



Electric Utility Department

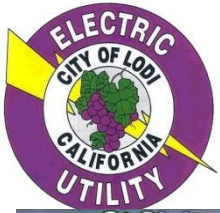
Hazard Tree Removal and Replacement

American Legion Park

Northwest Corner of Vine and Hutchins

City Council Meeting

October 1, 2025



Location



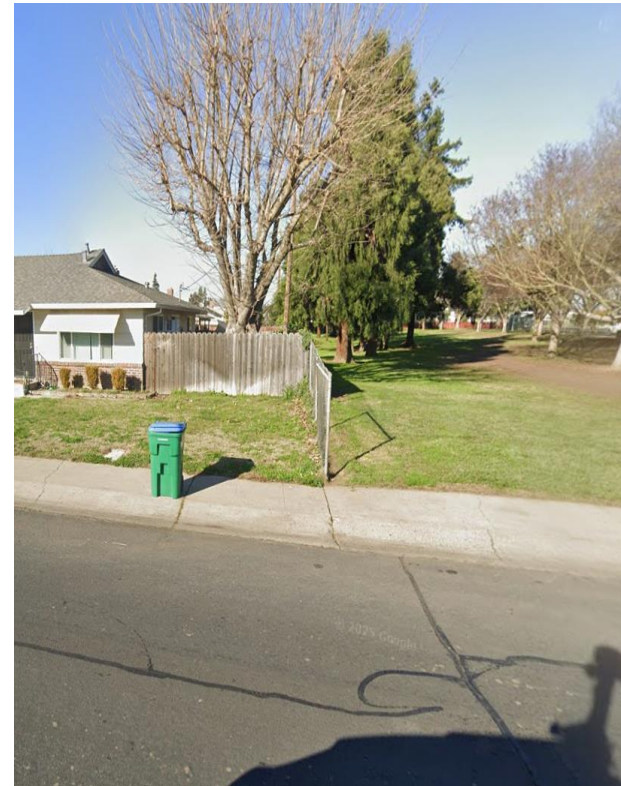


Current Tree Status



- Brittle, broken and twisted limbs
- Dying tree tops
- Unstable Root Structure

- Trees towering above 60 kV power lines





Historic Details

- January 2023 Storm Event
 - Multiple trees within the American Legion Park uprooted and fell causing major damage to park structures



- Other Challenges
 - Exposure to the public (Large limbs falling)
 - Unstable root structure



Proposed Removal Plan

- Lodi Electric Utility and Parks Dept. informed adjacent residents to the park of the tree removal plan in September 2025 through a door to door informational walk.
- West Coast Arborist to remove 32 Redwood and Cedar Trees located on the North and West sides of American legion Park:
- This Work will consist of the following:
 - Remove all 32 Trees utilizing a crane, Bucket Truck and Climbing techniques.
 - Haul all large wood away in transfer trucks
 - Chip and haul all brush
 - Grind all stumps



Two Tree Lodi members, both Certified Arborists, have now visited the trees in question located on the property known as Legion Park, 835 S. Hutchins Street. Trees were viewed from ground level, and their report is below:

Current conditions:

Several of the existing Redwood and Cedar trees located along the westerly and northerly park boundaries are either dying or exhibit numerous defects. This existing stand has and will detach limbs from the main trunk as these trees continue to decline. A major portion of these very mature trees were planted much too close to the property line and high voltage power lines. Additionally, there is strong concern regarding root system integrity, potentially causing tree failure, as was experienced a few winters ago.

This unfortunate situation will progressively be more challenging if not corrected or eliminated.

Long-term effects from pruning:

Redwood trees do not respond well to the practice of topping. Removal of side scaffold branches, when done sparingly, may do limited damage to the health of the tree. Again, most of these trees will require a major side branch removal effort. The primary concern of the extent of pruning required will force these trees to respond by growing rapidly and attempting to recover from severe pruning. The resulting growth will be weaker and may fail more easily during weather events, as we have experienced in the past. Additionally, every pruning cut opens the tree up to potential disease and insect entry.

Saving vs Removal:

Due to the very close proximity of these Redwood and Cedar trees to the overhead high-voltage lines, plus the track record of limb and tree failures within this stand, we suggest that several of the existing trees be removed.

Replacement tree species recommended:

Tree Lodi suggests that utility-friendly tree species be considered for this replant project. We would be happy to help select appropriate tree species and aid in the future replanting effort.

Conclusion:

Whenever possible, the industrial standard of Right Tree in the Right Place should be considered. When considering safety, many other tree species would better serve this situation.



Partnership with Tree Lodi and Parks Dept.

Tree Replacement

- The City of Lodi Electric Utility in partnership with Parks Dept. and Tree Lodi will replant these areas in Spring 2026:
 - Utilizing Utility Friendly trees.
 - Trees canopy will grow below the power lines and be trimmed as needed at full maturity.
 - We will be replanting with a variety of tree species. Some examples are:



Things to Consider:

- Primary Conductor Height
- Powerline Clearance (10')
- Tree Height (at full maturity)
- Root Structure around Underground facilities, Sidewalks, Buildings, etc.
- Canopy Width (near roadways)

Example: For these locations
 Primary Conductor Height = 36'
 Subtract 10' power line clearance
 Maximum mature tree = 26'

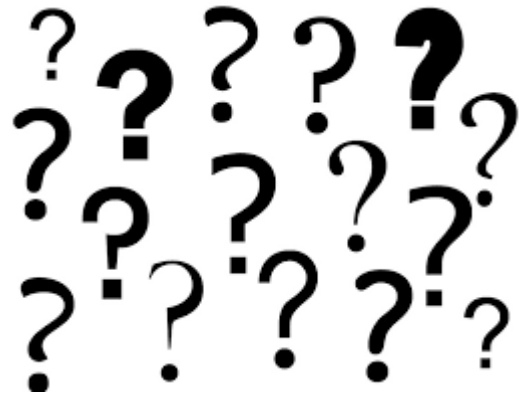
Tree Lodi tree list: small

Acacia aneura	Mulga	20x20, Small
Acer buergerianum	Trident Maple	25X25, Small
Acer palmatum	Bloodgood	20x20, Small
Aesculus 'Fort McNair'	Red Horsechestnut	25x30, Small
Callistemon ceitrinus	Lemon Bottlebrush	25x25, Small
Cercis reniformis 'Oklanoma'	Oklahoma Redbud	20x15, Small
Cotinus coggyria	Smoke Tree	15x18, Small
Crataegus laevigata	English Hawthorn	25x25, Small
Fraxinus pennsylvanica	Leprechaun Green Ash	18x16, Small
Lagerstroemia	Indian Tribes name	25x30, Small
Magnolia	Little Gem	20x10, Small
Magnolia	St. Mary	25x20, Small
Magnolia	Victoria	20x15, Small
Prunus 'Krauter Vesuvius'	Purple Leaf Plum	18x12, Small
Quercus rhysophylla	Loquat Leaf Oak	15x10, Small
Vitex agnus-castus	Chaste Tree	15x20, Small
Zelkova serrata	City Sprite	25x18, Small
Zelkova	Wireless	25x35, Small



Proposed Schedule





Questions/Discussion