current risk:</b>					<b>Residual Risk (post-mitigation):</b>				
Tree no.:	1				Tree no.:	1			
Assessment date:	6/7/2019				Assessment date:	6/7/2019			
Part:	Whole tree (uproot or fail at grade)				Part:	Whole tree (uproot or fail at grade)			
Target:	Pedestrians in garden area and/or on paths and building.				Target:	Pedestrians in garden area and/or on paths and building.			
Time-frame:	1-3	years			Time-frame:	1-3	years		
Risk rating:	Low	Consequences are negligible, likelihood of failure and impact is unlikely, or consequences are minor and likelihood is somewhat likely. Mitigation not required.			Risk rating:	N/A			
Mitigation recommended:	Remove tree.				Mitigation recommended:	Remove tree.			
Residual risk:	N/A				Residual risk:	N/A			
<b>Existing Risk</b>					<b>Residual Risk</b>				
<b>Matrix 1: Likelihood of target impact</b>					<b>Matrix 1: Likelihood of target impact</b>				
1) Likelihood of Failure	2) Likelihood of Impacting Target				1) Likelihood of Failure	2) Likelihood of Impacting Target			
	Very Low	Low	Medium	High		Very Low	Low	Medium	High
Imminent	Unlikely	Somewhat likely	Likely	Very likely	Imminent	Unlikely	Somewhat likely	Likely	Very likely
Probable	Unlikely	Unlikely	Somewhat likely	Likely	Probable	Unlikely	Unlikely	Somewhat likely	Likely
Possible	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Somewhat likely	Possible	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Somewhat likely
Improbable	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Improbable	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely
<b>Matrix 2: Likelihood of failure &amp; target impact</b>					<b>Matrix 2: Likelihood of failure &amp; target impact</b>				
3) Likelihood of Failure and Impact	4) Consequences of Failure				3) Likelihood of Failure and Impact	4) Consequences of Failure			
		Minor	Significant	Severe		Negligible	Minor	Significant	Severe
Very likely	Low	Moderate	High	Extreme	Very likely	Low	Moderate	High	Extreme
Likely	Low	Moderate	High	High	Likely	Low	Moderate	High	High
Somewhat likely	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Somewhat likely	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate
Unlikely	Low	Low	Low	Low	Unlikely	Low	Low	Low	Low

Please feel free to contact me for further discussion or services.

Respectfully,



Torrey Young  
Registered Consulting Arborist®



ASCA Registered Consulting Arborist, no. 282  
ISA Board Certified Master Arborist, no. WE-0131BM  
CUFC Certified Urban Forester, no. 121  
ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualified  
CA P.C. Qualified License, no. 104772  
CA Contractors License no. 363372 (C-27 & D-49; inactive)



## ENDNOTES:

<sup>1</sup> Micro-resistance testing (resistance drilling; Resistograph®: An instrument used to detect internal wood decay and cracks. Such defects are detected by measuring relative resistance to drilling with a 3.0 mm drilling needle. The results are simultaneously recorded electronically and optionally printed on a paper graph. Dryad, LLC operates a RinnTech R650-EA, which employs a needle capable of drilling to a depth of approximately 20 inches, recording the results electronically and optionally on paper. The testing locations are determined dependent upon on-site observations and testing results, at the discretion of the consultant, unless otherwise specified. Micro-resistance testing provides information only, that is subject to interpretation, and therefore, the significance of testing results or evaluation of results cannot be anticipated or otherwise guaranteed. Such testing does not measure or determine overall tree condition or management conclusions. Resistograph® is a trademark of RinnTech.

<sup>2</sup> TRAQ: an International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) qualification program that trains arborists how to use the methodologies outlined in the ISA Best Management Practices for Tree Risk Assessment. This qualification promotes the safety of people and property by providing a standardized and systematic process for assessing tree risk. The results of a tree risk assessment can provide tree owners and risk managers with the information to make informed decisions to enhance tree benefits, health, and longevity.

<sup>3</sup> Inspection limitations: The inspection of this tree, other than the micro-resistance testing described, consisted of a visual inspection from the ground. While more thorough techniques are available for inspection and evaluation, they were neither requested nor considered necessary or appropriate at this time. No other trees on site were included or inspected.

<sup>4</sup> Arborist Disclosure Statement: Arborists are tree specialists who use their education, knowledge training and experience to examine trees, recommend measures to enhance their health and beauty and to attempt to reduce the risk of living near trees. Clients may choose to accept or disregard the recommendations of the arborist or to seek additional advice. Trees and other plantlife are living, changing organisms affected by innumerable factors beyond our control. Trees fail in ways and because of conditions we do not fully understand. Arborists cannot detect or anticipate every condition or event that could possibly lead to the structural failure of a tree. Conditions are often hidden within the trees and below ground. Arborists cannot guarantee that a tree will be healthy or safe under all circumstances, for any specific period or when a tree or its parts may fail. Further, remedial treatments, as with any treatment or therapy, cannot be guaranteed. Treatment, pruning, bracing and removal of trees may involve considerations beyond the scope of the arborists skills and usual services such as the boundaries of properties, property ownership, site lines, neighbor disputes and agreements and other issues. Therefore, arborists cannot consider such issues unless complete and accurate information is disclosed in a timely fashion. Then, the arborist can be expected, reasonably, to rely upon the completeness and accuracy of the information provided. Trees can be managed but not controlled. To live near trees, regardless of their condition, is to accept some degree of risk. Tree removal is the only way to eliminate the risks associated with trees.

<sup>5</sup> Trunk flare (root flare, root crown, root collar): One of several accepted terms describing the junction of trunk and buttress roots at the original soil grade. Synonymous terms: root crown, root collar, root flare, trunk flare.

<sup>6</sup> Target (as employed in tree risk assessment): People or property that could be injured or damaged by the failure of a tree or tree parts.

(ANSI A300 (Part 9) *Tree Risk Assessment*, 2017).

<sup>7</sup> Cabling & Bracing: The installation of hardware in and/or about trees for the purpose of providing supplemental support of weak, defective or otherwise suspect limbs and/or stems; supporting of newly planted trees; bracing cracks; propping trees or limbs, or otherwise providing support. The installation of cables, bolts and other hardware in trees is intended to reduce the potential for failure (breakage/uprooting). Such bracing does not permanently remedy structural weaknesses, and is not a guarantee against failure. The trees and hardware must be inspected periodically for hardware deterioration, adequacy and changes in the tree's and site condition.

<sup>8</sup> Diameter: DSH - Diameter at Standard Height or DBH – Diameter at Breast Height, or approximately 4.5 feet (54 inches) above grade. These references are synonymous and commonly used as a point of reference in determining tree size and as the basis for a myriad of calculations. Diameter measurement location may vary depending upon tree structural character, jurisdictional codes or project guidelines, etc. In some cases, diameters may be estimated due to inaccessibility or other limitations.

<sup>9</sup> Height, and/or distance measurements: measurements are taken with a laser rangefinder/hypsometer (TruPulse 360R or OptiLogic LH400), or heights were estimated or as reported. If measured, heights may have been averaged from several sets of measurements.

<sup>10</sup> Scaffold limbs: Primary limbs usually originating from a (the) main stem of a tree, contributing substantially to the architecture and structure of the tree canopy.

<sup>11</sup> Canopy: One of several accepted terms describing that area of a tree which includes limbs, branches, foliage, and to a lesser degree, upper stems (synonymous with 'foliage crown').

<sup>12</sup> Acute-angle attachments (crotches): Branch/limb, limb/trunk, or codominant trunks originating at acute angles from each other. Bark remains between such crotches, preventing the development of a branch-bark ridge (branch collar). The inherent weakness of such attachments increases with time, through the pressure of opposing growth and increasing weight of wood and foliage, frequently resulting in failure.

<sup>13</sup> Wound (on trees & plants): Any penetration of the outer bark of a tree or other woody plant, regardless of the source; may result from pruning cuts, traumatic injury, disease, limb failures, bird or animal damage, lightning strikes, etc. Such injuries may serve as avenues for infection by decay and other disease-causing pathogens or insect infestation.

<sup>14</sup> Codominant: Refers to branch, limbs or trunks of similar size and height or length competing for the same space and/or role within the tree's architecture; frequently originating at acute angles from each other, with bark remaining (included) between the components (in the crotch). Such attachments are inherently weak and worsen with time through the pressure of opposing growth and the increasing weight of wood and foliage, frequently resulting in the failure of one or both (all).

<sup>15</sup> *Ganoderma* spp.: A genus of wood decaying fungi that occur around the world; can cause decay of the roots, butt and trunks of living trees, often killing the trees outright, or resulting in windthrow or breakage. This fungus is a brown-cubicle heartrot readily identifiable by a unique shelf-like fruiting body known as an "artist's conk".

<sup>16</sup> t/R calculation: t/R = the ratio of sound wood to decay, based an area of trunk cross-section. The average depth of sound wood is compared to the trunk cross-section resulting in a percentage figure of sound wood. This is not a definitive method upon which to base tree disposition judgment, but merely a tool to demonstrate the diagrammatic estimation of the extent of interior decay. There is no consideration within this formula for any other tree characteristics or condition.

- t/R = Ratio of thickness (t) of remaining sound wood to the external radius (R) compared to the absolute stem radius.
- t/R = wall thickness to radius ratio.
- Critical cavity = t/R = 30% (trees w/full crowns).
- 70%:R cavities may be subject to failure regardless of species.
- Open cavities of 120° or greater may be subject to failure.

(Source: E. Thomas Smiley and Bruce R. Fraedrich, DETERMINING STRENGTH LOSS FROM DECAY, *Journal of Arboriculture* 18 (4): July 1992 201)





**CITY OF ALBANY  
PARKS RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE COMMISSION AGENDA  
STAFF REPORT**

Agenda Date: July 11, 2019

Reviewed by: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUBJECT:** 808 Ramona Ave Tree Removal

**REPORT BY:** John Hawkridge, Urban Forester

---

**SUMMARY**

The action before the Commission is to approve the removal and replacement of a 35' Camphor tree at 808 Ramona Ave. The tree meets the Non-Emergency Tree Removal criteria as put forth in the City Tree Removal Policy and Procedures, Section 2.1.a: "The City Tree is determined by the Urban Forester to be damaged, diseased, or borer infested beyond reclamation" and Section 2.1.b: the City Tree, due to its own physical condition, is determined by the Urban Forester to be an unacceptable risk to the City.

The tree is recommended for removal based on its advanced state of decline as seen by dieback of several limbs, lack of canopy, peeling of bark and evidence of fungus on the exposed trunk..

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends approval of the tree removal based on criteria in the City Tree Removal Policy and Procedures, and the replacement of tree with a similarly larged size tree, appropriate to the approx 4' wide planting strip with no overhead high-voltage wires, during the 2019-2020 planting season.

**BACKGROUND**

The property owner applied for tree removal on April 26, 2019 due to the advanced stage of decline of the tree.

**DISCUSSION**

I performed a Level 2 tree risk assessment evaluation on the tree on May 3, 2019. I determined the tree to be over-mature, with about 20% of its original live canopy, with sparse foliage and minimal new growth. Several limbs and branches are completely dead, a large unhealed wound on the east side of tree indicates previous limb failure, and may be an entry for fungal disease. I also noticed previous sidewalk repair and research revealed an

encroachment permit from Jan 2012. The new sidewalk had been curved away from the tree, but roots were also pruned which most likely contributed to the decline of the tree.

### **ANALYSIS**

Retaining this tree would involve pruning dead branches and limbs, leaving about a 20% canopy which would continue to die back posing risk of limb failure. The risk of limb failure at this point is probable, and the consequences of failure would be considered high since this is a residential neighborhood with frequent to constant occupancy, located 2 blocks from Albany High School. Removing the tree would allow for planting of a new tree from our accepted tree list that would be more appropriate for the location.

### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT**

Although removal of this tree will mean loss of a mature tree for our community, replanting with an appropriate species will afford future Albany generations the many benefits of a large shade tree. While still inconclusive, many studies show that a young vigorous tree is able to sequester carbon more quickly than a mature tree. The carbon already sequestered by this tree would be retained in the form of tree mulch to be used in the community as part of our mulch distribution program.

Per the Migratory Bird Treaty Act as well as California State Codes 3503 and 3503.5, bird nests (for all species except European Starling and House Sparrow) are to be protected while there is active nesting. California Department of fish and Wildlife have defined nesting season as February 1st through August 15th. Although no nesting was observed at the time of my risk assessment, This tree can be monitored for any nesting activity prior to the removal and postponed until after August 15th if activity is observed.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

Removal and replanting is estimated to be approximately \$2200

### **NEXT STEPS**

If approved, bids for removal will be solicited and a contractor awarded the work. The new tree would be planted during the 2019-2020 planting season.

### **Attachments**

- Tree removal application
- Tree risk assessment
- Photos



# ALBANY CALIFORNIA

**PUBLIC WORKS**  
1000 SAN PABLO AVENUE  
ALBANY, CA 94706



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510 524-9722 FAX  
WWW.ALBANYCA.ORG/PW

*Urban Village by the Bay*

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CITY OF ALBANY

APR 26 2019

FINANCE & ADMIN. SVCS.

## Non-Emergency City Tree Removal Application

Owner's Name: Holly Earl  
Property Address: 808 Ramona Ave Phone: [REDACTED]  
Email: [REDACTED] #of trees requesting to be removed 1

No permit to remove a living City Tree may be issued unless one or more of the following criteria is met:

- The City Tree is damaged, diseased, or borer infested beyond reclamation
- The City Tree due to its physical condition is an unacceptable risk to the City
- The City Tree has damaged the adjacent sidewalk to an extent that constitutes a tripping hazard, and the City Tree has caused the property owner to repair the adjacent sidewalk on at least one (1) previous occasion, as proven by documentation or Urban Forester inspection.
- The City Tree is detrimental to the public safety or materially injurious to the property, improvements or utility services in the vicinity
- The City Tree has been identified for removal as part of a City-approved project and/or has been determined by the Parks and Recreation Commission to be in conflict with the best use of a park.

I understand that removal of a City Tree which does not pose a clear and imminent danger to the safety of the general public requires review by the Urban Forester and the Parks & Recreation Commission at a public meeting. A replacement tree will be required for all approved tree removals. Application fee is \$209.92. Return fee and application to: Finance - City of Albany, 1000 San Pablo Ave., Albany, CA 94706

Signature: [Handwritten Signature] Date: 4/23/2019

### City Action

Date Application Rcvd: \_\_\_\_\_ Fee Received (Amt): \$209.92

Approved  Declined  Date: \_\_\_\_\_

SPAID

# TREE RISK ASSESSMENT FORM

Site Address: 808 Ramona Ave  
Assessment Date: 2019-05-03  
Property Owner's Name: Holly Earl  
Arborist's Name: John Hawkrigde ISA Certified Arborist No.: WE-3063A  
Requested by:  City  Property Owner  
Attachments:  site plan  photographs  other \_\_\_\_\_

## Tree Risk Assessment (standard ANSI A300 (Part 9)-2017 Tree Risk Assessment) level:

- Level 1: Limited visual assessment of an individual tree or population of trees  
 Level 2: A 360-degree visual evaluation of a tree where the crown, trunk, trunk flare, above-ground roots, and site conditions are evaluated in regards to targets.  
 Level 3: Any risk assessment that would exceed the Level 2 category including aerial assessments, decay detection through drilling or tomography, and root crown examinations.

## TREE CHARACTERISTICS

Tree #: 1 (listed by flow of traffic) Species: Camphor

Height: 35' DBH: 26" Crown Spread: 30'

Form:  generally symmetric  minor asymmetry  major asymmetry

Crown Class:  dominant  co-dominant  intermediate  suppressed

Live Crown Ratio: 20%

Age Class:  young  semi-mature  mature  over-mature/senescent

Foliage Density:  dense  normal  sparse  none (seasonal)  none (dead)

Vigor:  high  normal  low

Annual Shoot Growth:  excellent  average  poor

Twig Dieback?  yes  no

History of Failure?  no  yes, explain: large wound on east side of trunk

Woundwood Development:  excellent  average  poor  none

Epicormic Sprouts?  yes  no

Known or Suspected Insect Infestation or Disease: evidence of fungal infection at root crown

Special Value:  specimen  heritage/historic  wildlife  unusual  street tree

screen  shade  CA Native  Flowering  Fruiting  other: \_\_\_\_\_

**SITE CONDITIONS**

**Site Character:** residence commercial school park open space natural median

**Irrigation:** unknown none adequate inadequate excessive trunk wet

**Site Changes:** unknown none grade change root impacts  other sidewalk repair and root pruning Jan 2012

**Soil:** limited volume saturated shallow compacted pavement over roots 80%

Describe: \_\_\_\_\_

**Topography:** flat slope \_\_\_% **Prevailing Wind Direction:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Common Weather:** strong winds fog sun heavy rain

**Wind Exposure:** single tree below canopy above canopy recently exposed

**TARGET POTENTIAL**

**Primary Target(s):** building parking traffic pedestrian recreation landscape

hardscape small features utility lines other \_\_\_\_\_

**Can Target Be Moved?** yes no **Can Use Be Restricted?** yes no

**Occupancy Rate:** rare occasional frequent constant

**TREE DEFECTS**

**Describe the Defective Part(s) and Conditions of Concern –**

**Crown/Branches:** cracks lightning damage oozing sap included bark galls hollows

other dieback, many unhealed wounds from previous pruning

**Trunk:** missing/abnormal bark codominant stems included bark cracks ooze

visible decay lean \_\_\_ degrees; corrected? \_\_\_ cankers mushrooms/conks;

describe species, quantity, and distribution of fruiting bodies evidence of fungal infection

other \_\_\_\_\_

**Roots and Root Collar:** root collar buried root plate lifting damaged roots visible decay

ooze cavity mushrooms; species, quantity, and distribution of fruiting bodies \_\_\_\_\_

other sidewalk repair root pruning

**Inspection Limitations:** None Visibility Access Vines Other \_\_\_\_\_

**RISK CATEGORIZATION**

**Matrix 1. Likelihood Matrix**

Likelihood of Failure	Likelihood of Impact			
	Very Low	Low	Medium	High
Imminent	<input type="checkbox"/> Unlikely	<input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat	<input type="checkbox"/> Likely	<input type="checkbox"/> Very Likely
Probable	<input type="checkbox"/> Unlikely	<input type="checkbox"/> Unlikely	<input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Likely
Possible	<input type="checkbox"/> Unlikely	<input type="checkbox"/> Unlikely	<input type="checkbox"/> Unlikely	<input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat
Improbable	<input type="checkbox"/> Unlikely	<input type="checkbox"/> Unlikely	<input type="checkbox"/> Unlikely	<input type="checkbox"/> Unlikely

**Matrix 2. Risk Rating Matrix**

Likelihood of Failure & Impact	Consequences of Failure			
	Negligible	Minor	Significant	Severe
Very Likely	<input type="checkbox"/> Low	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Extreme
Likely	<input type="checkbox"/> Low	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> High
Somewhat Likely	<input type="checkbox"/> Low	<input type="checkbox"/> Low	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate
Unlikely	<input type="checkbox"/> Low	<input type="checkbox"/> Low	<input type="checkbox"/> Low	<input type="checkbox"/> Low

Overall Tree Risk Rating:  Low  Moderate  High  Extreme

**RISK ABATEMENT**

Treatment:  remove tree  remove defective part  other \_\_\_\_\_

Replace Tree?  no; reason: \_\_\_\_\_

yes, recommended species Red Maple / Swamp Myrtle / Ginkgo / Tupelo

Potential Impacts to Adjacent Trees:

none  exposure  leave stump  grind stump

Other issues/recommendations: \_\_\_\_\_







925.458.6304

P.O. Box 1949, Martinez, Ca. 94553  
 Fax (925) 709-1937  
 License# 599673

*808 Ramona*

invoice

Date	Job #
1/13/2012	24524

**PAID**  
 01/16/2012

Bill to:
Holly Earl 808 Ramona Ave Albany CA 94706-1820 Ph (510) 527-3128

Work Performed at:
808 Ramona Ave Albany, CA 94706-1820

**Due and payable by**

**Due on receipt**

Description	Contract ...	Prior %	Curr%...	Amt Due
<b>Final Invoice</b>				
Demolish existing city side. Cut some small roots and trimming the big roots and replace back with concrete per city codes. work is based on 4" Thick Concrete, # 3 Rebar, 18" on center, and Class II recycled base rock.	2,450.00		100.00%	2,450.00
Note: If you decided to proceed with your project before the end of this year, Lara's Concrete will give you \$ 250.00 discount.	-250.00		100.00%	-250.00
* A 2.0 % monthly finance charge will be assessed on any past due invoices over 30 days.				
Please make check payable to LUIS LARA				

We appreciate your prompt payment.	<b>Work Completed to date</b>	<b>\$2,200.00</b>
	<b>Payments/Credits</b>	<b>\$-2,200.00</b>
We Accept Master Card/ Visa/ Debit Card. Please note there is a 2% processing fee for credit card payments.	<b>Balance Due</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>



**CITY OF ALBANY  
PARKS RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE COMMISSION AGENDA  
STAFF REPORT**

Agenda Date: July 11, 2019

Reviewed by: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUBJECT:** 968 Talbot Ave Tree Removal

**REPORT BY:** John Hawkrige, Urban Forester

---

**SUMMARY**

The action before the Commission is to approve the removal and replacement of a 10' x 3.5" Jacaranda tree at 968 Talbot Ave. The tree meets the Non-Emergency Tree Removal criteria as put forth in the City Tree Removal Policy and Procedures, Section 2.1.a: "The City Tree is determined by the Urban Forester to be damaged, diseased, or borer infested beyond reclamation".

