

October 2022

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

Date: 9/27/2022

Location: 500 – 700 blocks of N. Voluntario Street

Present Species Designation:

500 – 700 blocks	<i>Albizia julibrissin</i>	Silk Tree
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Request for species designation change: *Acacia podalyriifolia*, Pearl Acacia, *Tristaniaopsis laurina*, Water Gum, and *Acacia baileyana*, Bayley Acacia.

Existing Species Profile: See attached.

**PARK COMMISSION ACTION
PHOTO INVENTORY**



City of Santa Barbara
Parks and Recreation Department

Memorandum

DATE: September 27, 2022

TO: Street Tree Advisory Committee

FROM: Nathan Slack, Urban Forest Superintendent

SUBJECT: Request for Species Designation Change – 500 - 700 blocks of North Voluntario Street

Forestry staff are requesting that the Street Tree Advisory Committee review and recommend changing the existing species designation for the 500 - 700 blocks of North Voluntario Street.

The current designated street tree species for the 500 -700 blocks is *Albizia julibrissin*, Silk Tree. This species of tree has shown a high susceptibility to Invasive Shot Hole Borer and staff have determined that the use of the Silk Tree is no longer a sustainable option.

During the August 24, 2022, Commission meeting an applicant received approval to remove two existing street trees on the condition the applicant plant two new street trees. The applicant is motivated to plant the new trees and staff is requesting the change to facilitate the planting.

As part of their application, the applicant proposed the use of *Acacia podalyriifolia*, Pearl Acacia, which is a small tree with silver-gray foliage and striking yellow flowers. Pearl Acacia is not a current street tree designation.

Staff have evaluated this suggestion as a species of merit and after review determined that, the incorporation of this species as a street tree makes practical sense. The tree is utility friendly making it suitable for planting under utility lines, which occur on the east side of the street and helps to continue to build upon the rich diversity of our urban forest.

This species can be difficult to locate and due to potential challenges with locating the tree, staff would like to recommend the use of *Tristaniopsis laurina*, water gum, and *Acacia baileyana*, Bailey Acacia, which are both readily available in nurseries, drought tolerant, and suitable for the parkway width and compatible with the proposed Pearl Acacia.

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Species Breakdown

Species	Count of Species	Parkway Width
SILK TREE	18	4.5'
JACARANDA	9	4.5'
MEXICAN FAN PALM	6	4.5'
CANARY ISLAND DATE PALM	3	4.5'
QUEEN PALM	3	4.5'
VICTORIAN BOX	2	4.5'
CALIFORNIA PEPPER	1	4.5'
COAST LIVE OAK	1	4.5'
GREEN GEM INDIAN LAUREL FIG	1	4.5'
WEeping FIG	1	4.5'