

**Maui County Arborist Committee Meeting July 11, 2007**  
**Meeting Minutes**

Those present: Terry Nutt, Bob Hodby, Richard Kempf, Jeannie Pezzoli, William Jacintho, Sue Lipp, Eric Molina; David Sakoda, Ex-official member & County Arborist

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 PM when it was determined that a quorum was present.

The minutes from the June 13, 2007 meeting were reviewed and the following discussion and corrections were agreed upon:

Corrections to the presentation of the Kahului Towne Center:

The planting area as presented by Bill Mitchell being increase in relation to the optimum planting area size for Monkey Pod trees calculations were done by the County Arborist as follows:

Optimum planting space for large Monkey Pod Tree = 30 by 30 feet; Depth of planting area is a minimum of 3 feet and is a constant in all proposed planting areas.

Maui County Arborist Committee, (MCAC), recommended an 18 by 18 foot planting area, 36% of Optimum;

Mr. Bill Mitchell is proposing an 8 by 10 foot planting area after revisions, 8.8%~9% of Optimum;

The Proposed 8'x10' planting area is 24.7% ~ 25% of the recommended MCAC recommended 18'x18' planting area.

It was noted that the planting areas for these Monkey Pod trees was irregular in size, and the 86% of optimum size was stated by Mr. Bill Mitchell.

Corrections on the topic of underground utilities are corrected to be:

Mr. Bill Mitchell believes and has determined that underground utilities will not be impacted by the Monkey Pod tree roots the exact location was not disclosed but are to be located underneath pavement, either sidewalk or road. A map indicating the locations of the utilities was not present.

The vote taken was a "straw vote" to get a feeling of where the MCAC was on this issue of planting Monkey Pods within the proposed planting area within this project? It was not a motion. There were two apposed votes by Richard Kempf & Eric Molina, other Arborist Committee Members present voted in favor and the County Arborist noted he was opposed to this proposal.

Arborist Report addition to minutes:

The following are to be included in the arborist report:

Wiliwili Gall Wasp infestation is at a crisis level of mortality to Erythrina species trees. The infestation came to Maui County in July of 2005 and now after nearly 2 years of infestation this invasive species has caused these Erythrina tree species to exhaust their stored food sources and are now suffering wide spread die off.

Compounding the hazardous condition is the species characteristic of Erythrina species trees being of very low specific gravity, density and this soft wood has very fast decay and losses it's structural integrity quickly. The buttress anchor roots are rotting fast and the trees are falling over.

Hazard tree evaluations are being conducted on these trees within county properties to prioritize the removal of dead and dying trees so that those that pose the most risk are removed first.

The minutes were approved with the above corrections.

**Unfinished Business:**

The entire list of species for the Maui County Planting Plan is requested to be presented to the Arborist Committee for review.

**New Business:**

The Wailuku Area Redevelopment Plan - Tree Installation Landscape Design and Beautification Plan was discussed and this activity is planned for the next 2 to 5 years. It was moved and seconded that the MCAC interface with this plan, a letter is to drafted to request working with this project from MCAC to Department of Planning and Wailuku Town Action Committee in respect to tree concerns in pre-planning phase.

Wiliwili tree replacement species:

REPLACEMENT TREE SPECIES FOR *Erythrina spp.*

Tropic Coral, upright Wiliwili *Erythrina variegata 'fastigiata'* defined as Park Tree - Small

Coral Tree, *Erythrina crista-galli* defined as Park Tree - Small

Native Wiliwili, *Erythrina sandwicensis*

REPLACEMENT TREE SPECIES, (ref. Maui County Planting Plan for other appropriate spp.):

Plumeria, *Plumeria rubra*

Gardenia, *Gardenia taitensis*

Beach Heliotrope, Tahinu *Tournefortia argentea*

Naio, *Myoporum sandwicense*

Noni, Indian Mulberry, *Morinda citrifolia*

Mamane, *Sophora chrysophylla*

Hao, *Rauvolfia sandwicensis*

Hau Kuahiwi, *Hibiscadelphus giffardianus*

Koki'oKe'oke'o, *Hibiscus immaculatus*

If adequate planting space is available then the following are appropriate replacement spp. for the