The tree is recommended for removal based on its lack of growth over the past several years, apparent by comparison to the other street tree on the property of the same species planted at the same time, as well as apparent dieback of branches and an already dead top that I removed while inspecting the tree.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends approval of the tree removal based on criteria in the City Tree Removal Policy and Procedures, and the replacement of tree with a similarly sized tree, appropriate to the approx 27' wide planting strip with overhead high-voltage wires, during the 2019-2020 planting season.

**BACKGROUND**

The property owner applied for tree removal on June 3, 2019 due to the stunted growth rate and branch dieback of the tree.

**DISCUSSION**

I performed a Tree Evaluation on June 3, 2019. The tree seems to have been properly cared for. the soil was moist and a layer of wood chip mulch was in place around the base of the tree. I noticed some movement in the root zone when applying pressure to the trunk, a possible indication of decay in the root zone which would cause branch dieback and stunted growth. Jacaranda likes dry conditions and soils that drain. This often creates problems for this species in our clay soils, although the other street tree on the property, is also a Jacaranda



and appears to be doing well. The problem might also have been poor nursery selection, or improper planting.

### **ANALYSIS**

Retaining this tree would involve pruning dead branches, leaving about a 10% canopy. The main leader of the tree has already died and been removed, meaning any future growth, if any, would not develop into the typical shape and form of this species. Removing the tree would allow for planting of a new tree from our accepted tree list that would be more appropriate for the location. I would recommend an Arbutus (Strawberry Tree) which is a more adaptable species for clay soils.

### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT**

I don't see removal of this tree as much of a loss for our community in terms of an environmental impact. In fact, removal and replacement with a different species would be a plus in terms of environmental benefits from having a street tree at this location.

There are no nests, or nesting activity in or around this tree.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

Removal and replanting is estimated to be approximately \$400

### **NEXT STEPS**

If approved, the tree can be removed by Public Works. A new tree would be planted during the 2019-2020 planting season.

### **Attachments**

Tree removal application

Tree evaluation

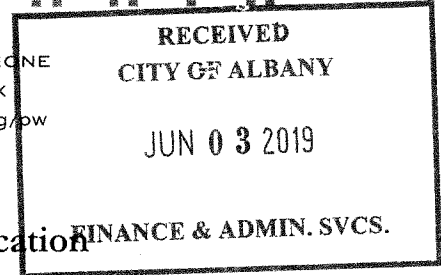
Photos

# ALBANY CALIFORNIA

PUBLIC WORKS  
1000 SAN PABLO AVENUE  
ALBANY, CA 94706



510 524-9543 PHONE  
510 524-9722 FAX  
www.AlbanyCA.org/pw



Urban Village by the Bay

## Non-Emergency City Tree Removal Application

Owner's Name: RICHARD RAGO  
Property Address: 968 TALBOT Phone: [REDACTED]  
Email: [REDACTED] #of trees requesting to be removed 1

No permit to remove a living City Tree may be issued unless one or more of the following criteria is met:

- The City Tree is damaged, diseased, or borer infested beyond reclamation *Discussed with John Hawkbridge*
- The City Tree due to its physical condition is an unacceptable risk to the City
- The City Tree has damaged the adjacent sidewalk to an extent that constitutes a tripping hazard, and the City Tree has caused the property owner to repair the adjacent sidewalk on at least one (1) previous occasion, as proven by documentation or Urban Forester inspection.
- The City Tree is detrimental to the public safety or materially injurious to the property, improvements or utility services in the vicinity
- The City Tree has been identified for removal as part of a City-approved project and/or has been determined by the Parks and Recreation Commission to be in conflict with the best use of a park.

I understand that removal of a City Tree which does not pose a clear and imminent danger to the safety of the general public requires review by the Urban Forester and the Parks & Recreation Commission at a public meeting. A replacement tree will be required for all approved tree removals. Application fee is \$209.92. Return fee and application to: Finance - City of Albany, 1000 San Pablo Ave., Albany, CA 94706

Signature: Richard J. Rago Date: 6/3/19

**City Action**

Date Application Rcvd: 6/3/2019 Fee Received (Amt): \$209.92

**\$ PAID**

Approved  Declined  Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## TREE CONDITION EVALUATION FORM

location:	968 Talbot Ave			Tree #2 (in direction of travel)
species:	Jacaranda	Evaluator:	John Hawkridge	
dbh/ht:	3.5" x 10'	Date:	6/3/2019	
✓	<i>Factor</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Points</i>	
<b>ROOTS</b> minor problems/concerns (1 point) - major problems (2 points) - extreme problems (3 points)				
Root anchorage		some movement when applying pressure to trunk		2
Restricted root system relative to canopy				
Mechanical injury				
Girdling roots		? Possible poor nursery stock		
Compaction or water-logged roots		compacted clay soils as typical in Albany		2
Presence of insects or diseases		possible fungal infection		2
<b>TRUNK</b>				
Sound bark and wood, no cavities				
Upright trunk (well tapered)				
Included bark between co-dominant stems				
Mechanical or fire injury				
Cracks				
Swollen or sunken area				
Presence of insects and diseases				
<b>LIMB AND BRANCH STRUCTURE</b>				
Strong attachments, no included bark				
Free of decay and cavities		removed dead top, open wound across main leader stem		2
Well proportioned, good form		asymmetrical		1
Wound closure				
Dead limbs/epicormic sprouting		branch/twig dieback throughout		2
Presence of decay, insects and diseases				
<b>Condition points</b>				
			Condition points	5

## TREE CONDITION EVALUATION FORM

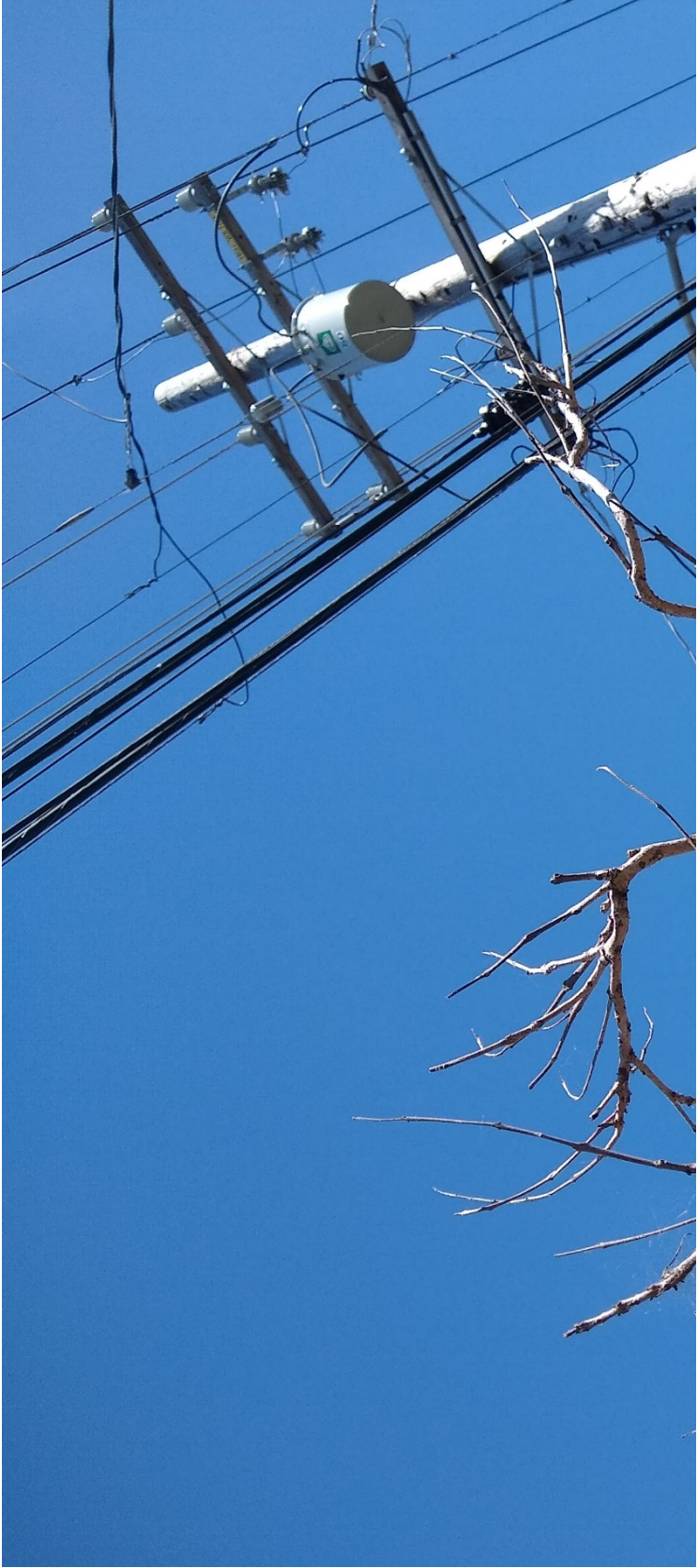
TWIGS		Condition points
Shoot vigor	little to no new growth	2
Presence of weak or dead twigs	dieback throughout	2
Presence of insects and diseases		
		4
FOLIAGE		Condition points
Normal appearance (size, color, density)	sparse growth	2
Nutrient deficiencies		
Herbicidal, chemical injury symptoms		
Wilted or dead leaves		
Presence of insect or disease		
		2
<b>Total Condition Points</b>		<b>17</b>
INFRASTRUCTURE CONFLICTS		
Gas		
Water	8'	
Sewer		
Sidewalk / Pedestrian	previous repair, no apparent root pruning	
Curb		
Street (asphalt)		
Powerlines	primary, secondary and comm lines overhead	
Vehicles /parking zone / bus zone		
Traffic Signal/Stop Sign / other signs		
Building contact		
<b>Total Infrastructure Points</b>		<b>0</b>
<b>TREE SUMMARY and additional comments (photos and further comments, if any, on separate page):</b>		<b>Total Points</b>
Tree growth appears to have been stunted for several years (seen in google street view history), and dieback of branches, including tree top, has increased. Removal and replacement with a different species would be beneficial.		<b>17</b>
This evaluation does not incorporate wood density of the root collar and is an evaluation of the tree's canopy from the ground surface only.		
<b>Tree condition is taken into account along with any infrastructure conflicts to determine viability of removal.</b>		



**TREE CONDITION EVALUATION FORM**



**TREE CONDITION EVALUATION FORM**



**TREE CONDITION EVALUATION FORM**



**TREE CONDITION EVALUATION FORM**





**TREE CONDITION EVALUATION FORM**





# City of Albany



## ENCROACHMENT PERMIT PERMANENT OR TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION WITHIN CITY RIGHT C

PERMIT NO. 07-163

LOCATION: 968 TALBOT

NAME	ADDRESS	Phone No. Normal/Emergency	E W
Applicant <u>CARLO RAPELLA</u>	<u>746 JACKSON ALBANY</u>	<u>526-2844</u>	<u>5</u>
Owner: <u>RICH RAGO</u>	<u>968 TALBOT ALBANY</u>	<u>527-3076</u>	
Engineer / Architect			
Contractor <u>C. RAPELLA &amp; SONS INC.</u>	<u>611 SAN PABLO ALBANY</u>	<u>524-0131</u>	

### TYPE OF WORK

- Sidewalk                       Curb & Gutter                       Sewer                       Street  
 Utility Co.                       Permanent Structure                       Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### DESCRIPTION OF WORK

REMOVE AND REPLACE 18' CITY SIDEWALK

### REQUIRED CONDITIONS

- All work shall be in accordance with the attached standard conditions.
- No refund after 120 days or work begins, 70% of fee refundable within 120 days provided no work has begun.
- Permanent structures require City Council approval (City Code 14-2).
- CALL USA 1-800-227-2600 before excavating.
- Call for Final Inspection and Sign-Off 48 hr. in advance at  (510) 528-5760  (510) 524-9543.
- Special Conditions may be imposed following City review and prior to issuance of this permit.

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Carlo Rapella*

Date: 7.17.07

### STAFF USE ONLY

#### Permit Fee Computation

Total construction cost subject to fee:	
New construction at 8% of construction cost	
In-Lieu slurry seal fee (when street is out)	
Minimum fee per schedule (if greater than % fee)	
Total Fee due (transfer to fee schedule from) (Utilities to be billed, copy of permit to Finance)	<u>N/A</u>

Special Conditions: Any sidewalk concrete removed must be replaced within 14 days.

All work per City Standard

Issued by: \_\_\_\_\_

*John Seal*

Date: 7/17/07

Permit Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1/17/08

(not to exceed 180 days for date issued)

Final Sign Off by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Terrace Park Tree Replacement Options

## BIGLEAF MAPLE

*Acer macrophyllum*

---



### General Notes

Resistant to oak root fungus. Susceptible to powdery mildew. Some forms are quite drought tolerant.

Has fragrant Flower.

Native to Western Coast United States.

### Tree Characteristics

Erect or Spreading and requires ample growing space.

Oval or Rounded Shape.

Has Deciduous foliage.

Fire Resistance is Favorable.

Height: 30 - 75 feet.

Attracts Bees.

Width: 30 - 50 feet.

Deer Palatable.

Growth Rate: 36 Inches per Year.

Longevity Greater than 150 years.

Leaves Palmate, Medium Green, Gold, Deciduous.

Flowers Inconspicuous. Fragrant Yellow. Flowers in Spring. Has separate male and female flowers on the same tree (monoecious).

Brown or Mostly Green Winged Seed, Large (1.50 - 3.00 inches), fruiting in Winter or Summer.

Bark Red Brown, Fissured.

Shading Capacity Rated as Dense in Leaf.

Shading Capacity Rated as Moderate out of Leaf.

## Tree Site Conditions & Constraints

Sunset Zones 2 - 9 and 14 - 24.

USDA Hardiness Zones 5 - 9.

Exposure Full Sun to Full Shade.

Moist Soil.

Drought tolerant.

Loam or Sand Texture.

Highly Acidic to Slightly Alkaline Soil pH.

Seaside Tolerance is Good in Mild Zone.

COAST LIVE OAK  
*Quercus agrifolia*



## General Notes

With age, this tree develops a large spreading canopy which is often greater than the total height. An important tree in the California landscape. Large, well established trees are often protected by local tree ordinances and removals can be regulated. Susceptible to oak moth. Sudden Oak Death manifested as a canker.

Native to Central and Southern California.

## Tree Characteristics

Spreading and requires ample growing space.

Fire Resistance is Favorable.

Rounded or Umbrella Shape.

Desirable Wildlife Plant.

Has Evergreen foliage.

Attracts Birds and Squirrels.

Height: 20 - 70 feet.

Deer Palatable.

Width: 20 - 70 feet.

Growth Rate: 24 Inches per Year.

Longevity Greater than 150 years.

Leaves Elliptic and Hollylike, Glossy Dark Green, No Change, Evergreen.

Prolific, Brown Acorn, Large (1.50 - 3.00 inches), fruiting in Fall or Winter.

Bark Dark Gray, Furrowed or Smooth.

Shading Capacity Rated as Moderately Dense in Leaf.

## Tree Site Conditions & Constraints

Sunset Zones 7 - 9 and 14 - 24.

USDA Hardiness Zones 8 - 10.

Exposure Full Sun to Partial Shade.

Moist to Dry Soil.

Clay, Loam or Sand Texture.

Highly Acidic to Slightly Alkaline Soil pH.

Seaside Tolerance is Good in Moderate Zone.

COAST REDWOOD  
*Sequoia sempervirens*

---



## General Notes

Needs ample water. Resistant to oak root fungus. Several cultivars are commercially available.

Has fragrant Bark and Leaf.

Native to California.

Erect and requires ample growing space.

Conical Shape.

Has Evergreen foliage.

Height: 70 - 100 feet. In the wild may reach 365 feet.

Width: 15 - 30 feet.

Growth Rate: 36 or More Inches per Year.

Longevity Greater than 150 years.

Leaves Linear, Medium to Dark Green, No Change, Evergreen.

Brown Cone, Medium (0.50 - 1.50 inches), fruiting in Fall or Winter.

Bark Red Brown, Fibrous or Furrowed.

Shading Capacity Rated as Dense in Leaf.

## Tree Site Conditions & Constraints

Sunset Zones 4 - 9 and 14 - 24.

USDA Hardiness Zones 8 - 10.

Exposure Full Sun to Partial Shade.

Moist Soil.

Clay, Loam or Sand Texture.

Highly Acidic to Slightly Alkaline Soil pH.

Seaside Tolerance is Good in Moderate Zone.

Attracts Birds.





Jewell's  
Terrace Park

Terrace Path

Terrace Path

Terrace Path

Terrace Point

Google

Imagery ©2019 Google, Map data ©2019

# Dog Park Subcommittee Report

## DRAFT

### **Section 1: Background**

Albany has long been a dog-friendly city – mostly due to the fact that the city ordinance governing dogs in public areas permits people to walk dogs off leash, under voice control. While Albany has never had a dedicated area for off-leash dogs, casual off-leash dog use is popular in a number of public areas including Jewel’s Terrace Park, Albany Beach, Albany Neck and Bulb, parts of the Ohlone Greenway, and more. It is likely that the generally small properties prevalent in Albany contribute to the need for larger areas for dogs to run off-leash.

### **Memorial Park, Section B**

Section B of Memorial Park deserves special mention partly because it is the closest thing Albany currently has to a dog park, and partly because it has been – and continues to be – controversial. Section B and the neighborhood around it received special attention from the Subcommittee.

Section B started out as an area popular for casual off-leash dog use. That casual status was made official in 2012 when the area was separated by a fence from the Memorial Park baseball field (“Section A”), and specific rules, including hours, were put in place for off-leash dog use. While officially a “multi-use field,” Section B sees little use for purposes other than running off-leash dogs. Dogs are permitted to run off-leash (accompanied by human companions) from 11am to 8pm seven days a week from Spring through Fall when there is no rain. As a sports field, Section B has been closed to all use through the rainy season (generally from a date in November to a date in February or March) to allow for maintenance and for the grass to be restored. From July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 Section B was closed for 123 out of 365 days in part due to the very wet year.

Section B was created to address conflicts between the popular use of the area by people with their dogs, and use of the baseball field. Dogs would run onto the field and interfere with baseball games and practices, and players would encounter messes from dogs in the field. Section B is a compromise that acknowledges the need for and popularity of a conveniently-located area to allow dogs to interact off-leash, and the need for a high-quality facility for use by the High School baseball program and Albany Little League.

Section B continues to be popular with people looking for a place to allow their dogs to run and interact with other dogs. More statistics on this use will be presented below, but an informal tally suggests that Section B sees hundreds of users in a month, with most of those users visiting

more than once a month. Many people use Section B with their dog more than once a week, and some even more than once a day. In addition to the value of Section B as a location to exercise and socialize a dog, users report a genuine sense of community with the other users – especially among the very regular daytime groups of Section B users.

A number of neighbors in the area directly around Section B have been unhappy with its use by off-leash dogs, and felt that they were not adequately informed of the plans for Section B before it was created. Some of these neighbors continue to be unhappy with the use of Section B. Primary complaints have been noise from dogs and people, parking congestion, use of the park outside of permitted hours, aesthetics of the park, and dog messes in the neighborhood around the park. One neighbor who is unhappy with the use of Section B feels that they have been identified by some Section B users and are the target of aggression from them. Albany Police have been called to the park many times over the years, particularly because of violations of the park hours. An interview with APD revealed that these complaints dropped dramatically when a time-locking gate was installed. This gate locks automatically at 8pm, allowing users to leave the park but not to enter. The gate unlocks each day at 11am. Apart from just staying after the gate has locked at 8pm, neighbors report that some users have been able to climb the fence to gain entrance, and one believes they saw someone sabotage the locking mechanism (and the gate was broken for more than a week last year).

