



Memorandum

MONTEREY REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

DATE: July 19, 2021
 TO: General Manager
 FROM: Director of Engineering and Compliance
 SUBJECT: Authorize Issuance of Request for Bids for Tree Maintenance along Charles Benson Road

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board authorize staff to prepare a Request for Bids (RFB) and solicit construction bids from qualified public works contractors for tree maintenance along Charles Benson Road.

BACKGROUND

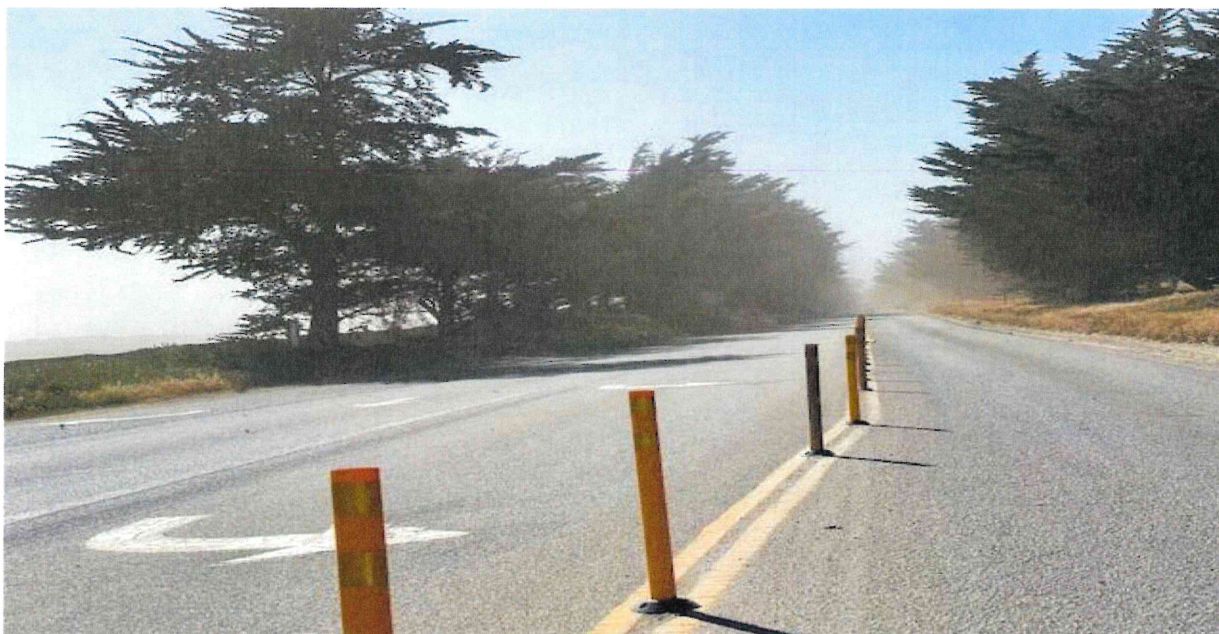
Charles Benson Road is the main entrance road for all persons accessing both the Monterey Regional Waste Management District's (MRWMD) recycling & disposal facilities and the Monterey One Water's (M1W) regional treatment plant. It is a District owned two-lane, rubberized asphalt concrete paved road that connects the MRWMD/M1W facilities to Del Monte Boulevard. Charles Benson Road is approximately a mile in length and is mostly vegetated with trees on either side of the road. Most of the trees are more than 40 years old and have become quite large and tall. Maintenance of the trees has historically been limited and the trees have been allowed to grow naturally with little maintenance.



Photo 1 – View in northwest direction along Charles Benson Road (District’s Entrance Road)



Photo 2 – View in northwest direction along Charles Benson Road (District’s Entrance Road)

