

Tree Preservation



City of San Dimas
Planning Division
245 East Bonita Ave.
San Dimas, CA. 91773

B. When on-site features, project constraints, and/or other considerations exist which prevent reasonable on-site relocation, relocation to an approved off-site location shall be permitted.

C. If said conditions are imposed, the owner will be responsible for all replacement and relocated trees for a minimum period of two years. If during this time the tree(s) is (are) declared unhealthy by a certified arborist as set forth in Section 18.162.090, the diseased trees shall be removed and replaced at the cost of the applicant, as set forth in Section 18.162.100.

D. A maintenance agreement shall be submitted by the applicant and established for each replaced and relocated tree. The maintenance agreement and maintenance responsibility shall be transferred with the sale of the property if title to the property is transferred within the specified maintenance' period.

PUBLIC TREES

No person shall trim, plant, relocate, root prune, apply pesticides to, or engage in any grading, construction, demolition or any improvement that may directly affect the health of any Community Tree without a prior written permit from the Municipal Arborist. Application for a permit must be made to the Parks and Recreation Department.

**These brochures are generally intended to assist in the processing of application material. It does not necessarily provide every detail regarding Municipal Code regulations.*

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Mon-Thurs 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Fridays 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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TREE PRESERVATION

In 1990, the City adopted Ordinance No. 913 to preserve trees located on private property. Its purpose is to preserve and to protect any mature significant trees growing within the city that are determined to be desirable. Mature trees are desirable because of their unique size, beauty and ability to provide shade & erosion protection. Their abundance adds distinction and character to the city. They are worthy of protection so that the natural environment and the city's natural plant life heritage are protected.

It is the intent of the City that design concerns of a development address preservation of the most desirable and significant of the existing healthy trees. Any development is encouraged to utilize creative land planning techniques to achieve this goal.

A mature significant tree refers to any Oak Tree(s) measuring eight (8) inches or more in trunk diameter and/or any other species of tree(s) that measure ten (10) inches or more in diameter and any multi-trunk tree(s) having a total circumference of thirty-eight (38) inches or more. A multi-trunk tree must include at least one trunk with a diameter of a minimum of four (4) inches. The trunk diameter must be measured at a point thirty-six (36) inches above the ground at the base of the tree.

TREE REMOVAL REQUEST PROCESS

An application to remove or relocate a mature significant tree must include the following information determined to be necessary by the Planning Department.

Developed Private Property- defined as properties that have been improved with structures, buildings, surface materials, landscaping and similar materials. Mature significant trees may be removed from developed property with the approval of the Director of

Community Development. Submittal requirements include:

- a. A written statement indicating the reason for the removal of the tree(s);
- b. A site plan which indicates the location of all trees (including those to be removed) that identifies trunk diameter and species;
- c. Photographs of the trees to be removed or relocated.

Undeveloped Private Property- defined as parcels of land not containing physical improvements. Mature significant trees may be removed from developed property with the approval from the appropriate body. Submittal requirements include:

- a. A written statement indicating the reason for the removal of the tree(s);
- b. A site plan which indicates the location of all trees (including those to be removed) that identifies size, species, height, dripline and health;
- c. Photographs of the trees to be removed or relocated;
- d. A written technical report from an arborist when deemed necessary;
- e. Any other information as deemed necessary by the Director of Development Services.

Public Property – Trees located in any public park, right-of-way, parkway, public planting easement or other city-owned property are Community Trees and are protected and regulated by a separate law, Ordinance No. 1163 (San Dimas Municipal Code Chapter 13.36). See brochure back for more information.

GRANTING THE PERMIT

An approval from the Planning Department entitles the applicant to removal of less than three (3) trees from a parcel. Where there are more than three (3) trees to be

removed from a parcel or when any removal may have an adverse effect on other neighboring properties, the application will be referred to the Development Plan Review Board for action.

The granting or denying of a permit to remove or relocate any significant tree(s) is subject to the following findings and is based on each individual property:

- a. The condition of the significant tree(s) with respect to disease, danger of falling, proximity or interference with structures or utility services;
- b. If the significant tree(s) prevents the reasonable development of the property;
- c. The topography of the land creates problems with respect to erosion, soil retention, diversion or increased flow of surface water;
- d. The number of trees a given parcel of land will support.

18.162.060 Conditions imposed.

A. Tree relocation and/or two for one replacement with minimum fifteen-gallon box tree(s), or other replacement of equivalent value and size, within the subject property. The two for one replacement ratio may be reduced as determined by the final decision-making body, if a minimum of one of the following additional findings are made:

1. The reduced replacement requirement is consistent with the purposes of this Chapter.
2. The tree(s) in question are located where the impact of the tree removal on the community is limited (such as trees in a generally flat portion of the rear yard of a single-family house that are deemed to have less public benefit).
3. The property in question has an adequate number of existing trees therefore a reduced replacement ratio is appropriate.