Efforts to address the primary complaints include prominent signage asking users to discourage excessive barking and noise, placement of two trash cans near the gate, and the time-locking gate.

### ***What Makes a Dog Park?***

Apart from allowing dogs to run off-leash, a dedicated dog park will commonly have features such as:

- Fencing to contain pets and protect people
- An “airlock” door that makes it easier to access the park while maintaining control of a dog or dogs
- Dog-waste bag dispensers
- Access to fresh water for the dogs to provide hydration and to lessen the risk of disease being spread through shared water
- Seating for human users of the park

Albany does not currently have a park that includes these features. Section B offers fencing, but none of the other features. The other casual dog-use areas have some of these (dog-waste bags on the Bulb, seating at Jewel’s Terrace Park, for instance), but none are fenced.

In densely populated areas like Albany it is common to have dog parks in residential neighborhoods despite the obvious potential for conflict over noise. Rules like those in Section B are common, including restricted hours, rules against excessive barking, and so on. This

recognizes the value of providing public space for dog-owning residents to enjoy time with their dogs while trying to minimize the negative impacts on neighbors.

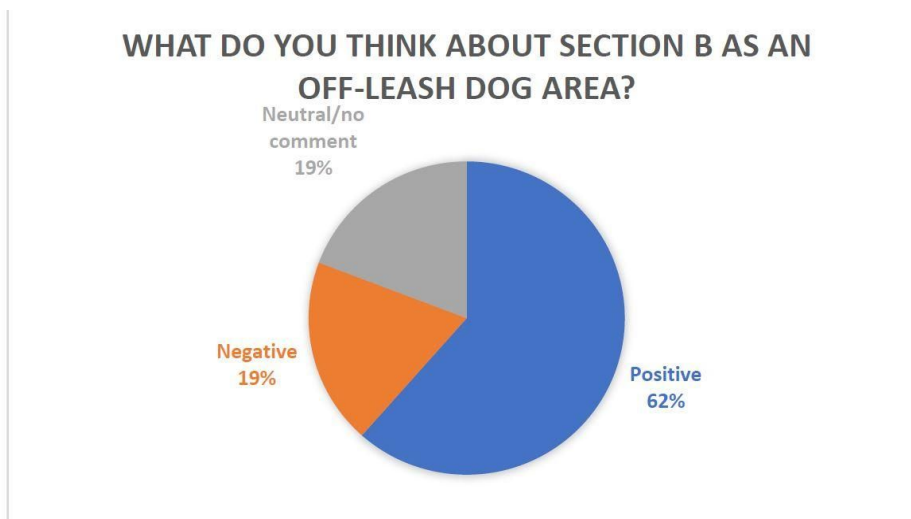
## Section 2: Public Engagement Process & Survey Results

Given the concerns that the creation of Memorial Park Section B lacked a meaningful public input process, the PROSC voted to create a Dog Park Subcommittee to examine the issue more deeply and to explore the need for a formal dog park in Albany. Recognizing that PROSC and City Council meetings may not be the preferred means to provide input, the Subcommittee created a robust public engagement strategy that maximized our reach by meeting with interested parties at convenient locations and offering multiple forums for input.

- In-person & online Surveys of Memorial Park, Section B Neighbors (Appendix A)
- In-person & online Surveys of Memorial Park, Section B Users (Appendix B)
- Online Citywide survey about dog facilities in Albany (Appendix C)
- Public Workshop about potential Dog Park in Albany (Appendix D)
- Interview with Albany Police Chief

For a timeline of the public engagement see Appendix E.

**Survey and interviews with Memorial Park Section B Neighbors.** Conducted in September 2018, the objective was to solicit feedback from residents that are most impacted by Section B to better understand their concerns, opinions, and recommendations for improving the area. Our target area included 43 households residing on Carmel Avenue, Thousand Oaks Blvd, and San Carlos Avenue, and located within 500 feet of Section B. The Dog Park Subcommittee members reached 26 of the 43 households, (a response rate of 60%), by visiting the households in person to administer the surveys. When residents were not home, we left door hangers that provided an online survey link and an email address to schedule an in-person meeting.



*Results:* Support from Section B neighbors was predominantly positive--62% of respondents (16 of the 26 households) felt positively about Section B as an off-leash dog area, five (5) households were negative and five (5) households were neutral. Many of those neighbors reported using Section B with their own dogs and appreciate the sense of community that the area provides. It should be noted that of the five (5) households that answered in the negative, a few of the respondents were strongly opposed to Section B as a dog usage area and felt very negatively impacted by the noise from dogs and dog owners, and parking congestion.

Several neighbors reported that past issues -- including violation of hours -- had largely been resolved since the timed gate was installed.

When asked “*Do you have any suggestions about how Section B can better work with the neighborhood?*”, the most frequent responses included improving aesthetics, improving amenities for dog users, and better signage to help enforce the rules.

Please see Appendix A for the *Memorial Park Section B Neighborhood Survey Results*.

**Surveys of Memorial Park, Section B Users.** Conducted in November 2018, the objective was to solicit feedback from Section B users, who are primarily dog owners, to better understand their concerns, opinions, and recommendations for improving the area. The PROSC Subcommittee members visited Section B during the weekdays and weekends, and during the morning, noon, afternoon, and evening hours, to reach various user groups. Commissioners handed out paper surveys on clipboards to dog owners at Section B and collected the surveys after they were completed. A notice was posted at Section B with the hyperlink to an online survey. Two surveys were completed online. Through this extensive outreach effort, we collected 107 survey responses.

*Results:* Over 80% of survey respondents use Section B multiple times a week. Over 40% of respondents live a few blocks from Section B and over 60% of respondents walk (regularly or occasionally) to Section B. Memorial Park is less than one block from the Southern border of El Cerrito and a few blocks from the Western border of Berkeley-- therefore, the zip codes of the respondents reflected that distribution. 38% reported residing at an Albany zip code, 28% reported a Berkeley zip code, 17% reported an El Cerrito zip code. When asked for the main reason for choosing Section B over other dog parks, the most frequently cited answers were (1) location, (2) community connectedness, and (3) well-behaved dogs and dog owners.

See Appendix B for the Memorial Park Section B Dog Owner Survey Results.

**General citywide survey about dog facilities in Albany.** Distributed in May 2019, the objective of this survey was to answer the following questions: (1) *Is there a need/desire for additional dog facilities in Albany?* (2) *What features would be most important in a facility?* (3) *What would be a good location for a new facility?* This survey asks questions for people with

dogs, so outreach was focused on areas popular for use with dogs. The online survey was publicized on city eNews, Nextdoor.com, and posters were placed at Memorial Park, Terrace Park, and the Albany Bulb. The survey was open for approximately 3 weeks and 260 responses were received. Of those respondents, 235 owned or walked a dog and 25 neither owned nor walked a dog. See Appendix C for the General Dog Park Survey results.

*Results:* To the prompt, “Regarding space and facilities for dogs...,” 53% of respondents indicated Albany does not have enough space and facilities; 35% indicated Albany has the right amount; 6% indicated Albany has too much; and 7% had no opinion.

The survey asked about current usage of areas for off-leash dogs, and desired features of such facilities. 45% of respondents use an off-leash dog area once a day (or more), 29% use such an area more than once a week, 9% once a week, and 7% less than that. The surveyed Dog facility users travel varying distances to their preferred facilities, with 25% traveling a few blocks (or less), 21% less than a mile, 20% one to three miles, and 33% three miles or more. People primarily drive and walk to these facilities, (47% drive, 25% walk, 26% walk & drive). Just 2% ride their bike. Of the respondents, more than 50% use Albany Beach and the Bulb, 20% use Section B, 14% use Jewel’s Terrace Park. This is important because it informs the numbers about distance and means of transportation, since there was such a heavy response from Albany Beach and Bulb users most of whom must drive to these remote locations. We believe further analysis would reveal a higher percentage of people walking to facilities closer to neighborhoods based on the Section B users survey.

Of the features that users find desirable about the facilities they use, nearly 80% said they choose the facilities they use at least partly because of its location, 70% choose it for the ground surface (53% selecting grass, 31% dirt & vegetation), 80% choose it because of the size, and responses were nearly even (23% - 29%) about the presence of fencing.

We specifically asked about a grass surface, since a grass surface means that a well-used park will need to be closed part of the year for the grass to recover. 50% of respondents would choose a park that was open all year over one that had a grass surface, but was closed part of the year. 34% prioritize a grass surface, and 16% had no opinion.

Selecting from a list of features, the largest response was for a facility that is open year-round (19%), an area with varied terrain (such as the Bulb)(15%), a large area (15%), and an area that is open early in the day (11%, while an area that is open late only saw 6.5% support).

Finally, the survey asked about a handful of possible locations: along the Ohlone Greenway, a partial block of the Key Route median, a large area of CalTrans property west of the train tracks and going under the freeway (south of Pierce Street Park), and the backside of Ocean View Park. All of these received even support with the range between 23% and 28%. A couple of locations were suggested, but are not practical. The “lawn” area at Peggy Thomsen Pierce

Street Park is already under development as a play field, and a large area in UC Village is slated for development by the University.

To summarize the response, we see a desire by people who use facilities in Albany with their dogs for additional facilities for dogs. A dog park should be carefully located to allow easy access (and walking), and would ideally be open all year. People would appreciate a facility that is open early, is as large as possible, and perhaps more rustic with a varied terrain. Regarding terrain, it's difficult to balance the desire for varied terrain with the expressed desirability of a grass surface -- this conflict is likely also somewhat a consequence of the heavy response from users of the Bulb and waterfront. There was no clear preference for any of the posed locations for a new dog park.

**Public Workshop about potential Dog Park in Albany.** On May 30, 2019, a dedicated public workshop was held to share information from the Memorial Park Section B and citywide surveys, and to gather information about potential dog park locations and features. After a brief presentation by PROSC members, over 30 participants provided feedback at various topical stations and 1-on-1 to PROSC subcommittee members. A question and answer period followed. See Appendix D for all written public comments from the workshop.

*Results:*

Attendees expressed some sentiments that apply to any dog park. One noted that "I do not want to sit around. My dog is my exercise machine." Good city dog policies and dog parks help facilitate increased personal mobility. Some expressed the idea that fenced dog parks help build community amongst regular users and help users of the rest of the public space feel more at ease. Some felt dog parks in Albany should be open all year, a feature that is dependent on the surface material - Section B was closed 123 of the last 365 days.

For location, attendees expressed a desire for dog parks near neighborhoods which are easy to get to while still considering potential impacts of noise and parking. They noted that fenced public areas help separate dogs who do not respond well to voice control from joggers, kids, picnic areas, etc. There was a need expressed for multiple locations that consider geographic diversity.

Residents wrote down their desired list of dog park amenities and then expressed their approval for each. Top-voted amenities for dog parks in Albany were:

- Fencing of right height
- Water spigot
- Year-round availability
- Signage for rules, no excessive barking, etc.
- Double gates/"airlock"
- Trees for shade, aesthetics
- Others found in Appendix D

For fencing, some residents said if it's too low, eg. waist high like at Bruce King Dog Park in El Cerrito, big dogs can jump over and if too high it's unsightly.

***Interview with Albany Police Chief.*** In January 2019, the Dog Park Subcommittee members met with Albany Police Chief John Geissberger to inquire about issues with dogs in Albany parks and in particular Section B. A summary of the meeting is provided in the following section.

*Summary:* Although Chief Geissberger had just started in the role of Police Chief, he has worked in the Albany Police Department for a number of years. Chief Geissberger noted that since the timed lock on the gate was installed at Section B, the Department very seldom receives calls about Section B. He stated that prominent, clear signage is important for enforcement. When asked how improvements to Section B-- such as tree or shrub plantings-- might impact Section B patrols, he stated that as long as the plantings don't obscure the entire view of the park, they would be acceptable.

The Chief reported that the Department does not receive frequent complaints about dogs in parks. Based on his recollection, common dog complaints include a neighbor's dog excessively barking and off-leash dogs. He noted that when he receives complaints about well behaved, off-leash dogs, he explains to the complainant that Albany municipal code allows dogs to be off-leash if within voice control.

### **Section 3: Analysis**

The question the subcommittee was formed to answer was whether Albany needs a dog park and if so, where and what that might be. From the engagement with current users of Albany facilities with off-leash dogs, it is likely that new facilities would be well used. While there are parks and public areas that see a lot of casual use by people with their dogs, there is a desire for some of the features of an actual dog park, such as a double-gate entry, water supply, and benches.

Based on national and state statistics, it is likely that between 40% and 60% of Albany households include at least one dog. Meanwhile, recent studies show the health benefits of walking a dog, noting that this represents the sole outdoor exercise for some people, and that this provides psychological benefits beyond the physical exercise. For these and other reasons, having a safe place to let their dog run off-leash and engage with other dogs is as important to the people with dogs as it is to the dogs themselves. Because it is so important, people will always find a place to run their dogs. When we set aside and finish locations for this purpose we gain some control over that activity.

It is worth noting that communities have built up in the areas that are popular with dog owners. There are a few different close-knit groups of people that regularly use Section B during the day. An informal organization of people who take their dogs to Albany Beach and Bulb has been



created, and they regularly participate in cleanups of the area. One of the public meeting participants noted that the human community she meets is about half the reason she uses Section B with her dog.

Section B had been a source of conflict with some of the neighbors, but our intensive outreach reveals that (1) many of the problems have been addressed (at least somewhat), (2) some of the neighbors who opposed the use of Section B as a dog area in the past are now supportive or neutral, and (3) the majority of neighbors (62%) are supportive of Section B as an area for dogs. A few neighbors are still unhappy with the parking impact of people using Section B, and others continue to be bothered by barking and the noise of people using the park with their dogs and their friends. Meanwhile, the people using Section B with their dogs would like to see a double gate to make access to the park with their dog easier, and would also like easier access to water -- even if just a spigot to fill a bowl. Some users bring folding chairs with them to the Section B, and would appreciate benches being added.

Part of the reason for recommending a new dog park facility is to take some of the burden off the current locations popular for casual off-leash use. The lawn at Jewel's Terrace Park, for example, sees heavy use by owners with dogs while families and children are also using the park. Complaints of conflict between these uses are to be expected. It is difficult to compete with a location that is so beautiful and conveniently located for a lot of people, but if a full-featured dog park was available near by, it's likely that some of the current park users with dogs would switch to the new facility.

Unfortunately, Albany does not have a lot of open space available for something like a dog park, much less space available in specific areas where a dog park would serve residents that are not near any of the existing locations popular for exercising dogs. This means we should make the most of the facilities we currently have. It should be possible to add desired amenities to Section B while addressing some of the concerns of the neighbors.

#### **Section 4: Recommendations**

Through the Dog Park Subcommittee public engagement process, public input shows overwhelming support for increasing dog facilities in Albany. Existing dog usage areas -- such as Memorial Park's Section B, Terrace Park, the Albany Bulb and waterfront -- are highly used and dog owners frequently positively report on the sense of community these areas provide. Given the results of the targeted Section B surveys, citywide dog park survey, and interviews with Albany staff, we recommend the following:

- 1. Designate Memorial Park Section B as an official dog park.** This area is already commonly known as a dog park, and exclusively used as such. However, its current designation as a "multi-use" area creates confusion and a lack of clarity to the community and City staff about how the area should be used and managed. We recommend changing the designation officially to a dog park. This will allow features to be added that enhance the dog users' experience-- such as an internal trash can and a

double gate-- and potentially mitigate the concerns of neighbors. We recognize that some neighbors will not support this recommendation. However, the overwhelming positive responses from survey and interviews does not support eliminating this very popular facility.

2. **Improve Memorial Park Section B to mitigate neighborhood concerns.** Neighboring residents to Section B stated that the area could be improved by better aesthetics, amenities, and signage to enforce rules. We recommend the following improvements be made:
  - a. **Large and clear signage** that reinforces rules (stop excessive barking, trash in receptacles, hours of operation, park considerately, etc.)
  - b. **Plantings** around perimeter of Section B to enhance aesthetics, and also trees along the fence shared with the baseball field to provide shade.
  - c. **To enforce hours, automatic sprinklers** should be set to turn on at 8:15pm.
  - d. **Move the timed gate entry to the gate near the batting cage.** This may reduce noise impacts since people tend to congregate near the entryway. This entry also provides closer access to a water source.
  - e. **Install a double-gate** to facilitate entry and exit of dogs. This may also reduce noise impacts, since owners will not have to issue voice commands to ensure their dogs stay within the fenced area.
  - f. **Add benches.** Many users, including neighbors of Section B, requested benches for Section B.
  - g. **Maintain existing hours of operation.**
3. **Identify a location for an additional dog park.** Given the heavy use of Albany parks by dog owners and the broad public support of additional dog facilities, we recommend that City Council identify and site an additional dog park in Albany. This may potentially reduce the impact to Memorial Park Section B neighbors, as dog owners would have an alternative area to use within Albany.

Our citywide survey and public workshop requested feedback on potential locations -- the Ohlone Greenway, open space near the train tracks, Key Route near Washington, Terrace Park. However, public support of the various locations was evenly divided and no single location stood out as a clear winner. All of the locations have pros and cons.

Recognizing that Memorial Park Section B and Terrace Park are regularly used by dog owners, the Dog Park Subcommittee recommends siting an additional dog park in a geographic location that does not currently benefit from a neighborhood dog area, such as the Ohlone Greenway near Albany's southern border between Dartmouth and Marin.

## **Attachments**

Appendix A: Memorial Park, Section B Neighborhood Survey

Appendix B: Memorial Park, Section B Dog Owner/User Survey  
Appendix C: Citywide dog park survey results  
Appendix D: Dog Park Public Workshop comments  
Appendix E: Timeline of public engagement



APPENDIX A: MEMORIAL PARK,  
SECTION B NEIGHBORHOOD  
SURVEY

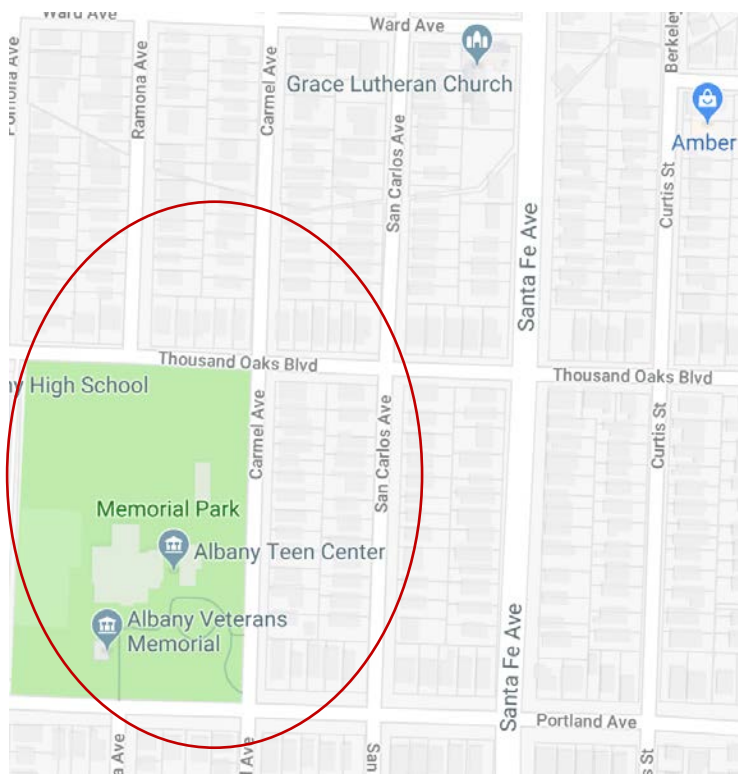
# Memorial Park, Section B Neighborhood Survey – Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Commission

In September of 2018, the Parks and Recreation Commission Dog Park subcommittee conducted in-person surveys of households adjacent to the Section B off-leash dog area in Memorial Park. “Section B” is a fenced-in, off-leash dog area located on the northeast boundary of Memorial Park, at the corner of Thousand Oaks Boulevard and Carmel Avenue.

Our objective was to solicit feedback from residents that are most impacted by Section B to better understand their concerns, opinions, and recommendations for improving the area.

