



**CITY OF SANTA BARBARA**  
**COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT**

**AGENDA DATE:** December 9, 2014

**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers

**FROM:** Administration Division, Parks and Recreation Department

**SUBJECT:** Pearl Chase Society Donation For The Purchase Of Irricades For The Historic Stone Pines On East Anapamu Street

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council increase appropriations and estimated revenues by \$14,560 in the Parks and Recreation Department Fiscal Year 2015 Miscellaneous Grants Fund for the purchase of irricades for the Historic Stone Pines on East Anapamu Street funded from a donation from the Pearl Chase Society.

**DISCUSSION:**

In response to the Stage Two drought declaration, the Parks and Recreation Department (Department) prepared a Strategic Drought Response Plan (Plan). The Plan, presented to Council on July 15, 2014, outlined the Department's approach to protecting park resources and meeting recreation needs while achieving a 20 percent reduction in water use. The Plan also described the Department's approach to supporting City trees most sensitive to drought conditions, including young trees and City designated Historic and Specimen trees. In August 2014, the Department completed its Historic and Specimen Tree Drought Action Plan (Action Plan). The Action Plan documented the condition of the trees and outlined recommended maintenance action steps. The Action Plan was presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission on August 27, 2014. On September 4, 2014, the Pearl Chase Society received a presentation on the Action Plan as well as the Department's efforts to maintain Italian Stone Pines on East Anapamu Street.

On October 29, 2014, the Pearl Chase Society donated \$14,560 to the Department for the purchase of 56 irricades to help sustain the Italian Stone Pines. Similar in design to plastic road barriers, the 125-gallon devices release water slowly through attached soaker hoses. This method of watering is more effective and efficient than hand watering and will further support survival of the trees during the drought. The irricades will be maintained by Department Forestry staff and will remain in place until the drought declaration is lifted.

**BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

The Pearl Chase Society donation will be appropriated to the Parks and Recreation Department Fiscal Year 2015 Miscellaneous Grants Fund. All other costs for maintaining the Italian Stone Pines, including staff resources, equipment and water, are included in the Department's Fiscal Year 2015 General Fund Operating Budget.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:**

The Parks and Recreation 2014 Strategic Drought Response Plan is intended to achieve a minimum reduction of 20 percent water use over the previous year, and will be modified if conditions change. This water conservation target will help extend the City's limited water resources through the drought. While water conservation is the key objective, the Plan also works to protect the City's parks, trees, natural resources, and recreational spaces from resource loss and long-term drought impacts.

**PREPARED BY:** Jill E. Zachary, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director

**SUBMITTED BY:** Nancy L. Rapp, Parks and Recreation Director

**APPROVED BY:** City Administrator's Office