



City of Twentynine Palms
6136 Adobe Road
Twentynine Palms, CA 92277
760-367-6799 – FAX 760-367-4890
www.29palms.org

NEWS RELEASE – APRIL 4, 2011

City Tree Removal Project Set to Begin April 11

The City of Twentynine Palms is about to undertake a public tree removal and preventive maintenance project, set to begin on Monday, April 11.

In a commissioned arborist's report presented to the Twentynine Palms City Council last January evaluating the condition of city trees, recommendations were made to remove or prune a number of trees in public locations throughout the city for health and potential safety concerns. At its March 22 meeting, the City Council awarded a contract to West Coast Arborists Inc. of Anaheim, one of the largest urban forestry management firms in the state and low bidder for the project, to implement tree removal and preventive tree maintenance for the City.

The project includes removal of 43 trees and pruning of 158 trees at various public locations, including Luckie Park, Knott Sky Park, City Hall, and the Senior Center. Trees marked for removal are large and in various stages of death, either hanging over property or over areas where pedestrians are present or where patrons utilize park amenities, and in some cases, like the perimeter of Luckie Park, are infringing on power lines.

“Only the trees that pose a public hazard and potential safety threats will be removed,” said City Public Works Superintendent Jose Nieves. “The main focus area will be Luckie Park, which will see 90% of the work, but there are other public facilities involved.”

Slated for removal are 37 trees in Luckie Park, and two each at the Senior Center, City Hall, and Knott Sky Park. A secondary phase of the project will deal with trees that are crowding or inhibiting the growth of others, and will entail pruning, thinning, and crowning to remove dead wood and to stimulate foliage.

“A project of this magnitude has never been done in Twentynine Palms,” Nieves said, “but because of high winds and off-and-on drought conditions, the trees need attention. The goal is to create healthier trees in the long run, to create an even canopy and help the remaining trees to thrive.”

A certified arborist has been retained by the City to oversee the project and to monitor the health of the trees.

Work will take approximately 10 days to complete, starting Monday, April 11. Pedestrians and park patrons are asked to be cautious and to keep a safe distance from workers and equipment in the affected areas.

For questions, contact Public Works at (760)367-ROAD or 367-7623.

#