## Target area & outreach methods

Our target area included 43 households residing on Carmel Avenue, Thousand Oaks Blvd, and San Carlos Avenue, and located within 500 feet of Section B, represented in the map below:

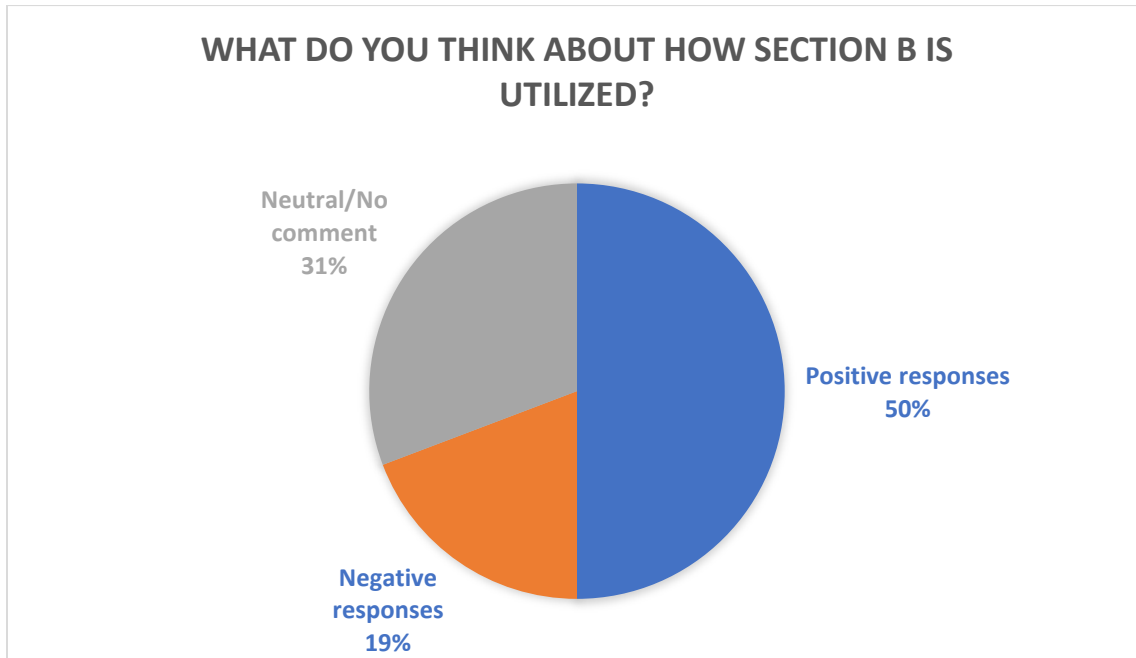


We reached 26 of the 43 households, (a response rate of 60%), using the following methods:

- **Door hangers** notifying residents that a Parks and Recreation Commissioner would soon visit and ask them to participate in a survey. This notification included an email address and an online survey hyperlink so that residents could participate online instead.
- **Two in-person visits** by a Parks and Recreation Commissioner on the weekend. We knocked on the door of each household to administer the survey. If there was no answer, we returned on a subsequent weekend to try again.
- **Written notification.** If no resident answered after two visits, we left another door hanger notification that included an email address and an online survey hyperlink so that residents could participate online instead.

## Survey results from Memorial Park, Section B neighborhood households

The following questions were asked in-person and recorded by handwritten notes. Specific answers are anonymized and included below.



### What do you think about how Section B is utilized?

Positive (50%, 13 of 26 households):

- Great we need a dog park here. We use it often.
- It's great! Keep it open more hours!
- I love it! Not only does my pup get his exercise, but I can meet and socialize with neighborhood residents I would never have met. A sense of community is developed as neighbors come together after work to socialize.
- I like having a place to play with my dog.
- Looks great.
- Fine with it.
- Pretty happy with it at this point. The mix of people has changed -- it's currently calmer, less crazy. There's less yelling than before, maybe they're self-enforcing. Used to see sabotaging or messing with the gate, but not so much anymore.
- We like it.
- We use it regularly. It's almost always well-used.
- No problem. People need to bring dogs there.
- I think the use of Section B for dogs is a great use - it provides a valuable opportunity for dogs to exercise and for their owners to get out and socialize. Memorial Park provides plenty of other locations for other uses (e.g., sports).
- Seems fine, it gets a lot of use, there's always people in there.
- Fine

### What do you think about how Section B is utilized? (continued)

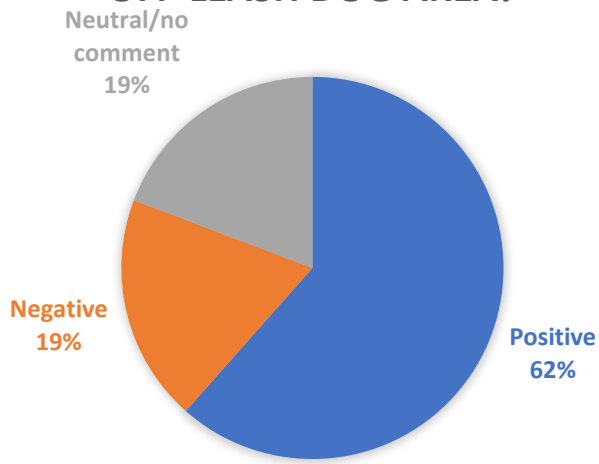
Negative (19%, 5 of 26 households):

- Against it. It should be moved.
- Better used as a community garden.
- Strongly opposed. Not enough alternative usage. When there was no gate, before Section B was fenced in to be separate from the ballpark, there was a better culture there and used by the whole community. Very negative energy from dog owners there.
- I do not like its utilization as a dog area. It's inappropriate for off-leash dogs.
- Wish people would walk instead of drive. It creates parking and traffic issues. Order of annoyance: 1) vehicles, 2) people, 3) dogs.

Neutral/No comment (19%, 8 of 26 households):

- No idea.
- I had been opposed to the park, but now I'm more neutral. The problems have mostly been addressed. Parking hasn't really been a problem for me. Because of the timed gate, the field can't be as multi-use as possible. It's only open at the time that dogs are allowed.
- I don't use it and find it in no way offensive. No opinion.
- No comment. (5 responses)

## WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT SECTION B AS AN OFF-LEASH DOG AREA?



### What do you think about Section B as an off-leash dog area?

Positive (62%, 16 of 26 households):

- Very useful. Please keep it.
- Wonderful! Such a great community.
- I love it! Dog owners here keep their pets under close supervision and respect one another's pets.
- I like it, but it is not really big enough for all the people who use it. We need a larger space that's centrally located so we can walk instead of drive. Also, the time limits are very inconvenient. Many people need a place they can use before work.
- Good. Our kids like seeing dogs go by house to/from section B.
- The gate is important. Made a huge difference. I have seen people sabotaging the gate. The gate was broken for a few weeks recently, and I think I saw a person breaking it (intentionally or not). I like the fence dividing Section B from the ball field and the timed gate. I like that the area is closed for a few months to recover from use.
- We wish it was open earlier. We're big users and would like to see earlier hours (before work).
- There is a community of dog-area users.
- Good for people to have an area at park that is separate. It keeps dogs & kids separate. Because of Section B, I don't see dogs in the playground area.
- Love it. Convenient. Just got a dog 1 week ago. Get lots of advice from owners there. Supportive community. New dog is less aggressive off leash so off-leash dog area nearby helps. Great for socialization. Worry about what happens in Nov when it closes for winter.
- A big positive for us. Like proximity - take bigger dog every day. Gate works well. Times ok until 8pm helps. Little dog does better less confined.
- Great.
- Seems fine.
- I like it.
- It's a good idea. Unfortunately, I see a lot of off-leash dogs in other parts of Memorial Park. Even though we have (very small) dogs, I avoid walking them in the main park other than early morning for that reason.



## What do you think about Section B as an off-leash dog area? (continued)

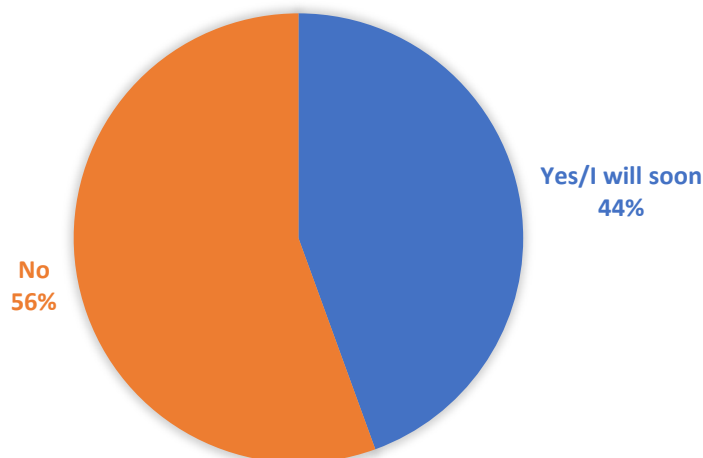
Negative (19%, 5 of 26 households):

- The worst impacts are traffic and parking. It fills the parking for kids visiting the park. I often find dog mess around my property. It's mostly El Cerrito people causing the problem. The dog park should be where they put the park by the freeway [Pierce Street Park]. No one uses that, but it would be a good place for a dog park.
- Too small for dogs. Far enough away from home that noise is not a problem. See lots of cars parked there. Many may not be from Albany. Some of them come speak at P&R meetings.
- I am very opposed. I do not like the area for off-leash dogs. It's too small for the number of dogs. Dogs are fighting every day, they need somewhere they can roam and move. Last week, people were arguing about their dogs.
- I strongly feel that it's not a good place for off-leash dogs. Inappropriate.
- Too big, too many dogs at one time. People are more annoying than the dogs -- shouting and laughing is noisy.

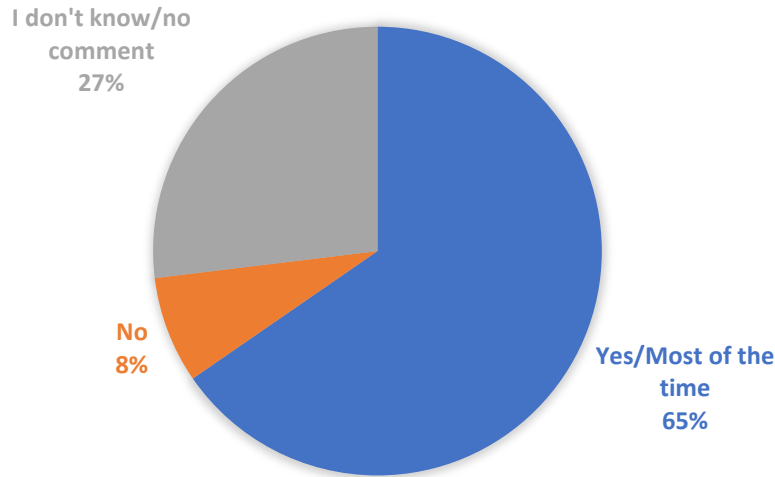
Neutral/No Comment (19%, 5 of 26 households):

- I don't mind it. Noise (barking) has been a problem, but I don't notice it anymore. The better trashcans are an improvement, work much better.
- Doesn't bother us. Can see impact for people nearby.
- Hard to say. Fun to see dogs in there.
- No comment. (2 responses)

### DO YOU USE SECTION B OR A DOG PARK WITH OR WITHOUT A PET?



## DO YOU THINK SECTION B USERS ARE RESPECTFUL OF THE RULES?



### Do you think Section B users are respectful of the rules?

Yes, most of the time (65%, 17 of 26 households):

- Absolutely. Especially the regular users. We are very careful about disturbing the neighbors
- Absolutely.
- Yes. I observe people being very conscientious about noise, the time limits and picking up poop
- Mostly.
- Generally, people are respectful. They used to violate the hours but not anymore.
- Yes. (3 responses)
- Yes. Following time-rules is pretty good, clean up is OK. There is barking occasionally, but we don't hear it from our house
- Yes, no problem.
- As respectful as can be expected. Dogs bark, just a fact of life.
- Yes. Barking is not a problem.
- Yes. People monitor each other
- Yes - no dog poop, owners monitor aggressive dogs, works well, good behavior.
- Yes. I often see people waiting outside until the gate opens
- For the most part. There are a few bad actors.
- Generally, yes. Most people keep their dogs under control.

No (8%, 2 of 26 households)

I don't know/no comment. (27%, 7 of 26 households)

## **Do you have any suggestions about how Section B can better work with the neighborhood?**

*A few themes emerged from this question—improved aesthetics, better amenities for dogs and dog owners, and clear signage and enforcement of rules.*

### *Aesthetics:*

- The chain link fence around Section B is not particularly attractive, maybe it could have some vines or something growing on it? Or some other sort of fence that's a little nicer to look at?
- Fence around the baseball field looks like a Vacaville Prison. No comment about aesthetics. If it remains a place for dogs, should keep the same hours (palatable that way). Limited hours have improved the noise impacts significantly (as compared to before Section B when gate was open all the time).
- The area is a little unsightly, but I'm used to it.
- Aesthetics: Flat grass not interesting.
- Aesthetics - baseball fence is ugly, tarp is ugly, bowls of water and chairs in Section B look bad.
- Re-seed more frequently. Sprinklers on a timer.
- Reseed lawn. Perhaps have two sections -- one for small dogs and one large dogs.
- Improve aesthetics.
- Fence and tarp are ugly.
- Trees would be helpful around Section B.

### *Amenities for dogs and dog owners (water, benches, trash disposal):*

- Would want to see water spigot for dogs in section B.
- Improving the dog facilities would make it nicer. If there was water for dogs, people would not leave water bottles laying around. If there was a double dog gate, dogs would be less likely to get out. If there were benches, people would not bring lawn furniture.
- Water for dogs.
- We'd like to see earlier hours for dog use. Maybe just on week days or weekends. We would use it in the mornings if it opened at 8:30 or 9:00. Some supply of water for dogs.
- Could be a place for people to discard dog poop.
- Sanitation has not been bad lately. Garbage used to be worse. People used to bring their own chairs in.
- Faucet/hose for water for dogs.
- Sanitation/health-- bags filled with dog poop are hung on fence.
- Water for dogs. Double door. Benches.
- Water for dogs.
- Earlier open hours. Water for dogs.

### *Signage & enforcement of rules:*

- A sign that says to "pick up your dog's litter in neighborhood."
- Noise-- already discussed. Hours --people violate the hours at evening.
- Maybe have the sprinklers on a timer to run at 8:00 to enforce time restriction. Re-seed more frequently. Stop leaving junk (especially chairs -- happened in the past, not a problem now). Crew to clean up the park? Better, clearer signage could be a big improvement. Now the signs are too subtle or are walls of text. A clear sign on the gate that has the hours in large lettering is an obvious need.
- Enforce hours. Reduce noise of dog barking.
- Reduce barking noise.
- Generally, people follow the rules and it's not a problem.
- No problems. I like it and it works fine. Hours are fine.
- Regarding noise: The barking doesn't bother me. I have double-paned windows. The hours are OK too.
- Reduce dog litter in neighboring yards.

### **Any other comments you'd like to make regarding Section B?**

- Perhaps having two sections -- for small dogs and big dogs could reduce noise. The dirt patch near the entrance doesn't look so good.
- More opportunity to connect. Maybe a forum?
- Please keep the off-leash dog park!
- Sites under freeway or BART tracks are bad for gardening but maybe good for dog parks.
- I believe the neighborhood would be better with open access to a sports field. I also think that section A should be open to people with dogs when no one is using it for sports, as it used to be.
- It would be nice if the sidewalk in front of Section B extended up to Thousand Oaks Boulevard. It stops 30 feet south of Thousand Oaks for some reason and it means if you are walking from our house you either have to walk on the section without the sidewalk or cross San Carlos in the middle of the street.
- It (dog park) should be moved to Pierce St. Park. People from El Cerrito use it now.
- Section B site would make wonderful community garden. Does not have own space at Open View garden but as Alameda County Master Gardener she has access to 2 plots there. Master Gardener program has Sat workshops at OV garden but no parking there Sat AM so would prefer Section B location.
- Save the dog park! We know it's controversial
- Main issue: not a good place for a dog park of any size. Noise and traffic are a problem.
- It's a nice place to be. It would be nice to see better police patrolling. I do see pot-smoking in the park at night. I don't see a lot of police patrolling. I've called the police about people in Section B after hours, and they were slow to respond, and then ended up apologizing to the them (violators of the rule).
- Having this dog area reduces dog-use of the rest of the park, so it's good for the dogs and the other park users.
- Don't like that it shuts down for winter. Want more months open. Install light in evening when days get shorter.
- Love living across street. Chose to live here. Grateful that people use it.
- Very positive



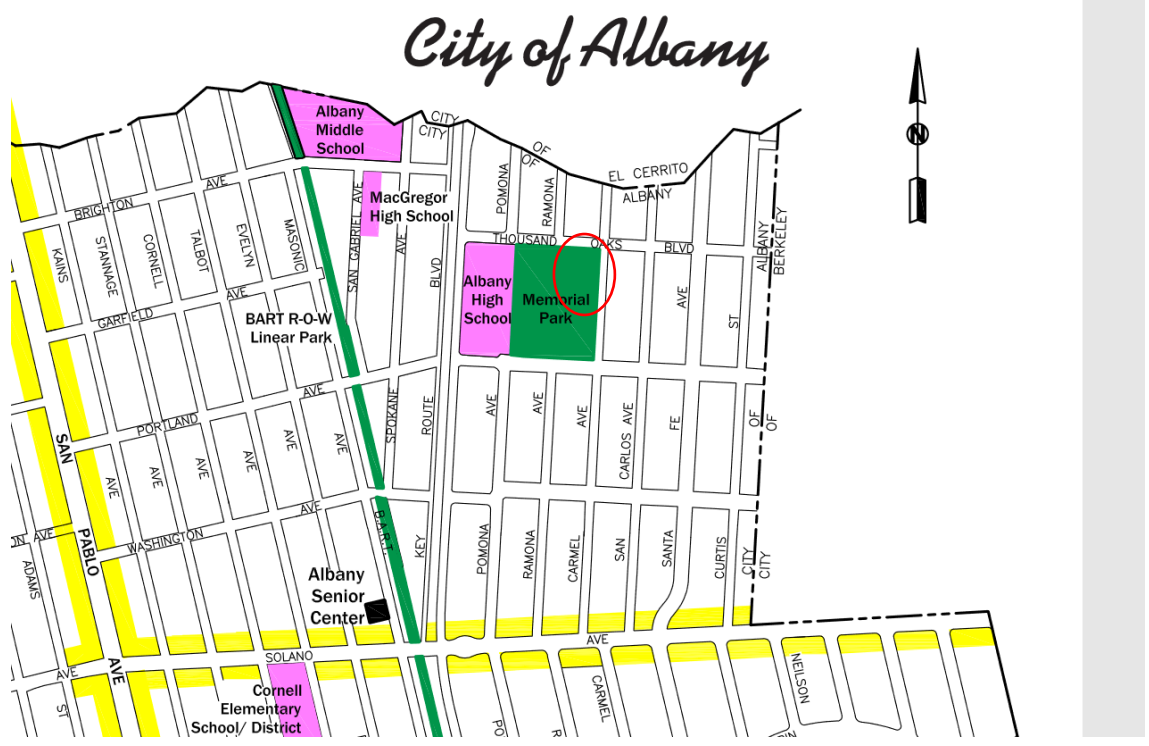
# APPENDIX B: MEMORIAL PARK, SECTION B USER SURVEY

# Memorial Park, Section B User Survey

## Parks, Recreation, Open Space Commission

In November 2018, the Parks and Recreation Commission Dog Park Subcommittee administered surveys to Section B users. "Section B" is a fenced-in, off-leash dog area located in the northeast boundary of Memorial Park, at the corner of Thousand Oaks Boulevard and Carmel Avenue. See the map below, Section B is indicated by the red circle.

Our objective was to solicit feedback from Section B users, who are primarily dog owners, to better understand their concerns, opinions, and recommendations for improving the area.



