

:)

From: Jim Clark [Jim@hortscience.com]
Sent: Monday, July 05, 2010 16:35
To: gumbys@att.net, jim@hortscience.com
Cc: Karen Mauney-Brodek@sfgov.org, Mei Ling, Monica Fish
Subject: RE: Forestry Management Plan

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Due By: Tuesday, August 24, 2010 16:00
Flag Status: Flagged

Rose...

Thanks for your comments. My responses below link to your numbered items.

1. I don't have the ability to address this comment. You're not the only person to raise a question about productivity. I have only the monthly work records without any additional detail. So I can't really address whether urban forestry staff could be more productive. I think a switch from reactive to programmed management will help here.
2. Everyone recognizes that both TMA and 311 are city-wide work order/management systems. They are not tree specific. I have recommended that the Department work to define tree requests more explicitly and to develop a uniform language that requesters can use. As to tree tagging, our assessments will do this in the priority 1 locations. I don't we can add another task to the work management system.
3. I agree that 100% recycling of RPD wood waste is a good goal. I can't comment on offering excess material to the public. I'll only say that there is a significant staffing limitation here. Just not enough bodies.
4. I don't really know any of the details of the contract crews. My understanding is: the fees the crew collects cover its own costs.
5. No one in RPD would disagree that we should maintain the tree canopy. I would argue however that failing to remove and replace jeopardizes the tree canopy in the future. See my comments about Washington Square.

That said, I think you've asked 3 questions. 1. Construction projects. The question I ask is, "Will the tree be an asset to the site for years to come?" This considers both tree and development plan. 2. Risk. A defect in structure can be considered an area of weakness in the tree, one that may increase failure potential. Our assessment methods consider both the tree and the target that might be impacted. 3. Removal procedures. The Department has removal notice procedures for trees that are not imminent hazards.

6. RPD removal policies are clear that trees in imminent danger of failing will not be posted. This represents a slight change in that I'm recommending a specific threshold for action

