



## **EL CAMINO REAL (ECR) TASK FORCE**

Community Group Meeting

Thursday, June 15, 2017

### **MEETING SUMMARY**

The main purpose of this meeting was to focus on tree spacing. The group was also reminded of the Task Force objectives—retain the character and health of the trees along El Camino Real and improve the safety of the roadway and sidewalks. It is both/and, not either/or.

#### Caltrans Encroachment Permit Specifications

Joon Kang provided a presentation regarding the Caltrans Encroachment Permit Manual. Caltrans requires the following spacing parameters for trees:

- Minimum 30 feet between trees;
- 100 feet from the intersection;
- 10 feet from utility poles and driveways; and
- 5 feet walkways between curb and building entrance.

Caltrans will not remove any trees at this time unless the tree is diseased or unhealthy.

#### Tree Spacing/Table Top Exercise

A summary of key Task Force “wants” was provided by the facilitator, Candace Hathaway.

- Maximum number of trees in the corridor while keeping it safe;
- Retain the historical mix of 70/30 (eucalyptus and elms/other species) and
- Confirm a third party tree assessment of tree health for objective information.

The Task Force then went into the table-top exercise to determine how many trees could potentially fit and the ideal placement in the pilot area. With the current conditions and using 25’ instead of 30’ spacing between trees, and 25’ instead of 100’ from intersections, the Task Force came up with 48 trees, 23 on the east side and 25 on the west side.

The map of the tree placement and all other comments will go to the Technical Group as they will continue tree assessments and work on a maintenance plan over the summer. The Community Group will reconvene in September.