*Erythrina spp.* listed above as well as replacement for Tiger's Claw *Erythrina variegata 'orientalis'* defined as Park Tree - Medium:

Kamani, *Calophyllum inophyllum*

Bombax, *Pseudobambax ellipticum*

Mahogany, *Swietenia mahagoni*

Giant Crape Myrtle, *Lagerstroemia speciosa*

For Tropic Coral, upright Wiliwili *Erythrina variegata fastigiata* defined as Park Tree - Small or listed as Indian Coral Tree, *Erythrina variegata 'orientalis'* is often used as a windbreak & vegetative screen for this function the following replacement species are listed in Maui County Planting Plan, Chapter Two, Sound Wind & Visual Barriers, pg.26, additional replacement types are:

Giant Timber Bamboo, Sweet Shoot Bamboo, *bambusa oldhamii* (scored - WRA has given this a score = 2 and further evaluate)

Weeping Mast Plant, Ashoka Tree, *Polyalthia longifolia var. pendula*

Additional replacement species mentioned are:

*Cassia grandiflora*

*Podocarpus elatus*

*Podocarpus gracilior*

*Podocarpus macrophyllus*

*Hibiscus tiliaceus*

*Conocarpus erectus sericeus*

additional tree species are to be discussed next meeting after members have more time to review other potential tree species and cross check the potential invasive impacts.

Piilani Village Phase I:

A letter addressing the tree concerns to retain trees within Piilani Village Phase I was distributed to the MCAC. The issue of trees uplifting hardscape and problems with limited planting area causing conflicts with hardscape was discussed. Discussion of the effectiveness of physical root barriers and bio-barriers ensued and their limited effectiveness, the damage to hardscape is when the anchor roots obtain their girth and cause point source pressure from underneath the concrete.

Kamaole Beach Club Advertisement:

A concern of an advertisement using the phrase, "Trees are gone!" as part of the advertisement of the Royal Kamaole Condominium was brought up for discussion. It is believed that this is used in reference to the maintenance aspect for use of blowers to collect green waste and that there would be no use of them since the trees are gone. The aesthetic design use of "framing" viewpoints with tree branches and crowns actually enhances views was mentioned.

Arbor Week Subcommittee:

The Arbor Week Subcommittee agreed to meet at 12:30 PM just before the next MCAC meeting in the Parks Conference Room.

Commemorative Trees:

A list of issues, concerns & opportunities on the design of the commemorative tree program was presented to the MCAC. This list included the following:

All county properties?

Trees are selected with respect to WRA, Right tree in right place, maintenance, etc.

People who select location of planting?

Application - who gets it, reviews request, etc.

Who purchases the tree;

Who installs the tree;

Recognition to person tree is dedicated to, on-site?

Costs, e.g. recognition plate, bench, etc.

Buy-in from county maintenance, in-house approval & ownership, etc.

Arborist Report:

Restate the crisis with *Erythrina* spp. mortality, critical crux for individual tree survival either resistant or near death.

Wiliwili Gall Wasp infestation is at a crisis level of mortality to *Erythrina* species trees. The infestation came to Maui County in July of 2005 and now after 2 years of infestation this invasive species has caused these *Erythrina* tree species to exhaust their stored food sources and are now suffering wide spread die off.

Compounding the hazardous condition is the species characteristic of *Erythrina* species trees being of very low specific gravity, density and this soft wood has very fast decay and losses it's structural integrity quickly. The buttress anchor roots are rotting fast and the trees are falling over.

Hazard tree evaluations are being conducted on these trees within county properties to prioritize the removal of dead and dying trees so that those that pose the most risk are removed first.

Committee members mentioned that Art Medeiros is collecting seed for preserving this species genetic stock for possible planting later when this infestation is under control.

Announcements:

Hawaiian Electric Company has awarded Friends of D.T. Fleming Arboretum a \$5,000 grant to construct a storage facility. It is recognized that this Arboretum has several exceptional trees.

Next Arborist Committee to be held August 8, at 1:30 PM in Parks Conference Room. Arbor Week Sub-committee will meet prior to the meeting at 12:30 PM for initial planning of events.