

KENSINGTON POLICE PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING FEBRUARY 14, 2019

Agenda Item 10b

By Eileen Nottoli

Tree Removal and Replacement on the Triangular Lot at Coventry and Arlington

The District owns the triangular lot at the intersection of Coventry and Arlington. During the rainstorm on the night of January 16, a large Blackwood acacia tree was uprooted. It fell onto a large pittosporum at the bottom of the hill, breaking several large branches. In turn, branches of these trees fell onto electrical lines which caused a blackout in the neighborhood. The Fire Department cleared the debris from the trees that fell onto Coventry early on the morning of January 17. The District retained an arborist on January 18 to advise on the safety of the remaining two large trees on the lot. The arborist noted that the other large standing Blackwood acacia was diseased and recommended that it be removed as well as a small nearby pittosporum which would be in the way of removing that acacia. He inspected the large pittosporum along Arlington and recommended that it be removed because it had multiple low trunks, some of which were leaning toward Arlington, and noted that there was rot starting at the junction of these trunks. Multiple trunks on a tree pose a danger because the trunks can sway differently during a storm. This work was performed on January 19.

Several residents suggested planting California coastal live oak trees because they are native and relatively easy to maintain. Jack Griffith, a retired landscape architect, had suggested that three trees of 15-gallons in size be planted and suggested their placement. He also recommends a temporary irrigation system to bring water to the trees for the first three years. We are in the process of getting bids for this work.