

**STREET TREE MASTER PLAN
SPECIES DESIGNATION CHANGE
FOR ADOPTION**

Date: 8/24/2022

Location: 1300 – 2100 blocks of Mountain Avenue

Present Species Designation:

1300 Blk.	<i>Geijera parviflora</i>	Australian Willow
1400-1600 Blk.	<i>Arbutus 'Marina'</i>	Marina Madrone
1700 Blk.	<i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i>	Goldenrain Tree
1800 Blk.	<i>Brachychiton discolor</i>	Pink Flame Tree
1900-2100 Blk.	<i>Geijera parviflora</i>	Australian Willow



Request to co-designate: The Committee recommends (5/0) that the Commission approve *Arbutus 'Marina'*, Marina Madrone, *Lagerstroemia 'hybrids'*, Crape Myrtle, *Ginkgo biloba*, Maidenhair, *Prunus lyonii*, Catalina Cherry, and *Cassia leptophylla*, Gold Medallion, as co-designations for the 1300-2100 blocks of Mountain Avenue.

**PARK COMMISSION ACTION
PHOTO INVENTORY**

From: [Michael Fedyk](#)
To: [Nathan Slack](#)
Cc: [Patricia Herrera](#)
Subject: Re: Replacement tree for 1325 Mountain Avenue
Date: Thursday, July 21, 2022 8:37:12 AM

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EXTERNAL

Hi Nathan,

Thank you again for considering my proposal for an alternate tree.

Let me first propose my arguments against the Australian willow. Based on the example down the street and on the tree's natural growth characteristics, I believe that it is not an appropriate tree to be planted alongside the curb. First off, it's long, droopy limbs pose a hazard to both cars (parked or driving by close to the curb) as well as to pedestrians walking the pathway/sidewalk. Such is the case with the example down the street - it has limbs that hang down very low such that parking a car next to it is problematic. In fact, I took the time one day to watch the street sweeper drive by and observed the sweeper crashing through the branches, leaving small broken limbs and leaves in its path. Also, the interference to pedestrian traffic along the walkway poses a hazard to the pedestrian. Seems to me that this type of tree would need constant attention to maintain the characteristic droopy branches, which I'm sure the City does not have the time to do. In general, I find that this type of tree is more appropriate in an open space/park setting where there is no surrounding traffic (auto or pedestrian).

Another thing that I noticed about the willow up the street (which is planted right alongside the curb) is that both the sidewalk, the curb and the concrete shoulder alongside the curb were re-done within the last several years. What's more, all the new concrete is now lifting up again which indicates to me that the root system is somewhat invasive. I queried the neighbor about this and he told me that the City did replace all the concrete several years ago because it was lifting very badly and now, the situation is repeating itself.

Finally, I did a walk up Mountain Avenue for several blocks and did not see one other Australian willow. The only one that I see is the one in front of my neighbor's house just up the road. That being said, I don't see the reasoning behind this tree being required as a replacement tree based on the argument that this is a typical street tree.

I have several recommendations based on current tree population in my neighborhood and also based on some research.

My first choice is a Jacaranda tree. There is one already located on the other side of my driveway and placing a new one alongside the curb would be an appropriate match. Even more so, it would flow with the population of Jacaranda trees that currently exist in my immediate neighborhood - five Jacarandas within a one block radius. Finally, the root system is not invasive. The one next to the curb and my driveway has not caused any damage whatsoever to the hardscape and that tree is more than 25 years old!

My other choices are as follows:

Olive Tree - there are two in my immediate neighborhood - one of them literally across the street from my house. Slow growing, non-invasive root system, well defined canopy with no maintenance required.

Chinese Elm - for the same arguments listed above for the Olive tree

Maidenhair (Ginkgo biloba) - there are a couple just up the street and the fall colors of the leaves are just spectacular. Growth characteristics as noted for the Olive & Elm.

And finally, one other tree that I do not know the name of but have included photos of two of these trees just two blocks down from my house. I found them to be very appealing and appropriate as a street tree.





**Mountain Avenue
Consolidated Species Information**

Block numbers	No. of trees	Parkway Width
1300 block Mountain Ave.	17	
Geijera parviflora	4	4
Jacaranda mimosifolia	3	4
Liquidambar styraciflua	1	4
Prunus cerasifera	2	4
Prunus persica	1	4
Quercus agrifolia	1	4
Syagrus romanzoffianum	1	4
Tipuana tipu	1	4
Vacant site	3	4
1400 block Mountain Ave.	14	
Eriobotrya deflexa	3	4
Jacaranda mimosifolia	1	4
Liquidambar styraciflua	1	4
Pittosporum undulatum	1	4
Vacant site	8	4
1500 block Mountain Ave.	25	
Arbutus 'Marina'	13	4
Arbutus unedo	1	4
Citrus sinensis	1	4
Ficus benjamina	1	4
Harpephyllum caffrum	1	4
Jacaranda mimosifolia	4	4
Koelreuteria paniculata	1	4
Nerium oleander	1	4
Vacant site	2	4
1600 block Mountain Ave.	15	
Arbutus 'Marina'	7	4
Arbutus unedo	3	4
Eriobotrya deflexa	4	4
Prunus domestica	1	4
1700 block Mountain Ave.	22	
Albizia julibrissin	1	4
Arbutus 'Marina'	2	4
Corymbia ficifolia	1	4
Jacaranda mimosifolia	2	4
Koelreuteria bipinnata	5	4
Melaleuca citrina	1	4
Platanus X hispanica	1	4
Pyrus kawakamii	1	4
Quercus agrifolia	2	4
Robinia pseudoacacia	1	4
Syagrus romanzoffianum	2	4
Vacant site	3	4

**Mountain Avenue
Consolidated Species Information**

1800 block Mountain Ave.	15	
Brachychiton discolor	12	4
Styphnolobium japonicum	1	4
Vacant site	2	4
1900 block Mountain Ave.	16	
Geijera parviflora	11	4
Olea europaea	1	4
Pistacia chinensis	1	4
Vacant site	3	4
2000 block Mountain Ave.	21	
Geijera parviflora	14	4
Vacant site	4	4
Washingtonia robusta	3	4
2100 block Mountain Ave.	18	
Geijera parviflora	1	4
Liquidambar styraciflua	2	4
Prunus cerasifera	3	4
Schinus terebinthifolius	1	4
Stump	1	4
Ulmus parvifolia	7	4
Vacant site	3	4
Grand Total	163	