

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR STREET TREE TRIMMING

DATE: April 22, 2020

Background

At the previous City Council meeting Duane Taddei requested the City Council discuss the trimming of the large oak street tree in front of his residence located at 1803 West Main Street. He has received the attached estimate from Full Circle Tree service for \$800 to remove all broken and dead hangers and chip the brush. He is asking for the City to pay half the bill for the work on the tree.

Under the Cottage Grove City Code the maintenance of street trees is the responsibility of the adjacent property owner. (Cottage Grove Municipal Code Chapter 12.20)

12.20.060 Trimming, pruning, or removal requirements--Notice.

The city manager or his duly authorized representative may cause to be trimmed, pruned, or removed any trees, shrubs, plants or vegetation in a parking strip or other public place, or may require any property owner to trim, prune, or remove any trees, shrubs, plants or vegetation in a parking strip abutting upon the owners property, and failure to comply therewith after thirty days' notice by the city recorder shall be deemed a violation of this chapter. (Ord. 2786 §2, 1996)

We trimmed or had contractors trim trees after the snow storm last year to eliminate immediate hazards over the streets or sidewalks or to expedite utility repairs only. We made sure to keep the trimming done by contractors last March to a minimum because the rates were high for tree removal and trimming as a result of the high demand. We did not do any trimming of any street trees that posed a hazard to private property. If a street tree posed a hazard to someone else's property, the adjacent property owner would be notified to have the tree trimmed.

Our crews were assessing trees in the community after the storm for those purposes. They did provide some advice to property owners if there were dangerous trees that posed hazards other than to the right of way.

We do not trim street trees unless there is an immediate hazard to the right of way. If the trees create a hazard we can order them removed or trimmed and if the work is not done within a certain time frame we would have the work done and the costs would be assessed back to the adjacent property owner.

On February 24, 2020 Chris Senters, City Maintenance Worker and Certified Arborist visited Duane Taddei's home located at 1803 to assess the large Oak tree between the home and R Street. He reported the tree posed "no risk to the City utilities and falls within City standards for the right of way. I see no reason for the City to take any action concerning this tree at this time."

The report was shared with Duane and he disagreed with the assessment. Duane discussed his concerns with Maintenance Supervisor Greg Griswell regarding the tree and what he was told during the February 25, 2019 storm damage cleanup. He stated that someone at the City Hall told him the City was out trimming hazardous trees that posed a threat to someone using the sidewalk or roadway.

After speaking with Duane, Greg had Chris trim the portion of the tree that overhangs the sidewalk and roadway. Chris used the City boom truck and removed everything he could reach. There are some small limbs further up in the tree he couldn't reach. He assessed that the remaining limbs didn't pose a threat to the public using the sidewalk or roadway.

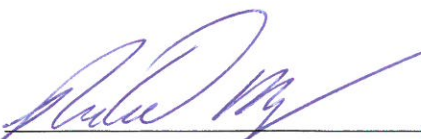
Staff believes they have responded to the issues with this particular street tree more than any other street tree within the community. The maintenance and care for street trees falls to the responsibility of the adjacent property owner. We took care of the emergency issues associated with this tree and many other trees in the community after the 2019 snowstorm. Street tree work desired or needed beyond what the City performed should be the responsibility of the adjacent property owner.

Recommendation

That the City Council consider the request from Duane Taddei to pay a portion of the costs for work on the street tree located at 1803 West Main Street.

Cost

\$400 for the tree at 1803 W. Main.



Richard Meyers, City Manager

CCB #211410

Full Circle Tree Service, LLC.

75496 London Rd.

Cottage Grove, OR. 97424

FullCircleTreeService@gmail.com

www.FullCircleTreeService.com

541-214-3694

541-359-8353

Estimate

Submitted on:

Customer:



Invoice #

Account #

Description	Qty	Unit price	Total price
Remove all Broken/dead hangers on large oak tree			800 ⁰⁰
Chip All Brush			

Thank You For Your Business!

Acceptance of Contract: The above prices and specifications are satisfactory and hereby accepted:

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Date: _____

Subtotal:

Adjustments/Payments:

Customer Total Estimate: 800⁰⁰

*Payments Due at Time of Service.

*\$25.00 Return Check Fee.

*Any unpaid balance will accrue interest at a rate of 18% per year or 1.5% per month.

*There will be an additional charge of 3.75% of the total balance due for all credit/debit card payments.