

# CITY OF PETALUMA, CALIFORNIA

## MEMORANDUM

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DATE: February 19, 2008

TO: Development Code Advisory Committee (DCAC)

FROM: George White, Assistant Community Development Director  
Staff Liaison to Tree Preservation Subcommittee

SUBJECT: Tree Preservation Subcommittee Report

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Since the most recent DCAC meeting, the Tree Subcommittee has met once on February 1, 2008. At that meeting it was decided that simplified interim regulations related to tree preservation were desirable. To that end staff was directed to prepare a draft ordinance based on the general format of the Town of Windsor Tree Protection Ordinance. The draft interim Tree Ordinance serves to protect two categories of trees:

1. Street trees and other public trees
2. Tree impacts related to discretionary development applications and other development permits

While there was consensus to continue working on protecting trees on private property not related to development proposals, the Subcommittee reserved that discussion for the comprehensive Development Code process.

In your packet you will find the draft Tree regulations as Article 14 in the complete set of interim Zoning regulations. Given the time constraints, this Ordinance remains a work in progress but does contain the basis tree protection components directed by committee. Staff and the committee will continue to work on fine tuning the draft up to the point where it must be presented to the Planning Commission and Council as part of the General Plan adoption process.

The draft ordinance also authorizes the development of a "Tree Technical Manual" which will contain substantial supplemental information regarding tree protection, replacement ratios, and maintenance. This manual will be the most important tool available to staff in informing the public about tree preservation. The development of the manual will be the next large task for the Subcommittee because it will need to be in place at the time the interim Zoning regulations are adopted.

The Subcommittee and staff look forward to your comments and questions.

