

ATTACHMENT to 12/1/08 staff report  
Tree Planting on Key Route median – September 20, 2008

This was a collaborative event including Albany's urban forester, volunteers, the neighborhood and Albany Community Foundation. The area in question was the Key Route median from Brighton to the El Cerrito border. A prior planting a few years ago was done on the Key route median from Brighton to Thousand Oaks. It was felt that this new planting would complement the old planting and finish off this particular entrance into Albany.

As urban forester I met with the community and the Albany Community Foundation on September 10. We decided to use a similar planting plan and encourage others to help with the planting. Prior to the planting date I removed the sod and installed a bender type board at the edge of the three planting areas. I also removed a dead cedar tree. Big Chief Tree Service pruned the very large and beautiful deodora cedar right at the boundary with El Cerrito. I pruned the other smaller deodora cedars on the median. Big Chief also left us a large pile of mulch from their trimmings.

On planting day volunteers and neighbors showed up. We cut through the filter fabric and planted the following trees – two twenty-four inch box Coast Live Oaks, four watermelon red crape myrtles, two Washington Thorns. As well in one bed we planted smaller succulents, a small Michelia and a few flowering shrubs for color. Once the planting was finished, everyone worked hard to apply the mulch over the three planting areas. Lunch was provided by the Albany Community Foundation – thanks Peggy. We were pretty much done by one o'clock. Thanks to the ten or so neighbors who showed up as well as about 5 volunteers. This planting will be enjoyed for generations.

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