

McCormick Ranch Property Owners' Association, Inc.

TREE POLICY

The McCormick Ranch Property Owners' Association (MRPOA) takes great pride in the over 2,500 established and mature trees that add to the planned appearance of the Association. These trees represent an Association asset and are found in MRPOA common areas and City of Scottsdale medians maintained by MRPOA through long-standing maintenance agreements. Money has been spent for the purchase and planting of these trees and additional funds are allocated annually for their maintenance. Trees provide, among other benefits, erosion control, shade privacy, noise and sound barriers, traffic barriers, dust barriers, wildlife and scenic beauty.

As a result of the above-mentioned benefits to the overall community that the trees represent, MRPOA exercises extreme prudence when considering the removal of any tree. In order for a tree to be removed, it must meet at least one aspect of the following criteria:

- ❖ The tree is dead
- ❖ The tree is diseased or dying and restoration is impossible or cost prohibitive. If it is not obvious that a tree is diseased or dying (e.g. the tree still has some signs of life) staff will hire a certified arborist to inspect and make written recommendations.
- ❖ The tree poses an imminent risk to the health/safety of individuals or vehicles, and has been documented and verified by the Executive Director

Outside of the above listed criteria, trees owned by MRPOA will not be removed as a result of a MRPOA member complaint, without specific decision and direction from the MRPOA Board of Directors. The Board will not consider removal of a healthy tree(s) until the following measures have been completed:

1. If the Association disputes the alleged health of a tree(s), staff shall hire a certified arborist to inspect and make written recommendations about the tree(s) in question. This step gives the Board "expert" input into the process that often offers alternatives to removal.
2. A written or emailed notice will be sent to all owners within 300 feet of the subject tree(s). The notice will include the location of the tree(s) and the reasons the requestor is asking for removal.
3. The written or emailed notice will allow a 30-day review period during which the Board will accept written comments before making a final decision at the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting.

Association trees that present additional maintenance requirements on the part of individual property owners will be inspected on an as needed basis by a certified Arborist and pruned, if necessary, according to their recommendations.

Healthy trees located within Landscape Committee or Board approved project areas are not subject to the above-mentioned process.

***Approved by the MRPOA Board of Directors 11/20/14**