### Outreach method

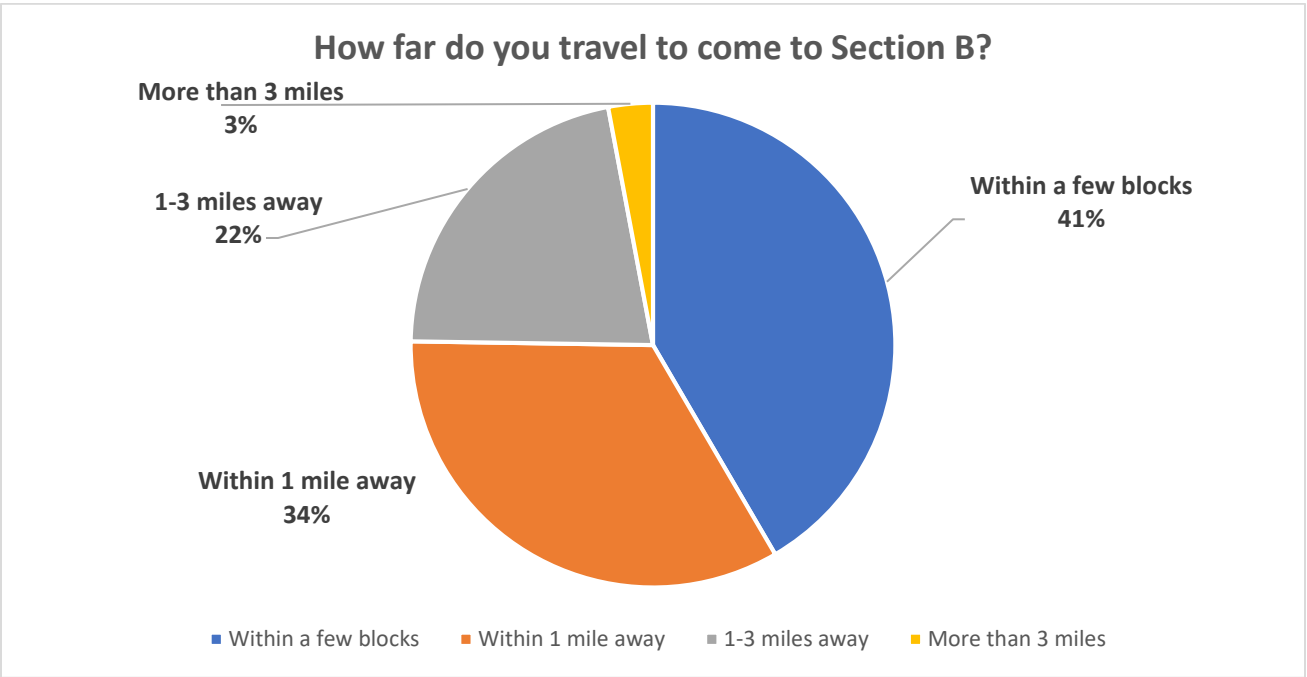
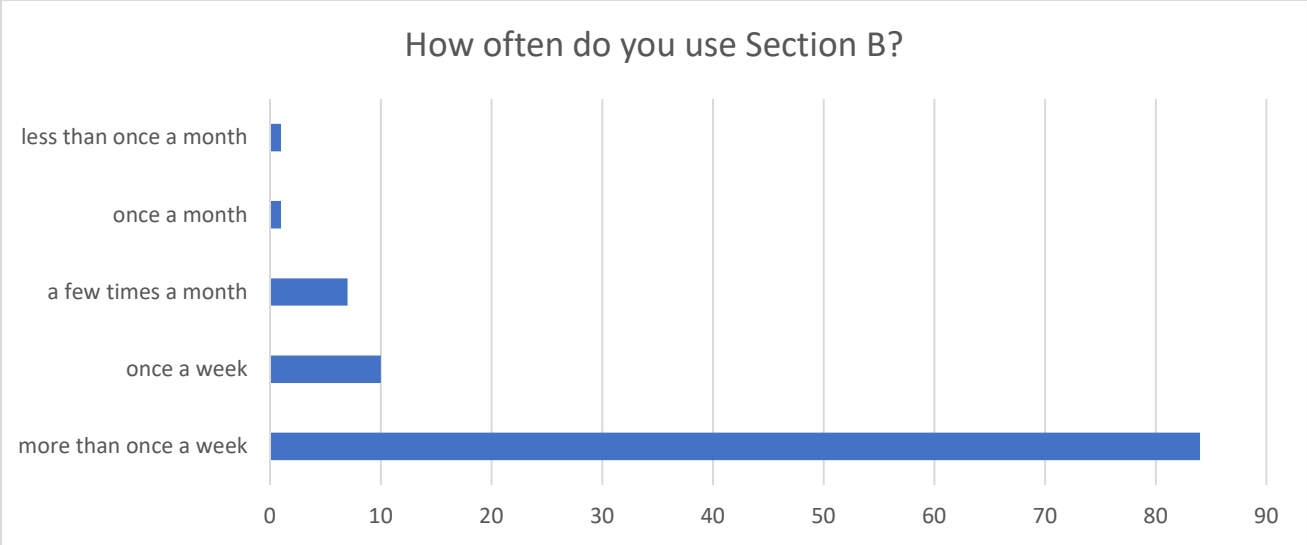
Over the course of 9 days, including two weekends, Park and Recreation Commissioners visited Section B during the weekdays and weekends, and at the morning, noon, afternoon, and evening hours, to administer the surveys. The Commissioners handed out paper surveys on clipboards to dog owners at Section B and collected the surveys after they were completed. A notice was posted at Section B with the hyperlink to an online survey. Two surveys were completed online.

Through this extensive outreach effort, we collected **107 survey responses**.

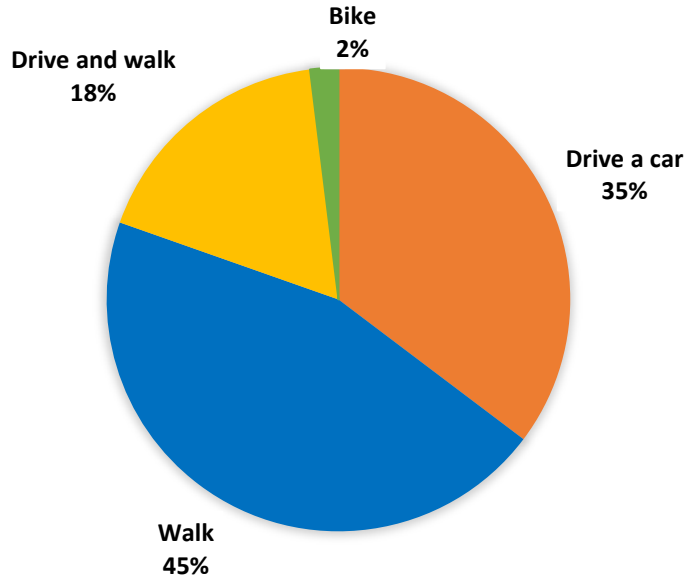
### Survey results from Section B users

#### Multiple-choice survey questions

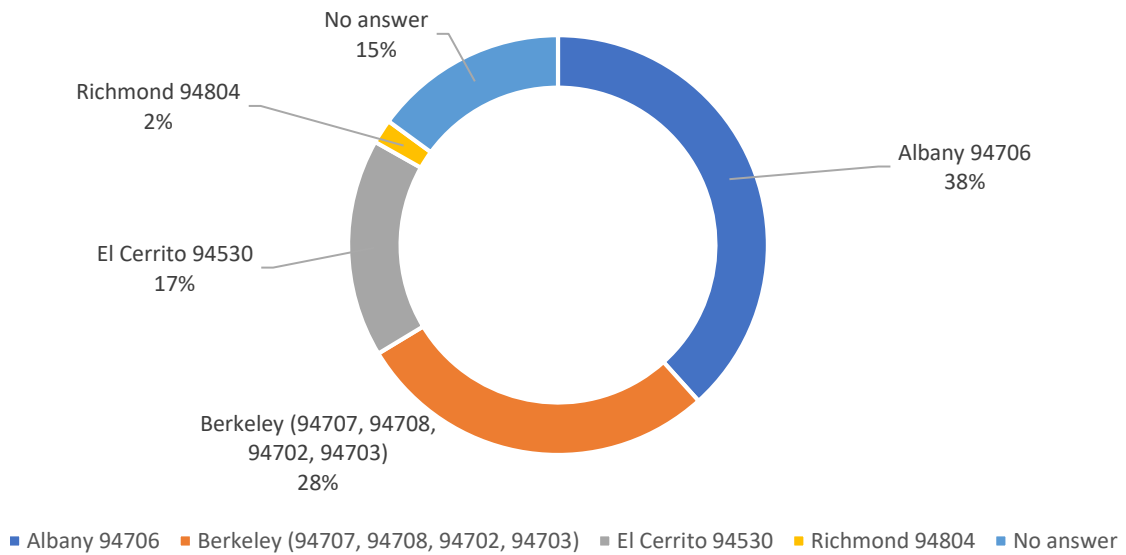
Most survey questions were multiple choice and are presented below:



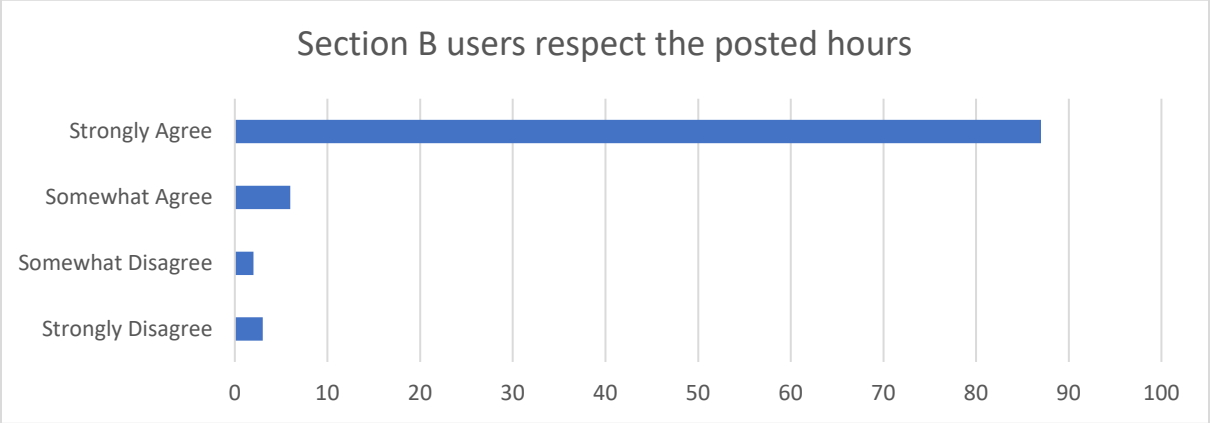
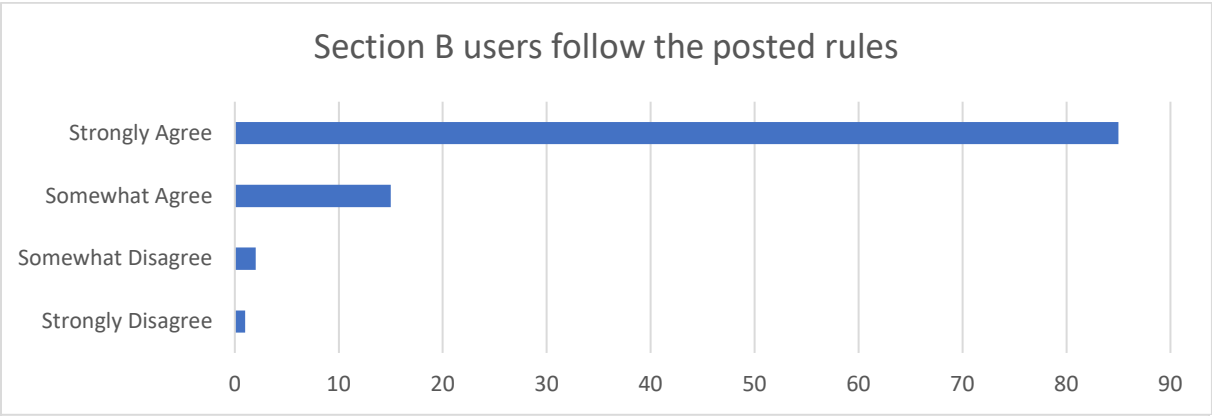
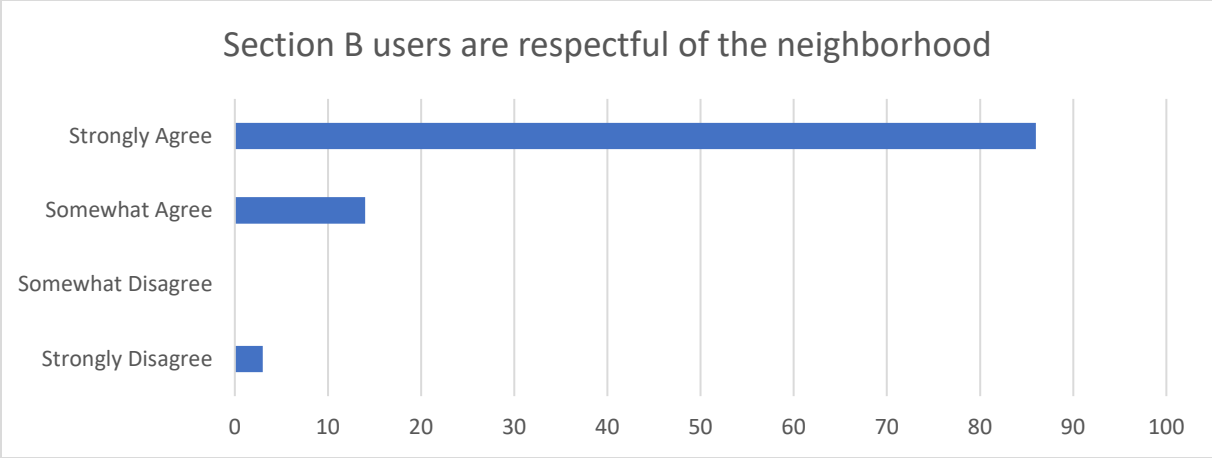
### How do you get to Section B?

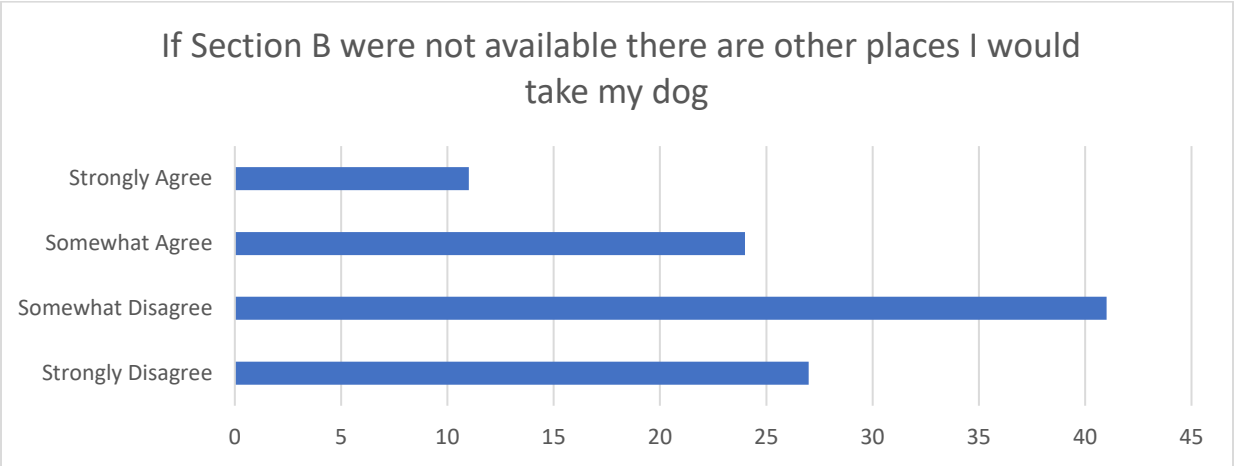
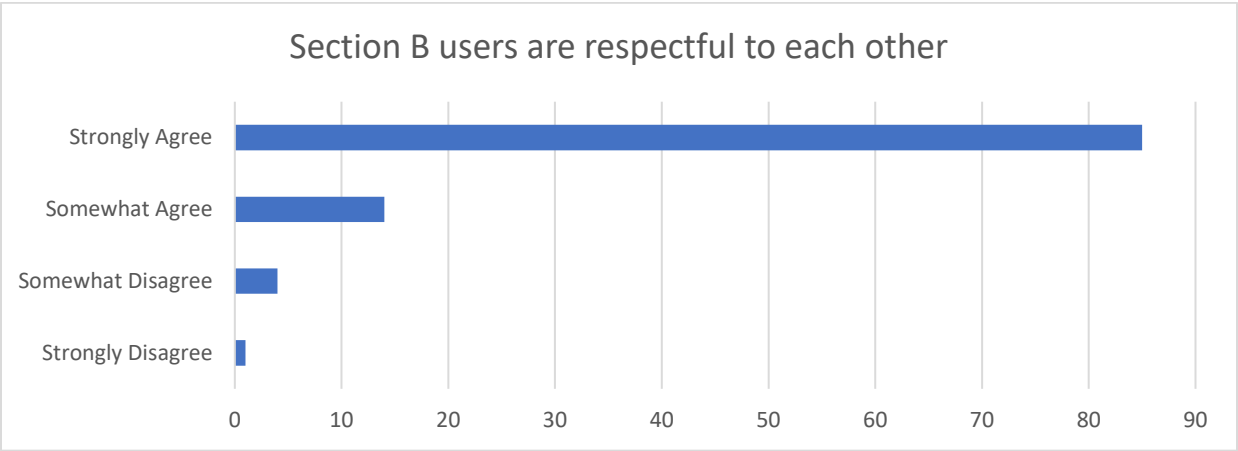
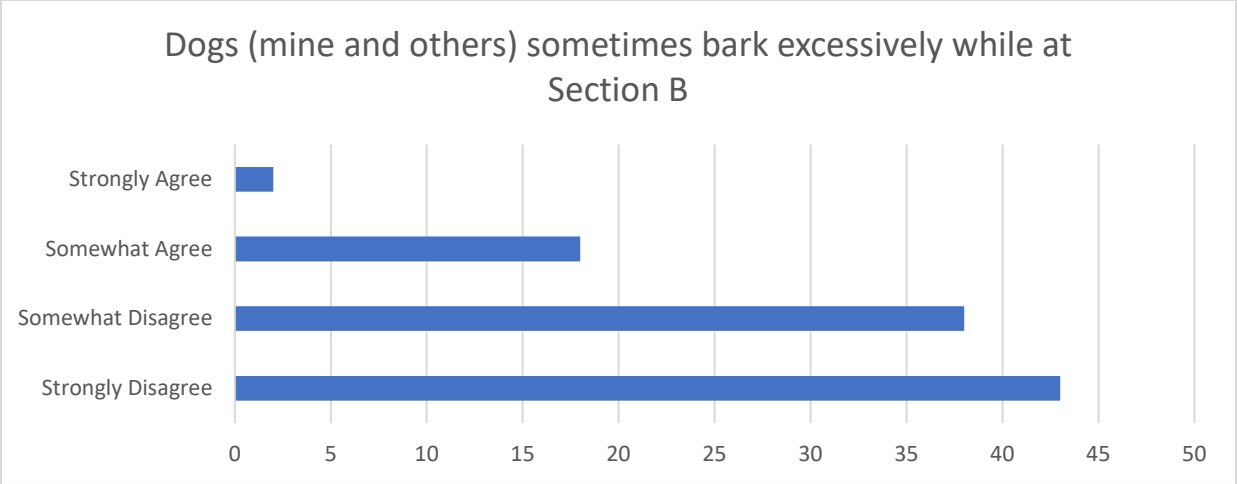


