

TOQUERVILLE CITY TREE BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

Tuesday, November 18, 2014 at 5:30 PM
Held at 212 N. Toquerville Blvd, Toquerville Utah

Attendance: Councilmen: Brad Langston and Mark Fahrenkamp, Renee Garner, Randy Enman, Kent Husted, Bob Olsen, Tony Foran, and Tami Young.

The Board Planned to walk down Toquerville Blvd to assess the trees on the West side. Urban & Community Forestry representative and arborist Danon Hulet could not attend but provided a summary of his review and findings Atlas Trees' arborist Brooke Jones provided a detailed breakdown of each tree on the street. Randy Enman of Atlas Trees came to assist on the walk and Bob Olsen, former City maintenance employee was invited to give opinion. Sarah Horton could not attend to report on the possibility to bury power lines.

After the walk, we reconvened in the Chambers and Councilman Brad Langston thanked everyone who attended and asked for the names of those who would like to be board members.

The following is the list on the trees provided by Atlas and following that, the review by Danon Hulet.

Atlas Tree Service
4874 S. Commerce Dr
Murray, UT 84107
801-484-8733

Arborist Survey for The City of Toquerville, UT Beginning at the north end of the Boulevard heading southward

Tree #

- 1 Fruiting Pear, healthy, minor trunk damage, no removal
- 2, 3 Flowering Pear, good condition, need crown cleaning & weight reduction.
- 4 Flowering Pear, major fire blight, REMOVE (*Explanation of fire blight requested)
- 5 Crabapple, structural issues, REMOVE
- 6, 7, 8 Flowering Pear, fair condition, need proper pruning & raising (Light fire blight)
- 9 Flowering Pear, *major concrete heaving, liability issue* [225 North]
- 10 Crepe Myrtle, fair condition, needs current and continued pruning
- 11 Crabapple, major fire blight, REMOVE
- 12 Apple, internal decay all stems, salvageable with pruning
- 13 Juniper, bad placement, REMOVE
- 14 Eastern Redbud, fair condition, structural issues, manageable with pruning
- 15 Redbud, new whip
- 16 Flowering Pear, significant damage by weed whacking, fire blight, REMOVE, [197 N]
- 17, 18 Flowering Pear, *heaving concrete*, manageable by pruning and raising.
- 19 Almond, poor condition, bore infestation, *concrete heaving*, manageable with pruning and treatment.
- 20 Flowering Pear, poor condition, *concrete heaving*, major improper pruning, REMOVE [143 N]
- 21, 22 Flowering Pear, large, good condition, needs major pruning, *concrete heaving*
- 23 Pecan, good condition, interfering with power pole, growing under transformer, *concrete heaving*, major safety issue, REMOVE

- 24 Flowering Pear, major structural issues, *concrete heaving*, in decline, REMOVE [83 N]
- 25 Flowering Pear, major structural issues, internal decay, REMOVE
- 26 Flowering Pear, major structural issue at base, too close to power pole, but manageable by pruning.
- 27, 28, 29, 30 Root damage, fire blight, poor structure, *concrete heaving*, REMOVE [LDS Church]
- 31, 32 Flowering Pear, *concrete heaving*, major root trauma, fire blight, poor structure, REMOVE
- 33 Flowering Pear, good condition, needs pruning [29 N]
- 34 Flowering Pear, fire blight, *breaking curb and gutter*, REMOVE
- 35, 36 Flowering Pear, fire blight, concrete heaving, breaking curb and gutter, REMOVE
- 37, 38, 39, 40 Flowering Pear, fire blight, poorly structured trees, REMOVE
- 41 Flowering Pear, *concrete heaving*, good condition, manageable through pruning [32 S]

Front of City office building

3 Black Locust nearest boulevard, heavy borer attack, heavy internal decay, requires light fertilizing, root stimulant, borer treatment, cabling, and continuous pruning every 2 to 3 years, trees in very poor condition.

Honey Locust nearest Old Church Rd, severe borer attack, serious decay, major decline, REMOVE.

****Fire blight is a contagious disease affecting apples, pears, and some other members of the family Rosaceae. It is a serious concern to producers of apples and pears. Under optimal conditions, it can destroy an entire orchard in a single growing season.**

The causal pathogen is *Erwinia amylovora*. Pears are the most susceptible, but apples, loquat, crabapples, quinces, hawthorn, cotoneaster, pyracantha, raspberry and some other rosaceous plants are also vulnerable.

Fire blight is a systemic disease. The term "fire blight" describes the appearance of the disease, which can make affected areas appear blackened, shrunken and cracked, as though scorched by fire.

Primary infections are established in open blossoms and tender new shoots and leaves in the spring when blossoms are open.

Honeybees and other insects, birds, rain and wind can transmit the bacterium to susceptible tissue. Injured tissue is also highly susceptible to infection, including punctures and tears caused by plant-sucking or biting insects.

Once deposited, the bacterium enters the plant through open stomata and causes blackened, necrotic lesions, which may also produce a viscous exudate. This bacteria-laden exudate can be distributed to other parts of the same plant or to susceptible areas of different plants by rain, birds or insects, causing secondary infections. The disease spreads most quickly during hot, wet weather and is dormant in the winter when temperatures drop. Infected plant tissue contains viable bacteria, however, and will resume production of exudate upon the return of warm weather in the following spring. This exudate is then the source for new rounds of primary infections.

The pathogen spreads through the tree from the point of infection via the plant's vascular system, eventually reaching the roots and/or graft junction of the plant. Once the plant's roots are affected, the death of the plant often results. Over pruning and over fertilization (especially with nitrogen) can lead to water-sprout and other midsummer growth that leave the tree more susceptible.

Sprays of the antibiotics streptomycin or terramycin can prevent new infections. The use of such sprays has led to streptomycin-resistant bacteria in some areas. The only effective treatment for plants already infected is to prune off the affected branches and remove them from the area. Plants or trees should be inspected routinely for the appearance of new infections. The rest of the plant can be saved if the blighted wood is removed before the infection spreads to the roots.

Thank you for choosing Atlas Tree Service!

Honey Locust nearest Old Church Rd, severe bore attack, serious decay, major decline, REMOVE.

Review from Danon Hulet, Community Forestry Arborist: 11-18-14

Toquerville Blvd. Trees

After reviewing the trees along Toquerville Blvd., I support Atlas Tree Services findings. The majority of the trees are or will become a maintenance issue for UDOT, the Power Company and the City of Toquerville. Many of the Flowering Pears are showing major signs of fire blight, which is a contagious disease. The pathogen spreads through the tree by way of the vascular system, eventually killing the tree. Some of the trees are being affected by borers. Although some of these trees are being affected by pest, the main concern is public safety and maintenance cost. Many of the trees are heaving the sidewalks, causing a trip and head hazard with additional cost in replacing the cement. Many of the trees are pushing against the gutter causing it to crack and break, again adding additional maintenance cost in replacing cement. The majority of the trees are in conflict with the overhead power line. Again maintenance cost on continually pruning the trees adds up.

These are big, beautiful trees that add a lot to the community. They have been providing great benefits to the residents and tourist as they pass through. But when maintenance cost become more than the benefits, an action must be taken. The Arbor Day Foundation talks about the "Right tree in the Right Place":

A healthy community forest begins with careful planning. With a little research and a simple layout, you can produce a landscape that will cool your home in summer and tame the winter winds....properly placed trees will avoid collisions with power lines and buildings, and the aesthetics will increase your property value.

I support the plan of phasing the removal and plantings of approved power line trees. This will avoid a stark outcome and will allow funding to be spread over a few year period.

Danon Hulet