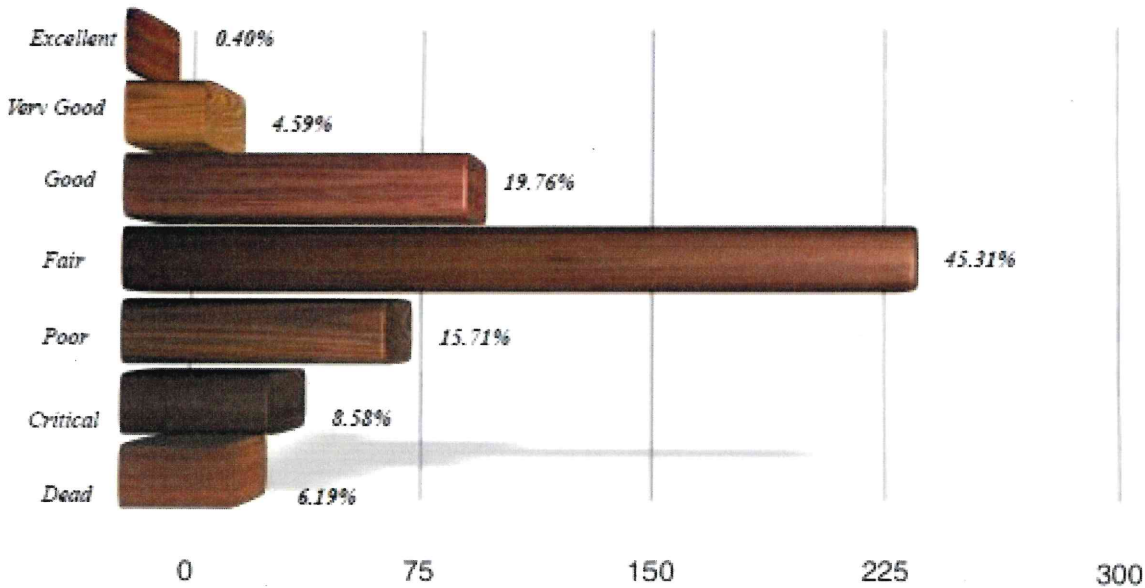


DISCUSSION

Charles Benson Road is the main entrance road to both the District’s and M1W facilities. It is situated in a sand dune terrace environment that is predominately characterized by small plants and shrubs; rarely trees. The entrance road was developed in the mid-1960’s to serve the District’s newly opened landfill. Trees were planted on both sides of the road as part of its development. There are more than 200 trees on each side of the road; approximately 415 in total. The District received an arborist’s report (Albert Weisfuss, 2016) which identified that the genus *Hesperocyparis* (*Cupressus*) *macrocarpa* (Monterey cypress) is the predominant tree species and comprises approximately 83% of the tree population, followed by *E. globules* (*Eucalyptus* ‘compacta’) 14%, *E. globulus* (*Eucalyptus* Blue gum) 2%, and *Pinus radiata* (Monterey pine) 1%. The arborist surveyed the relative health of the trees (July 2016) and presented that information in the “Tree Condition” chart below. Based on this information, 30% of the trees were rated in the “Poor” to worse condition. These conditions would be addressed by both a) tree removal and b) tree pruning. Staff anticipates on the order of 60-70 trees will require removal and that 170-200 trees will require pruning.

■ Excellent ■ Very Good ■ Good ■ Fair ■ Poor ■ critical ■ Dead

Tree Condition



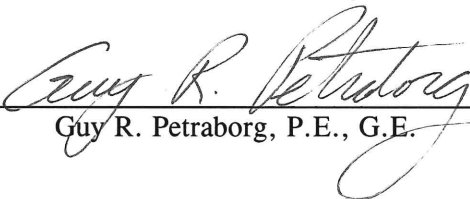
Staff is anticipating a significant amount of work will be required to accomplish that amount of tree removal and tree pruning. As this work will occur along the two-lane main access road, fulltime traffic control will also be required as part of the work to minimize traffic delays and maintain safe conditions for the contractor and customers. Staff preliminarily estimates that this work may cost on the order of \$270,000 - \$350,000. Given the amount of work involved, staff recommends that the work be contracted via a competitive bidding process.

STRATEGIC PLAN

The recommended tree maintenance along the District's main entrance road, Charles Benson Road, is an inherent responsibility of maintaining the facility for the community's use and benefit. Thus, it is consistent with one of the goals of the strategic plan which is to maintain the District's facilities to allow continued access to the District's recycling & disposal services.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends, and respectfully requests, that the Board of Directors authorize staff to prepare a Request for Bids (RFB) and solicit construction bids from qualified public works contractors for tree maintenance along Charles Benson Road.



Guy R. Petrabor, P.E., G.E.