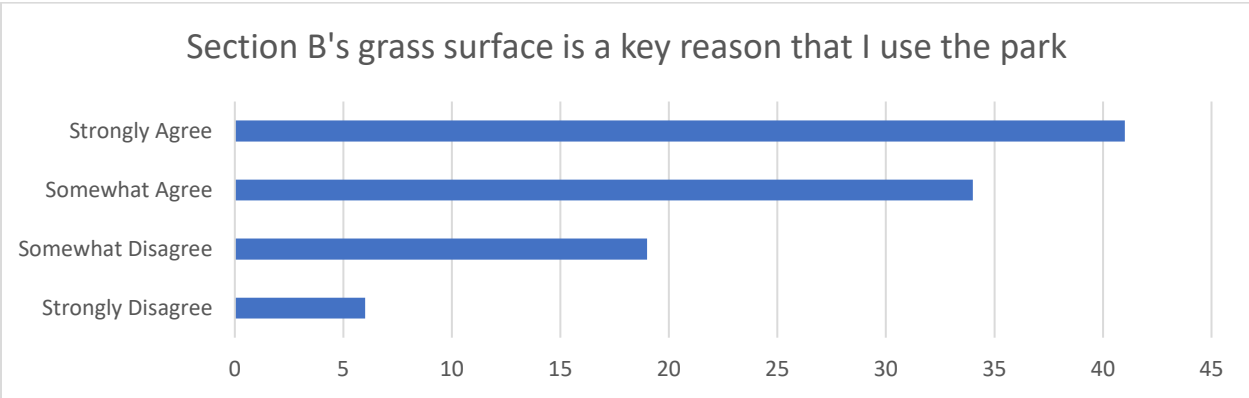
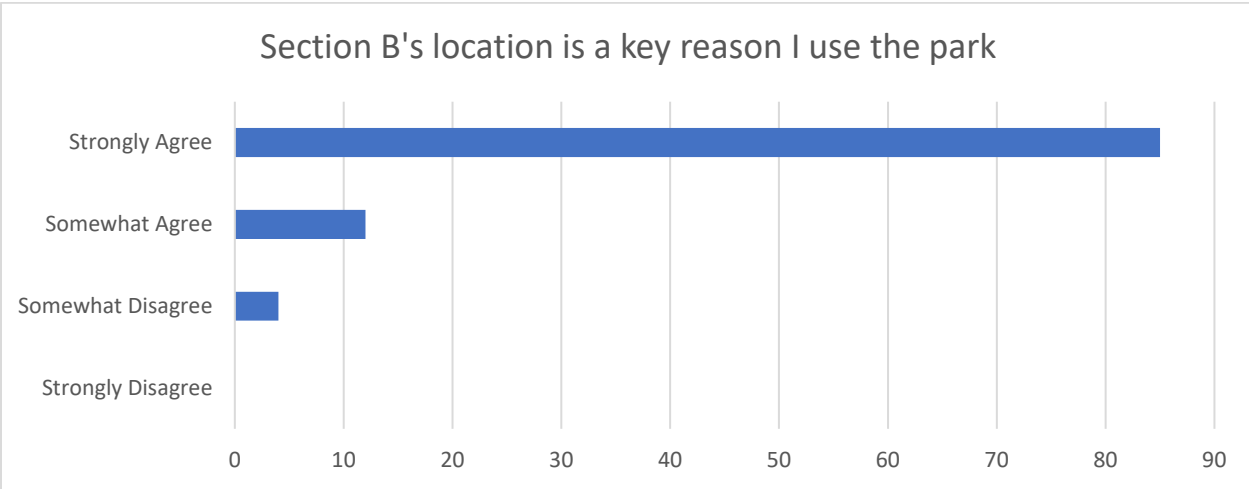
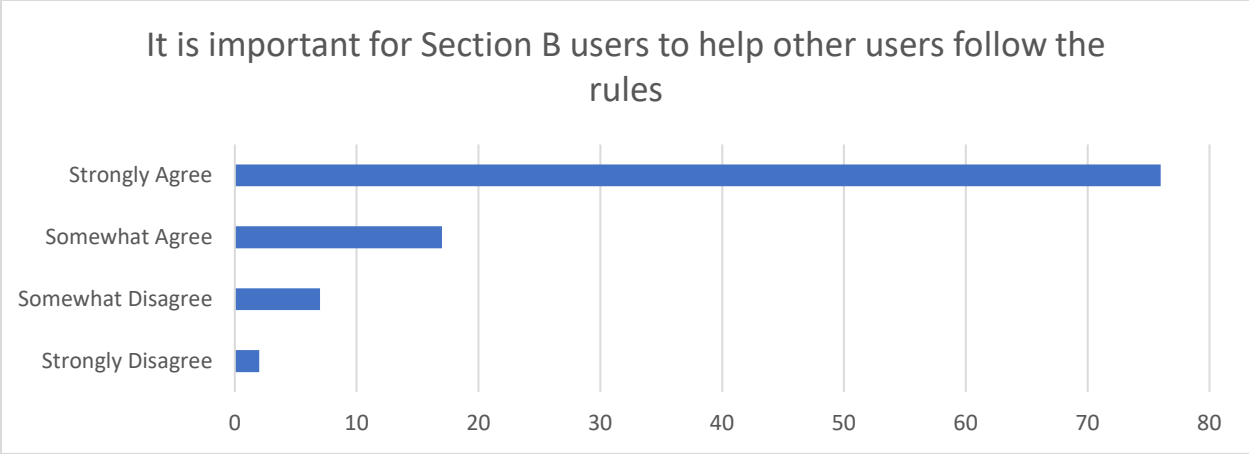
### Zipcode of Survey Respondents at Section B

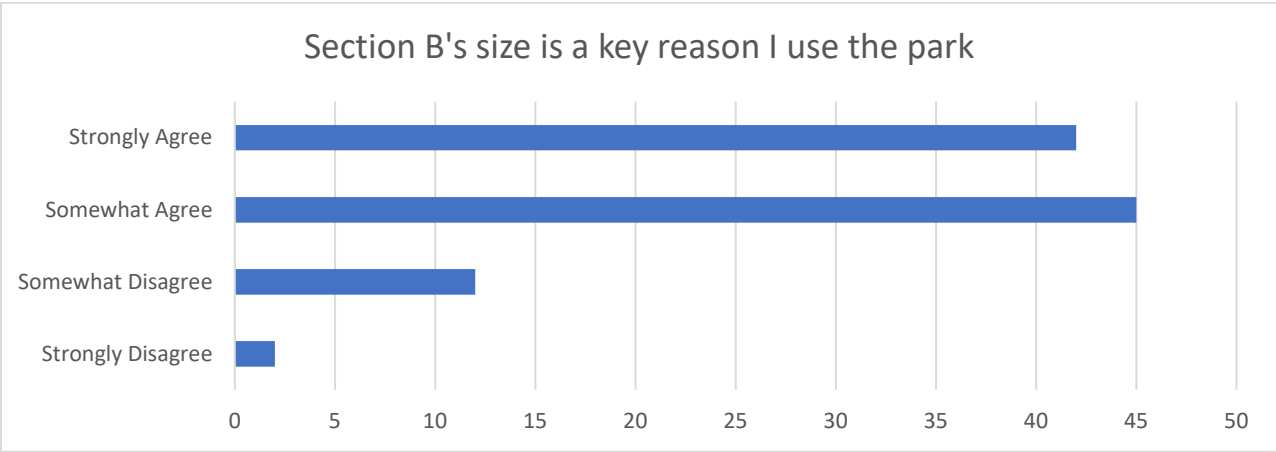
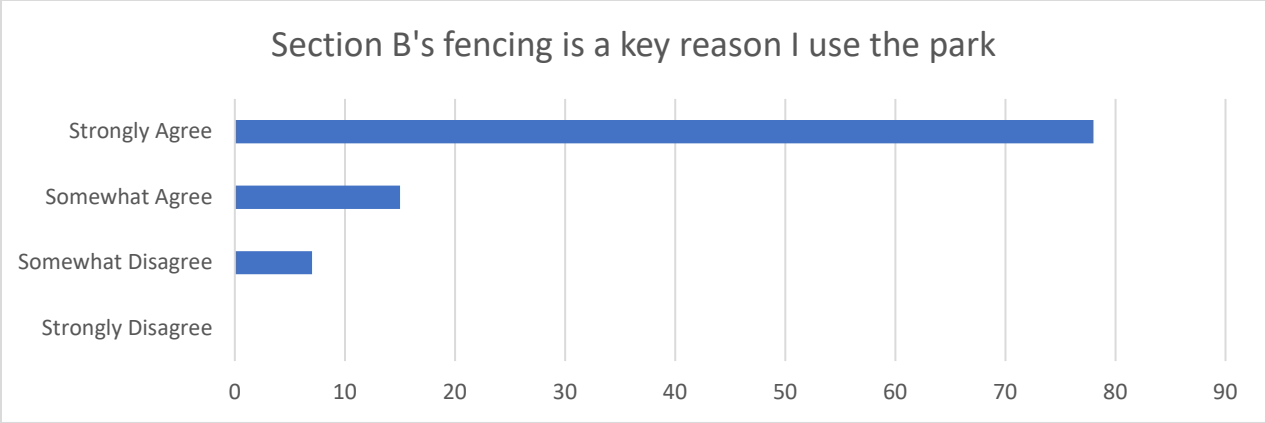












## Open-ended survey questions

### "I choose Section B over other local dog parks because:"

Several themes emerged in response to this question: location/convenience, community, well-behaved dogs/respectful owners, and safety.

*Location/Convenience:* The great majority, **over 59 responses**, indicated that location and/or convenience as "the reason I choose Section B over other local dog parks." The following is just a sample of those responses:

- It's 1 1/2 blocks from my house!
- Location! Also, I like the idea of a central dog park for neighborhood usage and public space.
- So close to my house and fenced.
- Location. I don't want to drive, and this is very convenient.
- Closest and in my community.
- It is close to walk my dog here.
- It is close to where I live. It's a good size but size is not the reason I would choose a park.
- It's most convenient, it's the only walkable dog park from where I live.
- It's local -- we can walk there.
- It is close to my home, safe due to other pedestrian traffic in the area, and other dog owners are friendly and respectful.
- My kids can walk here with our dog after school.
- Its location -- a few blocks from home. My dog as many doggie friends he likes to socialize with that also come here regularly.
- It's part of the neighborhood park.
- It is close to where my swim team practice is and before practice I need to give my dog exercise.
- Is walking distance from my apartment.
- It's close by from where we live so I can walk here with my dog. That helps since my dog doesn't like going in the car for long distances.

#### *Community:*

- It's in our neighborhood & a great way for our dog to socialize and meet neighbors and their dogs. Builds community.
- I like knowing the neighborhood people and dogs.
- Close to my home. Neighborhood feeling. Community of dog owners.
- Local -- nice talking with other Albany dog people.
- close, nice dogs + owners
- The people are great, and the dogs are happy and friendly!
- The dogs are friendlier here, as are the people. Also, a restroom close by, if needed.
- Section B is why I moved here. It is close, clean, and friendly. It brings neighbors together. Dogs create positive communities, they bring people together.
- Section B is very convenient and beneficial for the community.
- \*Love\* "B." Mostly a fantastic group of dogs and people.

#### *Community (continued):*

- It's a communal space and folks are respectful conscientious dog owners; it's an enjoyable respite to be here for both me and my dog.
- Our community at the dog park is wonderful!
- We can walk here, and the community is mostly friendly, helpful, and good with their dogs. (Some dogs would need more training.)

- The owners are nice to my 9-year old.
- Tall fence. Generally nice people.
- It's close, fenced off and there are always other dogs to play with my dog.
- It's a great value to the community.

*Well-behaved dogs/respectful owners:*

- Vast majority of owners are responsible re: their dog's behavior (poop scooping, curbing aggressive dog behavior) and are friendly and respectful toward others. Most pay attention to their dogs (i.e., hardly any are more focused on their phones).
- Both people and dogs are respectful.
- Users follow the rules.
- Well behaved dogs and nice owners. Well-used so almost always a fun/good exercise.
- I can bring work and let my dogs run around while I work. The other users (humans and dogs) are generally very nice.
- Calmness overall; owners largely taking responsibility for dogs' behavior, good mix of small and large dogs due to owners overseeing whether separation of both are necessary. Dog owners are friendly, interactive and knowledgeable about dogs' behavior.
- Dogs are friendlier, owners are respectful, location. I've met people here and have friends nearby. We frequently go to dinner on Solano Avenue after meeting at Section B.
- Proximity and temperament of dogs and people
- Dogs here are better controlled than Pt. Isabel and Ohlone
- Respectful owners -- general safer. Nicer dogs.
- It's mellow for a dog park. Owners pay attention to dogs. No agro dogs very often and when there are-- dogs leave.
- Both the owners and dogs are well behaved and friendly. I have had nothing but great experiences here.
- The people and dogs are all well behaved. It has a great community vibe and my dog loves being able to meet with and play with other dogs there.
- Friendly, responsible dog owners, nice dogs
- good mix of neighborhood dogs, fenced in, good size
- It is a friendlier place to small dogs. Owners control their dogs better than elsewhere.
- It's smaller and the other dogs and owners are very friendly and well behaved (dogs).
- Grass, fence, well-behaved dogs and mindful owners.
- My dog is elderly +15 years old. This is a great, safe and respectful place to socialize dogs.

*Fenced-in/Safe:*

- It is fenced with a high fence and has grass
- I like how people can feel safe when dogs run around.
- It is close by and fenced in (I have a puppy)
- I'm in the day-group -- safe environment. responsible day stewards (mainly) fenced-in is \*very important\*

**“Do you have any other comments or suggestions you’d like to make regarding Section B?”**

- Open year-long and longer hours requested – 18 responses
- Benches requested – 12 responses

- Water source for dogs requested – 14 responses
- Double-door entry to prevent dogs from escaping – 5 responses
- Other responses included requests for trees for shade, lighting, signage, and enforcement.

Appendix C

Albany Dog Park Survey Results

As of 5/28/19

Own or walk a dog?	yes	no										
Total Responses	235	25										
260	90.38%	9.62%										
Right amount of space for dogs:	not enough	right amount	too much	no opinion								
Total Responses	136	90	14	18								
258	52.71%	34.88%	5.43%	6.98%								
How often do you use an off-leash dog area with your pet (in Albany or not)?	once+/day	once+/week	once/week	once/month	few/month	<month						
Total Responses	108	70	21	4	13	24						
240	45.00%	29.17%	8.75%	1.67%	5.42%	10.00%						
How far do you travel to go to an off-leash	few blocks	< mile	1 - 3 miles	3+ miles								
Total Responses	61	51	48	80								
240	25.42%	21.25%	20.00%	33.33%								
How do you usually get to your preferred off-leash dog area?	drive	walk	both	bike*								
Total Responses	80	43	45	4								
172	46.51%	25.00%	26.16%	2.33%								
What area(s) in Albany do you normally use with your off-leash dog?	Albany Beach	Albany Bulb	Section B	Memorial Park	Terrace Park	Greenway near Dartmouth						
Total Responses	101	129	85	27	59	25						
426	23.71%	30.28%	19.95%	6.34%	13.85%							
What area(s) OUTSIDE Of Albany (top fill-in answers)	Pt. Isabel	Tilden & Wildcat Canyon	Berk. Marina	El Cerrito D. Park	Ohlone Dog Park	Pt. Pinole						
Total Responses	122	56	30	8	14	21						
Thinking of your preferred off-leash dog												
Location is a key reason I use the area	strongly disagree	somewhat disagree	somewhat agree	strongly agree								
Total Responses	27	22	70	117								
236	11.44%	9.32%	29.66%	49.58%								
The ground surface is a key reason I use the	strongly disagree	somewhat disagree	somewhat agree	strongly agree								
Total Responses	24	43	109	59								
235	10.21%	18.30%	46.38%	25.11%								
The ground surface is	grass	bark or wood shaving	dirt & misc. veg	paved	other							
Total Responses	163	26	96	6	16							
307	53.09%	8.47%	31.27%	1.95%	5.21%							
						"other" mostly sand						

\* includes responses marked "both and bike," and "drive and bike"



The presence of fencing is a key reason I use the area I use	Total Responses		strongly disagree	somewhat disagree	somewhat agree	strongly agree
	238		54 22.69%	56 23.53%	68 28.57%	60 25.21%
<b>The area's size is a key reason I use the park</b>	<b>Total Responses</b>		<b>strongly disagree</b>	<b>somewhat disagree</b>	<b>somewhat agree</b>	<b>strongly agree</b>
	236		11 4.66%	31 13.14%	103 43.64%	91 38.56%
<b>What is more important, a grass surface for a dog park, or a park that is open for dogs all</b>	<b>Total Responses</b>		<b>Grass</b>	<b>Open all year</b>	<b>no opinion</b>	
	137		47 34.31%	68 49.64%	22 16.06%	
<b>I need:</b>	<b>Total Responses</b>					
	872					
<b>Open all year</b>	166		19.04%			
<b>A varied area</b>	133		15.25%			
<b>A large area</b>	132		15.14%			
<b>Open early</b>	99		11.35%			
<b>An area that doesn't get muddy without small children</b>	85		9.75%			
<b>Closes late</b>	67		7.68%			
<b>An area with shade</b>	57		6.54%			
<b>An area just for small dogs</b>	39		4.47%			
<b>An area where more barking is permissible</b>	32		3.67%			
<b>An area just for large dogs</b>	26		2.98%			
<b>A small area</b>	23		2.64%			
<b>Separate area</b>	12		1.38%			
	1		0.11%			
<b>The Commission knows of a few possible locations for a dog park. Which do you prefer</b>	<b>Total Responses</b>		<b>First Choice</b>	<b>Second choice</b>	<b>Third Choice</b>	
	1378					
<b>Somewhere along the Ohlone Greenway under the BART tracks</b>	193		59	70	64	
<b>score</b>	381					
	<b>27.65%</b>					
<b>Next to the train tracks near and under the</b>	190		61	33	96	
<b>score</b>	345					
	<b>25.04%</b>					
<b>The back of Ocean View Park near the UC Village fence</b>	161		64	45	52	
<b>score</b>	334					
	<b>24.24%</b>					

<b>A partial block of the Key Route Median between Portland and Washington</b>	score	178 318 <b>23.08%</b>	38	64	76			
<b>None of these options are appealing to me</b>		55						
Location/Distance								
Noise								
Dog needs fence, grass characteristics of site								
<b>(see responses on next sheet)</b>								

Suggested locations won't work because:		Fill-in Responses	Other Comments
Suggestions for Dog Park Location			
What we have is great	No. Just spend our high tax dollars on making our current park prettier.		The park we have now is near perfect. There's parking, and it's part of the overall community space that is Memorial Park. The only thing that would make it more perfect is if it was year round. If it was planned like the Berkeley Dog Park that would be smart.
We have plenty of aresas	Definitely not the meridian on Key Route for obvious reasons: traffic danger to dogs and people, balls being lost, limited parking		
Too busy with people and bike riders	I like running or walking with my dogs daily for at least 2 miles. For exercise for my self. Especially in area with a lot of vegetation, it's healthy for my mental health. I liked to run with my dogs for safety since I'm a petite female and usually walk in the evening.		
	Nowhere near the greenway, or cyclists, or pedestrians, or people who actually leash their dogs. Many off leash dogs are not recall trained, and proximity to leashed dogs and bikes and walkers just creates problems. We need a separate area, away from other people and dogs.		
not near bikes, walkers, dogs ON leash.	Ohlone Greenway at Dartmouth is already popular with dogs ... a fenced area here would be very welcome.		
Not as nice as by the Bay			The Bulb (and the beach) are very popular and closing these to dogs would not be. We don't need anymore dog park around the residency area.
Noise, Traffic			We already have memorial park big enough to accommodate dogs. Why don't we use the money we have and upgrade tbe play structures for our kids to play.
			The grass in Section B is great, but unlike El Cerrito and Berkeley (Bruce King, Ohlone) it lacks a source of water, shade, seating and a double-gated entry. All of those things would make it much more dog and owner friendly, as would a small box to store tennis balls so they are not destroyed every time the grass is mowed.
	When I have the time, I use Albany Beach and Bulb. Both are great since my dog is under voice control and loves to swim.		IMO, water is the most critical of these, which used to be available: the garden hose was attached to a splitter, with a hose with an on/off head attached to the other end for Section B. I'm guessing it would cost less than \$100 for you to run a line from the garden into B for a spigot with a low-flow head. Thank you.
	Section B works great when I have less time. Many many people appreciate it because of the fence, and for some, because the fence is tall.		
	Section B works for dogs big and small together...Although little ones occasionally get run over, mostly they are busy bossing the big dogs around and many seem to love the chase. IMO, there's room for both, including little ones who don't want to play.		Finally, decisions about when to close Section B because of rain seem very whimsical. It didn't rain Friday, but wasn't opened until later afternoon. It was open Saturday, although it rained in the afternoon. And it was closed yesterday though there was no rain until late night. The grass doesn't start getting cut up by running dogs until after a couple of days of rain. Perhaps closure could be limited to the second day of rain?
Noise, Safety, Location			
Noise, Location			The Bulb is perfect as is, including the beach. Do not change this. It has worked for and been is enjoyed by all types of people and dogs at many hours of the day for many years. Leave it alone!!!
Noise			Off-leash dog areas should always be fenced areas. My family members and I have been bitten by dogs in the past, and are not comfortable with off-leash dogs running up to us. This happens to us all the time at Albany Bulb. Just as people deserve to not be touched by others without their consent, people deserve to feel safe from off-leash dogs.
Noise			
Noise			
Noise			

<p>Needs to have special area for small dogs</p> <p>My dog needs a tall fence and a grass surface</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Untrained big dogs can be a big problem especially for small dogs. Aggressive owners are also a problem. Perhaps have some enforceable consequences for irresponsible owners.</p> <p>I actually go very rarely (and with my dog on a leash when we do go) to any of the off-leash areas because of unfortunate experiences with aggressive dogs and owners who could or would not call their dog back from a confrontation.</p> <p>I would like to see the dog park remain where it is.</p>
<p>Location, Noise, Characteristics of site, Marginal</p> <p>Location, Noise, Characteristics of site, Dogs need areas where they can move around a lot</p>	<p>I'm not a big fan of dog "parks" because it is too easy for dogs to get into conflicts with one another, but if a dog park was being developed the one by the community garden area would be good.</p>	<p>I am a commercial dog walker and specialize in off leash group hikes. I, and people like me, provide a valuable community service in that we provide the professional folk and their families with quality care for their dogs when they are away at work contributing to the family dog's physical and mental health. The Albany Bulb is a wonderful unrestricted off leash area that is ideal for off leash group hikes. Unfortunately, the way things are currently set up, off leash group dog walkers cannot access the Albany Bulb without first setting up on EBRPD land. Since dog walkers who hold commercial permits with the EBRPD are not permitted at EastShore park, there is no "legal" way for us to access the wonderful Albany Bulb. Would Albany like off leash group dog walkers to be able to access the Bulb open area? If so, then perhaps the city can consider either making an Albany city trail that would create a corridor through the EBRPD land to the Albany bulb, there by opening up access to the bulb, or working out some kind of a deal with EBRPD that would make exceptions for off leash group dog walkers who want to access the Albany bulb. This is a very big issue for off leash group dog walkers. Thank you.</p>
<p>Location, Noise, Characteristics of site, As a woman walking alone with her dog to the park all of these locations feel less safe.</p> <p>Location, Noise, Characteristics of site</p> <p>Location, Noise, Characteristics of site</p>	<p>This survey seems very skewed to create a result that would lead the Commission to move the dog park. Especially the question about what dog owners "need". And then you will act like the owners said they needed x, y, and z so I guess we need to move the Park since Memorial Park doesn't have x, y, and z. This process of providing skewed surveys is very disingenuous. I use the Memorial Park location because it is close to my house and as a woman walking her dog alone the walk feels safe with homes close to the street, light from homes, and others walking. I do not have a suggestion for a location that would provide that plus the human activity around memorial park from the high school and close by homes and the adjacent park that provide "eyes on the street" for women's safety.</p> <p>I'm surprised that you did not include safety as a factor after comments where made about this in your last survey. Does Albany consider a woman's personal safety as a factor when locating a dog park? This survey would suggest that the answer is no.</p> <p>In addition, I live in a shared car household to reduce overall greenhouse gas emissions so may not have a car available to safely transport myself and my dog to a location further away.</p> <p>I think the current location is fine.</p>	<p>Stop trying to close Memorial Park Section B. Albany should provide a safe place for women walking alone to take their dogs. Placing us in a loud area under the BART tracks where people couldn't hear you if you needed to yell for help if you were being raped just won't suffice. It's 2019 Albany. Me, too!</p> <p>By the way, please post information about surveys and meetings at Memorial Park Section B where I will see it. Given the contentious nature of this issue and the fact that the City regularly attempts to move this park, possibly at the request of a very small number of people or just one well connected one, I don't feel comfortable identifying myself here. It is clear from these skewed surveys exactly what result the City is regularly and systematically trying to achieve.</p> <p>We really need a separate park for small dogs only. This is an important safety issue.</p>

Location, Noise, Characteristics of site	I sincerely hope EBRP is able to find a way to oversee dogs at Albany Beach. I love dogs, but the off-leash mayhem often found there makes it unpleasant for responsible on-leash dog owners and other visitors without dogs.
Location, Noise	I'm not sure if we really do need another space for off-leash dogs. Location is paramount, not only for the dogs but for the people. Some place that is remote/isolated could be dangerous. Easy access for neighborhood folks is also key. I like Memorial. I realize there is some friction between the neighbors and some folks in the park, but parks are for everyone, and many Albany residents use and walk to Memorial. Is it possible to have both parks?
Location, Characteristics of site, See below	Please keep Section B open as a dog park, I would not like to "drive" to any dog park-that would be counter productive and not environmentally friendly.
Location, Characteristics of site	Albany Bulb and Beach
Location, Characteristics of site	
Location, Characteristics of site	
Location, Characteristics of site	
Location, Characteristics of site	
Location	why do we need one? I believe you are "grooming" Albany dog owners for impending EVICTION from the Albany Beach which has been available to dogs and humans for decades... No matter how much the beach is raked and PRETTIED UP it is a landfill, and trash continues to pollute the water, making it unsafe for humans- especially children- to swim in... It is unconscionable to make the environment "appear" safe for human water sports, and therefore EXCLUDE dogs from access without full transparency...including signage warning people of tainted water, continuous trash washing ashore, and all the realities of this landfilled, urban streak of sand.
Location	Suggest making it adjacent to a recreational park like they do in the suburbs. Any public park should have some water both for people and dogs. There are elderly who go to the dog park and need sit occasionally, they can not always bring a chair. There should be seating, lighting, water, and poop bags if you are going to make it a dog park.
Location	no
Location	keep the beach/bulb open to dogs!
Location	Dogs are wonderful companions and they love to socialize and run free. I would recommend as many off-leash sites that can Albany can sustain; the parks would be a great asset to the community. The dog owners that I have met at Jewel's Terrace Park have enriched my life. I have never felt so connected to a neighborhood before and I attribute that to the wonderful friends I have made at Jewel's Terrace Park .
Location	Albany Hill is good for both me and the dog. We both get a good workout on the trails. It seems lightly used and we never have a problem with other dogs. I'm surprised more people don't walk their dogs on the Hill.
Location	
Location	
Location	
Location	
Location	Yes, your survey is in error about East Bay Regional Parks. East Bay Regional Parks doesn't allow dogs in any area that is undeveloped.
Location	
Location	
Location	what is your agenda? Off leash dogs are INDEED permitted on East Bay Regional Parks Properties-- in designated areas-- and the Albany Beach is MORE than appropriate an area for off leash dog use. It only needs be "designated" as such.
Location	I understand there have been noise complaints about dogs at the Albany dog park but the baseball games and gives practices are louder.
Location	no
Location	

Location		
Location		
I prefer to walk some distance, Characteristics of site	I'm pretty satisfied with Albany Hill, the beach, and the bulb. I only occasionally use Memorial Park Area B for socialization. As I said above, I prefer to take long walks with my dog rather than stay in place and throw balls, etc.	
I like Albany Memorial Park location	the dogs dont bark! The people purchased houses across from a park. They must hear park sounds.	
I don't think we need a dog park. Pt Isabel is so close and big enough Also there are plenty of off leash places for dogs		Off leash area must be away from car traffic or it must be fenced.
Fencing is essential since all are near car traffic		The presence of foxtails strongly influences whether I will use an area for off leash exercise for my dogs.
Don't need Pt Isabelle is huge and fine	Yeah enforce no dogs on Albany beach. Those assholes make all of us look bad.	The size of the dog park is very important since overcrowded areas may lead to negative interactions among dogw.
Characteristics of site, Noise, Location	Most of these are really bad ideas!	Enforce on-leash areas better!!!
Characteristics of site, Noise	Is there anywhere near Albany Hill?	We don't need additional dog park space, really. What we have is sufficient.
Characteristics of site, No fence. Trains scare the dogs	Leave it where it is, dedicate Section. B as a dog park. Install those big belly bins, much needed there. And provide a water source. It's a nice, mellow scene there now. Don't do anything to spoil it,	Yes. Designate part of Albany Beach for dogs Dog owners are big users of Albany Beach. Don't shut us out.
Characteristics of site, My dog does not do well in small enclosed dog parks		My main priority is to keep the Bulb as off-leash
Characteristics of site, Location	The type of dog park that we need in our area needs to be a gated park that isn't next to high traffic areas!!! Many dog owners have small /young children or have dogs that are sessile to loud sounds; why would you even, for a SINGLE moment, consider some of these sites? Then there is the issue of the air pollution!! Under the freeway next to train tracks???? On the Key Route Median...aka in the middle of the bloody street???? Are you serious??? It seems to me that these so-called options are really this Commission's slap in the face of dog owners in this area!	Any type of dog park needs to be in a safe, well-lit area free from trash and not in an area where it will sit unused because the air is unbreathable!
Characteristics of site, Distance (If im driving, I might as well go to pt Isabel)		
Characteristics of site	Yes, The bulb and beach as they have been for the last 30 years	Why take away a resource that our community has utilized for decades.
Characteristics of site	I would suggest a place like Peggy Thomsen Pierce park which is not widely used, but has some open space and would serve those on the other side of Albany from the dog park at Memorial Park.	I'm not a dog owner, but I understand the need for dogs to have a space in which they can roam, unleashed. However, as a parent, I don't feel that we should compromise the limited green space we have for our children & families by making them more dog-friendly. We shouldn't have to worry about our kids stepping in dog poop or being overwhelmed by large dogs in their play spaces. Dogs should have a separate space. Please keep Albany Bulb and Beach as it is!
Characteristics of site		A portion of the Albany Beach would be perfect year round. HOWEVER, there would need to be a protective fence to prevent dogs who chase noisy vehicles from running up onto the road and endangering themselves/getting hit.
Characteristics of site		
Characteristics of site		

<p>Characteristics of site</p>	<p>You state that East Bay Regional Parks don't allow off-leash dogs - not true!! If an area is undeveloped and there are dirt trails, unless there is wildlife in the area that would be greatly disturbed by the dogs they are not allowed off-leash. With a few exceptions dogs are allowed almost everywhere else.</p> <p>Would like Terrace Park to be fenced for dogs. Nothing in area.</p>	<p>One of the only major problems where there are a lot of dogs are the 1% of owners who think they can let their dogs do whatever they want, and if there's an altercation it's always the other dog's fault. Maybe Albany could require owners to purchase a tag for each of their dogs. If the dog is involved in too many altercations or if it ever attacks another dog or a person, they lose their tag for that dog and it is not allowed in off-leash areas. That would solve a lot of problems.</p>
<p>Why do we have to pick just one of the places above? We should have a small area fenced along Key Route, Ohlone Greenway, AND large fenced area under the highway. It's about time Albany provided safe spaces for our large population of dogs and their owners to play and socialize.</p>	<p>I noticed the new park on Pierce is barely used by anyone. Since I'm an Albany resident and I live 2 blocks away, I drive by daily. I also know that during the planning for this area, many people advocated for a fenced area for dogs. I, and many other people, went to meetings, walked the space, filled out forms, and spoke to council about need for an official fenced dog park in Albany. But when final choices for plans were revealed...NO dog space at all in any of them! I felt unheard and defeated and I gave up trying to help Albany create it's first OFFICIAL dog park. I consider that park to include a safe, fenced area with a double entry gate that provides water to drink and bags for waste. Preferably no foxtails! It would help if foxtails are cut when starting to grow before they start to make seeds.</p> <p>I like the space under the highway IF there is a high secure fence to prevent escape. I've seen a dog that ran from Pt Isabel onto 80 and get run over many times. It was horrific and must be avoided.</p> <p>I have been attacked by off-leash dogs in Albany at Memorial Park. It has been taken over by dog owners.</p> <p>Dog areas should be on-leash, have trash cans and offer pickup bags.</p> <p>A double gate is important so dogs don't run out when someone opens the gate. Please consider a double gate.</p> <p>A small section for small dogs would be ideal. Big dogs tend to take over the dog parks and little dogs need socialization also.</p> <p>Are all the options listed under the question, "What area(s) in Albany do you normally use with your off-leash dog?" actually all legally off-leash? I was not aware of this. As a dog owner, I get frustrated with people who bring their dogs to on-leash areas and make the rest of us look bad! That's why I strongly support designated areas to let our furry friends hang out!</p>	<p>I noticed the new park on Pierce is barely used by anyone. Since I'm an Albany resident and I live 2 blocks away, I drive by daily. I also know that during the planning for this area, many people advocated for a fenced area for dogs. I, and many other people, went to meetings, walked the space, filled out forms, and spoke to council about need for an official fenced dog park in Albany. But when final choices for plans were revealed...NO dog space at all in any of them! I felt unheard and defeated and I gave up trying to help Albany create it's first OFFICIAL dog park. I consider that park to include a safe, fenced area with a double entry gate that provides water to drink and bags for waste. Preferably no foxtails! It would help if foxtails are cut when starting to grow before they start to make seeds.</p> <p>I like the space under the highway IF there is a high secure fence to prevent escape. I've seen a dog that ran from Pt Isabel onto 80 and get run over many times. It was horrific and must be avoided.</p> <p>I have been attacked by off-leash dogs in Albany at Memorial Park. It has been taken over by dog owners.</p> <p>Dog areas should be on-leash, have trash cans and offer pickup bags.</p> <p>A double gate is important so dogs don't run out when someone opens the gate. Please consider a double gate.</p> <p>A small section for small dogs would be ideal. Big dogs tend to take over the dog parks and little dogs need socialization also.</p> <p>Are all the options listed under the question, "What area(s) in Albany do you normally use with your off-leash dog?" actually all legally off-leash? I was not aware of this. As a dog owner, I get frustrated with people who bring their dogs to on-leash areas and make the rest of us look bad! That's why I strongly support designated areas to let our furry friends hang out!</p>
<p>We already devote enough area to dogs in Albany.</p>	<p>Those are good choices-I really like Key Route.</p>	<p>I have been attacked by off-leash dogs in Albany at Memorial Park. It has been taken over by dog owners.</p>
<p>There's already Memorial Park Section B right near Portland and Washington, so I don't see a high need there. Right now, there's not much my dog and I can walk to from our place on Kains and Marin, so I see more of a location need in our area. We have to drive to Memorial Park Section B. Also, I 100% want the dog park to have grass and to be free of fox tails - it's the sole reason we go to Memorial Park Section B in the spring and summer instead of Point Isabel or Sibley. I also 100% oppose putting a dog park under the BART tracks. Most dogs I know, including my own, are absolutely terrified of Bart. I don't like being under the loud screeching noise, either.</p>	<p>There's already Memorial Park Section B right near Portland and Washington, so I don't see a high need there. Right now, there's not much my dog and I can walk to from our place on Kains and Marin, so I see more of a location need in our area. We have to drive to Memorial Park Section B. Also, I 100% want the dog park to have grass and to be free of fox tails - it's the sole reason we go to Memorial Park Section B in the spring and summer instead of Point Isabel or Sibley. I also 100% oppose putting a dog park under the BART tracks. Most dogs I know, including my own, are absolutely terrified of Bart. I don't like being under the loud screeching noise, either.</p>	<p>I have been attacked by off-leash dogs in Albany at Memorial Park. It has been taken over by dog owners.</p>

<p>Regarding the above checklist with phrases that complete the sentence, "I need": When cities make dog parks they are responding to a desire by some citizens to let their dogs run unleashed. It's fun and makes the owner and the dog happier. They don't NEED a dog park. They WANT one. I might use a dog park if it has a very large area. Small dog parks that are crowded seem to have lots of fights, not only among dogs but also among dog owners! Also my dogs have contracted more than a few illnesses from crowded dog parks, so I stay away from most of them. This is why I chose the "under the freeway" option as the one that is most like the Bulb or Pt Isabel in terms of open space. Memorial Park and Terrace park are more formal, small urban parks and are not appropriate for a dog park.</p>	<p>The Memorial Park lawn should absolutely be off the table for consideration. In the 1990's a great deal of work was done (by park and rec as well as by citizens) to clear the open space along Washington and it is intended to be just that: OPEN. This means that it is not dedicated for permanent use by any one special group. Most of the park is already covered with a maze of chain link, including the corner dog park which was enclosed despite promises by park officials at the time that there would not be a dog park there. PLEASE DO NOT CARVE UP AND GIVE OUT ANY MORE OF MEMORIAL PARK. The ideas above are ok for shorter exercise times but it feels critical to keep the Bulb and the Beach off leash areas. Somewhere separate from kids' play areas and preferably fenced off. see my comment above. There are so many dogs in terrace Park on a daily basis that my children can't play in the main grassy area of the park. Pierce St Park</p>	<p>I think fences are a must if near roads or kids. NOTE: MOST of what you list up top are not dog parks. Jewels' Terrace Park is a kids playground/park. Memorial Park Main Lawn is for kids too, not fenced, next to a road, not designated for dogs. Albany Beach and Bulb are basically the same place. Ohlone Greenway is a skinny little area next to a main road and not fenced. So "off leash areas for dogs" in Albany is basically Section B and Albany Bulb/Beach.</p>
<p>I'm hoping for continued shared space at Terrace and the beach. Albany dog owners I have seen are very careful and considerate so that other park users can enjoy themselves too.</p>	<p>No, but I think having as many designated dog parks as possible is a good goal. I fervently hope that dogs can continue to share the space at Jewell's Terrace Park. I also very much hope the East Bay Regional Park District will find a way to allow well behaved off-leash dogs to share Albany Beach. Maybe during early morning and/or on one end of the beach.</p>	<p>I believe that dog parks are beneficial to our community and our growth as a city. They are enjoyable for dogs and people with dogs. I have even seen families go to memorial park section b to play with dogs even if they do not have dogs of their own.</p>
<p>We are not an island. Albany doesn't have to provide large spaces for large dogs to run because Albany doesn't have any such large spaces. But Albany does need to address the issue to the best of its ability in Albany (which you are doing) and also make sure that coordination is maintained for use of larger dog spaces in larger neighboring cities--i.e. Richmond/Pt. Richmond and Berkeley.</p>	<p>Next to the new playground on Pierce street Most areas mentioned involve traffic hazards (I've checked the two that don't), or hazards because of conflict with homeless people--another significant problem. I suggest one large, fenced space with no such hazards--i.e. in back of Ocean View Park (although I am not familiar with it specifically), and then small areas throughout the community--many of them. Areas were the dogs wouldn't be running a distance (and therefore open to traffic hazards) but instead would be free to walk around and sniff a bit.</p>	<p>We are not an island. Albany doesn't have to provide large spaces for large dogs to run because Albany doesn't have any such large spaces. But Albany does need to address the issue to the best of its ability in Albany (which you are doing) and also make sure that coordination is maintained for use of larger dog spaces in larger neighboring cities--i.e. Richmond/Pt. Richmond and Berkeley.</p>



	<p>Memorial Park section B is OK as is. Memorial Park main lawn should NOT be for off leash dogs. If a dog area is going on the Greenway, then it should be located near Dartmouth and would need to be fenced (a low fence is probably OK). Beach and Bulb area is also OK but there is zero enforcement of off leash dogs at the beach.</p> <p>Median is a terrible idea. There is too much traffic and high school kids around there. I know because I walk my dog on leash by that very same median almost everyday. High school kids are terrible drivers, and there's a lack of parking spaces already. Don't invite people and dogs to an already busy area.</p> <p>Keep the beach accessible for dogs. Please find some way to work with the Parks District to have a water area for dogs. I am here every day with my lab and I have not yet witnessed any issues with people or dogs. Pt Isabel shows how we can have lots of dogs and lots of people and kids walking around without significant issues.</p> <p>The beach is an easy way for dogs to swim and Pt Isabel is very hard for dogs to get down to the water over the boulders.</p> <p>keep section B, even if only open part of the year</p> <p>Keep it where it is now in section B and put in water, double gate, benches and more hours</p> <p>Jewel Terrace</p> <p>It would be great to have a dog park</p> <p>Similar to NYC that had a lot of benches around the perimeter so people can relax and socialize while their dogs play in the middle. Bruce among is a pretty good example for the under the bart tracks idea, but it would be great if it had more benches.</p> <p>I walk at these places now because few people are there. I wait till later at night to walk and early morning so there are less people and dogs around.</p> <p>I think the community garden area is too small.</p> <p>I love the Memorial Park Section B! It's perfect size, location, everything except for winter closure. And of course the Bulb is the best spot for dogs in the whole East Bay. Thank you for doing some mowing there to keep the fox tails cut.</p> <p>I love the idea of more space for dogs to be off leash even if it doesn't work for my dog. Dogs will be happier and healthier if there's a place to let dogs run that's easy to get to for their busy guardians. So happy to have the Bulb as an option for my dog now as she needs more space and can easily move away from dogs she doesn't want to interact with.</p>
<p>off leash areas need to be fenced. the only exception would be the bulb; everything else would need to be fenced. there are too many pedestrians, cyclists, children, not to mention vehicular traffic in close proximity with off leash dogs.</p> <p>Ohlone, Jewels, and Memorial Main lack fences, and with too much foot and car traffic nearby, it's easy for dogs and people to get injured, so they are not good ideas for off-leash, unless fences are installed. Places like the Albany bulb or Pt Isabelle are not fenced in, but they are far away from busy traffic, so they are much safer for dogs and people.</p>	<p>keep section B, even if only open part of the year</p> <p>Dogs seem unwelcome at section b. I think under the bart tracks is ideal because the neighbors are already used to noise and likely have double lanes windows and other sound barriers.</p>
	<p>Thank you for trying to bring more dog friendly space to Albany!</p>

	<p>I love dog. I love people. I do not particularly love "dog people." Albany's parks are not in great shape -- we all know that. So, whether through volunteering or paying more taxes -- the parks could look a lot better.</p> <p>The weeds on the Key Route Boulevard median as of today 5/15 between Washington and Portland must be two feet high. So, the idea to put more money into capital -- when we are unable to maintain current facilities is a non-starter in my mind.</p> <p>I don't live on that particular block of Key Route -- but that idea is a terrible one. Sorry.</p> <p>Also -- I don't think it is/was appropriate to only survey folks who identify as "dog walkers" in this survey.</p> <p>Have an agility course! Include benches for owners and water fountain. Small dog section. Plant trees for shaded areas. Have dog cleanups and refuse receptacles. Signage prohibits non neutered pets over 6months in age.</p>	<p>Use Pt. Isabel. Even if that is an EBRPD facility -- Albany is not a position to provide all things to all people.</p>
	<p>Gill Track.</p>	<p>Ohlone Greenway is used for too many other purposes to consider putting fencing up in certain areas</p>
	<p>Expand the Bulb beautification and the development of a bike pedestrian dogwalk way to connect with Gilman</p>	<p>the dog enclosure at Memorial Park too small, muddy &amp; similar to a prison yard for my dog, but recognize it serves a purpose for many Albanians. Would like to see the Bulb rival Point Isabel as a destination for dogs</p>
	<p>DO NOT PUT THIS ON KEY ROUTE! This area is already trashed and we don't need more people in this space. It's far too small for more traffic. Why isn't the existing space at memorial park good enough?! It's fenced in and large enough for multiple dogs.</p> <p>I do not want a dog park at Jewels Terrace Park. The small grassy area is already dominate by dogs and it's not ideal for children to play because of the constant poop. Wish no dogs were allowed there</p> <p>By Ovean View lark is too secluded, I would not feel safe</p> <p>Between Francis apartments and Abrams Art gallery on Solano between Evelyn and Masonic.</p> <p>Berkeley Marina and Pt Isabel are close and have good off leash areas. Not sure Albany needs more than what is already in use.</p> <p>Beach at Golden gate fields</p> <p>Back of Ocean View park near UC village fence probably best.</p>	<p>The current space on Thousand Oaks by memorial park is fine and the waterfront is fine. No additional space is needed for dogs. You need upgrades for human children at jewels terrace park (get rid of the sand) and memorial park.</p>
		<p>We need them!</p>
		<p>Is the suggested one by the train tracks the undeveloped part of Peggy Thomsen's Park? If so, it's a bad idea. There should be more of a field for children to play and run.</p>
		<p>The bulb</p>
		<p>We need one on the westside (west of San Pablo Ave.)!</p>

<p>Terrace Park is at a saturation point of dogs; particularly of those whose owners have neither command nor control of their animals. The tennis courts are being used as kennels and latrines for dogs in spite of the feckless signage prohibiting dogs to be brought onto the courts. There have been loud and vicious dog fights that have simultaneously startled the children in the play area at the north end that also stopped tennis games at the south end of the park.</p> <p>Much like having a driver's licence, bringing an animal into a public area should be a privilege, not a right. Terrace Park is a very small neighborhood park and should not become an official city-wide dog park. And, just as there is a 'natural' limit to the number of kids who can be on the swings at a time, or tennis players on the courts, there should be a limit to the number of dogs from the neighborhood as well. But how to enforce that?</p> <p>If the City of Albany decides to go into the "dog park business" it must have personnel on site to observe activities (why not, public pools must have lifeguards) and be authorized to cite owners and impound their animals for egregious violations of ordinances (e.g. 'Meter Minders' enforcing vehicular misdemeanors). The Albany "Pooch Patrol" would also have to cover all the other non-dog parks and/or be able to be rapidly dispatched to one if a there's a "dog problem". There should at least be a 24/7 means of contacting/reporting to municipal authorities about incidents with canines.</p> <p>Could the city finance the dog parks with a mandatory 'Albany Dog Licence' fee that would be a means of regulating miscreant owners/pets? Such a "user's tax" for dog owners thus would be a more equitable 'quality of life issue' to non-dog owners.</p>		
<p>Having a smaller separate fenced area next to the main dog area for small dogs would be much, much safer than one large field. I've seen way too many small dogs get injured from rough play and/or high prey drive dogs.</p>	<p>Anywhere but Terrace Park, thank you.</p> <p>Albany Hill is not an option because of year round poison oak which the dogs brush up against and the rub off on humans. Dogs must be on leash if walking Albany Hill!</p> <p>Albany hill is far from all fenced off-leash dog areas, Peggy Thomsen Pierce Street Park would be an ideal area as it is a large, mostly unused field.</p> <p>Albany beach</p>	
<p>We don't need any more.</p>	<p>Absolutely NOT under BART- terribly loud and far far too many people and very small children walking, playing and riding (often learning how to) on all varying kinds of fast moving wheeled modes of transportation as it is a major thoroughfare connecting our community. The wider sections of the greenway are used by far too many residents of Albany for varying activities to designate it solely for dogs.</p> <p>--Memorial Park is a fine location, but it needs an enclosed area for small dogs.</p> <p>--Key Route Median and Ohlone Greenway sound OK but maybe too small, particularly if open to large dogs. Also, the El Cerrito Dog Park is horrible (wood chips, noise, size) and seems to invite loiterers without dogs.</p> <p>--Ocean View Park sounds nice but it's not far from Albany Beach and Bulb; it would be better to have something in the middle of town, walkable to more neighborhoods.</p>	

	<p>You have a space that is already being utilized by a good number of people. Why would you take that away? It is one of the better fenced dog parks in the area.</p>
	<p>While we don't have a dog, we appreciate well behaved off leash dogs at Terrace Park.</p>
	<p>I think we should have a dedicated dog park area and prefer the BART or I-80 locations because they minimize the number of households that would be subject to more noise than already present at those sites.</p>
	<p>While I love having my dog off-leash, it is really important to me that people who are afraid of dogs don't feel at greater risk from dog parks.</p>
	<p>Three dog limit vs the current two dog limit per person. Residential households are allowed to have three dogs, so limiting their ability to walk all their dogs at once is very inconvenient. My experience with three dog households is that one of the dogs is generally senior, which makes them very low impact. EBRPD has a 3 dog limit.</p>
	<p>These areas are wonderful - connecting people, getting them outside, growing happy, well-socialized dogs, adding to the community character of Albany. Section B is a very well utilized walking destination. 11am is a late opening time so I'd suggest we consider other possibilities, as well as add simple water availability and a place for poop pickup bags to encourage good people behavior.</p>
	<p>the memorial park area is never open!! so discouraged by trying to get information about when it is open, and then why it is closed</p>
	<p>the key route median option is a dangerous idea. there are power lines overhead, people would be crossing the street (likely not in crosswalks) and it is a very busy street. there are also random tree branches that fall from the trees to the ground.</p>
	<p>The dog friendliness of the Albany Bulb was a factor in choosing to move here from Oakland.</p>
	<p>Thanks!</p>
	<p>Thanks for working with dog owners to find outdoor spaces for our dogs!!</p>
	<p>Should be away from encampments so the dogs and kids do not come in contact with needles and human wastes</p>
	<p>Set a fine with citizen reporting dog owners who let their off-leash dogs roam without supervision. The dog poops and the owner doesn't see it because he/she is reading their phone or has their head down. I've also witnessed at Terrace Park, owner who lets her big dogs off leash in the park and she isn't even there. They poop and no one picks it up.</p>
	<p>Please put poop bags up in more parks. I can't find any anywhere near Solano</p>
	<p>Please add more signage in Albany parks as to which areas are off leash areas and which areas are not as non dog owners with small children get concerned.</p>
	<p>No off leash at Albany Beach</p>
	<p>Maybe some of the Bulb could be fenced in? (Not the owl area!) I can't think of anything else.</p>

	<p>Many people want dog parks so that their dogs can play with other dogs. I think that's a fine reason. We don't need to socialize our dog and what we need is simply to maintain the option to allow him off leash in open grassy public areas. Our dog, unlike some dogs in Albany, is very well-controlled even off leash. Our main concern is that dogs like ours, who are well behaved and controlled off leash i.e. have good recall even if they see another dog, do not run into the street nor approach other people or animals-should continue to be allowed to be off leash in Albany. Thank you!</p>
	<p>Make sure people are penalized for not picking up after their dogs. It's a huge problem on Ohlone and Memorial</p>
	<p>keep the bulb available for commercial dog walkers, keep the beach available for off leash dogs</p>
	<p>Keep beach/waster access</p>
	<p>It would be wonderful to have an park away from crabby homeowners that could be open early (5:30am), or open 24/7.</p>
	<p>It would be very helpful to have a section only for small dogs like the Berkeley Ohlone park which is half big dog play area and half small dog.</p>
	<p>It needs to be large enough for dogs who are not very social to get exercise without lots of social interactions.</p>
	<p>I'd like to see an agility course.</p>
	<p>I'm very happy with Terrace Park</p>
	<p>I say leave the area in Memorial Park alone. It is one place kids can play and have some safe space. Key Route is also inappropriate--too narrow, too crowded with people and kids. How would people get around the fenced off area?</p>
	<p>I really really appreciate the section B park. I rely on this park close to 2x per day and it is in walking distance for my kids to help. I hope this access stays. If it does, a few little improvements would make it even better; a bench for elder or disabled to sit, a small shade structure, and water access.</p>
	<p>I only support adding off leash areas IF you make it illegal to walk your dog off leash anywhere in Albany except these parks. I'm tired of having to cross streets illegally to avoid dogs running at me and my leashed dog. I'm tired of hearing "my dog is friendly" from people who don't understand not everyone wants their dog to jump on them. People have been injured by off leash dogs. Time to put and end to it.</p>
	<p>I live near Terrace park and have two dogs. I find the park adequate for well behaved dogs but avoid it when there are lots of people present. I think the beach and Bulb are fantastic dog off leash areas but require driving. A good central Albany location is Key Route median between Washington and Solano. It is a little narrow but maybe could be widened at the Washington end by expanding into the street and losing the median side parking.</p>
	<p>I like off leash at Albany beach and Albany bulb. We go almost every day. Keep it legal.</p>
	<p>I hope it's not a done deal that you're getting rid of Memorial Park Section B.</p>
	<p>I have a service dog and most off-leash areas won't work due to possibility of aggressive dogs and un-vaccinated dogs</p>
	<p>I don't want it where there is a lot of noise from BART</p>

<p>I do not support adding off-leash dog parks at Albany Beach or at the Albany Bull. Shoreline birds and other wildlife have limited areas to move in and out of the Bay, and off-leash parks are not appropriate in these areas. If new dog parks are necessary, please build them away from the shore.</p>	
<p>I am generally against adding more dog parks in Albany, especially at Albany Beach, Ohlone @ Dartmouth, and Memorial &amp; Terrace Parks.</p>	
<p>For those of us with sighthounds (Greyhounds, Salukis), fencing is mandatory!</p>	
<p>Fencing is key!</p>	
<p>Change the rule EBRPD has about off leash at Albany Beach and Bull.</p>	
<p>Can dog parks provide plastic bags for dogs' waste? That would help maintain the environment!</p>	
<p>Any new parks need GATES to keep the pets safe - a 'double' entry gate would be best if possible in case someone forgets to latch it. Thank you for putting this together - it's much appreciated.</p>	
<p>Albany needs several good dog parks/dog play areas/off-leash areas.</p>	
<p>The use of Albany Beach for many activities, including walking with off-leash dogs, is HIGHLY supported by Albany residents. While Albany doesn't own or manage the beach, the City's support for off-leash dog-walking on the beach is very important to residents and voters.</p>	
<p>A neighborhood park that residents can walk to instead of driving is the most important factor for me. I often don't go to a park now because it means driving, and I would go more often if I had one closer. That said, there should be street parking available nearby for those who do want to drive. In my opinion the best location is the Greenway, near Dartmouth. Lots of foot traffic with dogs in the neighborhood, plenty of parking. Thank you!</p>	

Appendix D

PUBLIC FEEDBACK May 30th, 2019 Dog Park Workshop. Butcher paper was set up for each of these topics some of which included "PRO" and "CON" sections. Some were primarily asking about existing usage for dogs while others were asking specifically about proposed dog park locations. Attendees wrote the comments shown and then were later given opportunities to put a limited number of dots next to statements PRO or CON they agreed with. Some people used the pens to mark checks next to statements before the dot stickers were made available so both are tallied here.		
<b>Terrace Park - Pro - Existing Usage</b>	Checks	Dots
Very popular w/ locals (with & w/o dogs & kids). Works!		
<b>Terrace Park - Con - Existing Usage</b>		
Right smack in the middle of homes?		
How will homeowners react?		
Very limited parking		
So many young children play there	1	3
No parking/lack of access		1
Surrounded by neighbors		
No fence		
<b>Albany Bulb - Pro - Existing Usage</b>		
Great area for dogs & people to walk together		2
great open space		
Keep the buulb wild!!! Maintain its uniqueness		
Some of us like to have a large space to work with our dogs. We love the bulb for that I do not want ot sit around. My dog is my exercise machine.		3
Beach is great, dogs love it, I have never seen any poop on the beach. And families do bring little kids there, and dogs & kids both get along well, no problems.		3
Nieck/bulb/plateau an excellet as-is for dog recreation + human enjoyment		3
Wildness feeling/small trails		1
doesn't feel crowded		1
Excellent multi-use space that works well for all kinds of dogs.		5
Love the Bulb, ALDOG (Albany Landfill Dog Owners Group) & others very active in beach cleanups, native plants, etc.		2
Wild! Great for people's spirits as well as dogs. Dual purpose.		1
ART		3
Kids love to come and see the birds & other wild things		
<b>Albany Bulb - Con - Existing Usage</b>		
no water to drink human/dogs		
commercial dog walkers need to be regulated and limit on number of dogs per walker. No "bunching" with multiple walkers. Enforce cleanup rules.		1
fox tails - would you weed whack?		1
poison oak is getting a real foothold ... ugh so bad		2
Need more community clean up events		1
possible wild animals/ticks		
there's no fence		7
dogs eat dead things		
dog climb down cliff		

safety - can feel very isolated (yes, night safety issues, crime/car break-ins? transients, drug use, no real security??)		
some people are scared of/do not like dogs. They used not to be able to use the bulb at all		1
<b>Ohlone @ Dartmouth - Pro - Existing Usage</b>		
nice spot for community to gather w/ dog		
near BART (tolerance to noise implied)		1
kids use for games - soccer/catch etc.		
seems perfect. Keep it the way it is! (maybe fenced). Love it.		1
<b>Ohlone @ Dartmouth - Con - Existing Usage</b>		
no fence along street		1
creek area tends to invite transient population		
neighbors noise complaints		
<b>Memorial Park, Section B – Pro Dog Park Location</b>		
<b>Statement</b>	<b>Checks</b>	<b>Dots</b>
Enclosed area		1
Close to many neighborhoods		1
Tall fence		1
Other amenities around		
Not too big		
Parking is easy to find		1
Sense of community		1
Although a couple neighbors seem upset, the recent survey shows most are actually fine with the dog's being there		1
Community – safe- location, therefore, mostly respectful dog people and dogs		1
People already use it and love it		1
Great "pocket park" that serves many		
Should be open all year		
<b>Memorial Park, Section B – CON Dog Park Location</b>		
<b>Statement</b>	<b>Checks</b>	<b>Dots</b>
Not enough dog rules signs "no barking"		
No water (response: needs City to improve it not reason for CON))		
Bench especially for elderly and physically disabled (response: amenity needed)		1
Already pretty much a dog park, anti-dog park residents of the area expressing their disapproval on "Nextdoor" (response: small number)		1
Proximity to homes (50 feet) (this issue will be true anywhere in Albany) (not as bad under fwy or Albany Bulb)		2
Congested area (baseball park, day care)		2
No dog park amenities (water, gates, year around surface)		
Too tall fencing, there is too much chain link in Memorial Park already		1
Needs to be open all year		1
<b>Memorial Park, Section B – Alternate usage</b>		
<b>Statement</b>	<b>Checks</b>	<b>Dots</b>
Open space!! Tall chain link is inappropriate for this urban park		
None		



<b>Open Space near train tracks/freeway – Pro Dog Park Location</b>		
<b>Statement</b>	<b>Checks</b>	<b>Dots</b>
Interesting option to explore further! Could be whole new model for great use of "desolate" spaces		3
Far away from public, big enough for dogs to play and recreate.		2
No worries of disaporoving anti-dog park residents	1	1
No problem re: dog bark noise pollution		
Very intriguing idea -- lots of "pros"-- open space, large, parking, lack of neighbors to disturb, no noise problems.	1	
I like it if fences are high to secure to keep dog off freeway and foxtails clear		1
Westside of San Pablo Ave in Albany is most desperately in need of a fenced dog park!		1
<b>Open Space near train tracks/freeway – Con Dog Park Location</b>		
<b>Statement</b>	<b>Checks</b>	<b>Dots</b>
If I'm driving all the way here, I might as well go to the Bulb which is bigger.	1	1
Feels isolated, thus --unsafe. How, who will respond when issues with people using, drinking, etc. use space? This happens at King.		3
Air quality near freeway? And noise?	2	
Not close to neighborhood - not easy to walk to		
Unclear on access/crossing tracks?		
Would there be water to drink?		
Safety --Is it too isolated?		
Noise pollution, safety, access, parking		1
<b>Amenities Desired for a Dog Park</b>		
<b>Statement</b>	<b>Checks</b>	<b>Dots</b>
Fencing (higher than hip)	6	7
...at least 4 ft	4	4
Water spigot	9	5
Year-round availability	6	2
Small dog section	1	
Seating/benches (elderly + physically challenged)	2	2
Tables	1	1
Signage (no barking, dogs must be spayed/neutered facing into park)		5
Double gates	3	4
Year-round surface (bark)	1	
I am strongly against high chain-link fences (aesthetically) what are the alternatives for fencing, and does it have to be 6ft?		1
No bark. Hard on feed, and some dogs ingest it		
Trees (shade. aesthetics)	5	4
Hillocks - not just flat, fenced rectangle		1
Tall fencing (around 6ft)	1	3
wheelchair access		
poop bags	1	2
garbage pickup		2
Netting to protect from baseballs	2	1
<b>Statement</b>	<b>Checks</b>	<b>Dots</b>
Fencing (higher than hip)	6	7
...at least 4 ft	4	4

Water spigot	9	5
Year-round availability	6	2
Small dog section	1	
Seating/benches (elderly + physically challenged)	2	2
Tables	1	1
Signage (no barking, dogs must be spayed/neutered facing into park)		5
Double gates	3	4
Year-round surface (bark)	1	
I am strongly against high chain-link fences (aesthetically) what are the alternatives for fencing, and does it have to be 6ft?		1
No bark. Hard on feed, and some dogs ingest it		
Trees (shade. aesthetics)	5	4
Hillocks - not just flat, fenced rectangle		1
Tall fencing (around 6ft)	1	3
wheelchair access		
poop bags	1	2
garbage pickup		2
Netting to protect from baseballs	2	1
<b>Location: Key Route - Pros</b>		
<b>Statement</b>	<b>Checks</b>	<b>Dots</b>
Close to many neighborhoods	1	2
centrally located	1	
Bright, safe, easy to patrol	1	
Noise-tolerant area (close to BART)	2	3
Close enough to Section B that it might lessen congestion there (by splitting up usage)	1	
Fences above waist, please	1	4
<b>Location: Key Route - Cons</b>		
<b>Statement</b>	<b>Checks</b>	<b>Dots</b>
Too narrow	2	3
Possibly dangerous for dogs to escape and run into continuous vehicular traffic	1	
Too close to Memorial Park Section B	3	3
Neighbors? Same possible issues as Section B	1	
Too close to Albany High School		
Lack of parking when school is in session	2	
<b>Location: Ohlone Greenway - Pros</b>		
<b>Statement</b>	<b>Checks</b>	<b>Dots</b>
Depends on where		
Dartmouth toward Gilman	1	
Near lots of people with dogs. I think it would be well used	2	1
Safe feeling - open		2
<b>Location: Ohlone Greenway - Cons</b>		
<b>Statement</b>	<b>Checks</b>	<b>Dots</b>
BART could be disruptively loud		

People go running/exercising/biking, cutting off a section could affect access for some of these people		
Same issue as at Section B problems to neighbors - noise, parking, small space	1	

# Appendix E

## Public Engagement Timeline

