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CITY COUNCIL MEETING

JUNE 16, 1982

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MAINTENANCE OF  
TREES IN PARK-  
WAYS

City Clerk Reimche presented a letter which had been received from Viola Fahrner, 424 S. School Street, Lodi, regarding the responsibility for the maintenance of the trees in parkways at that address. Mayor Reid referred the matter to Staff, requesting a report from Staff at the July 7, 1982 Council meeting.

424 S. School St.  
Lodi, Calif. 95240  
May 31, 1982.

RECEIVED

1982 JUN 3 AM 8 21 Lodi.

To <sup>City of Lodi</sup> who may concern:-

ALICE M. REINCHÉ  
CITY CLERK  
CITY OF LODI

read your "Tree Policy" several times and I do not read, that the <sup>property owner</sup> resident having to take care of the roots of the City-owned trees, nor the damage they have caused.

Tree Policy reads - The City of Lodi is responsible for caring for all City trees within the public right of way including trimming, spraying, general maintenance and performing root surgery where property owner is replacing sidewalk and existing sidewalk is removed by property owner.

Property owners are responsible for any required watering of newly planted trees in parkways.

Who waters them at any time (except for the rains) We do. Otherwise, they would be dead long time ago. I don't see any of City Hall out watering them or raking up the bark, the many leaves and small fluffy balls that dry and burst with hundreds of seeds (I think seeds) or seed-like particles flying in every

direction, which goes on for weeks.  
I have done this work for 42 years  
and still doing it.

In my case, the roots of the  
City-owned trees have grown all the  
way from the parkway strip, (where  
in they are growing) proceeding under  
side walks, beside cracking and begin-  
ning to elevate them; continuing on  
through the front lawns... there are  
masses of roots growing up to the  
occupied houses, (which is my home)  
then under the foundation which in  
time would or has already started  
raising the house. Due to this con-  
dition, during our rainy and stormy  
weather this year, I had water in  
the basements. One time, so much I  
had to dig it up with a contain-  
er into a bucket plus mopping  
up, picking up treasured items  
putting them high and dry; besides  
throwing much away soaked and  
not usable. I reported it - had  
several city officials out to look  
at the mess. The problem hasn't  
been solved as yet.

Is this organization, called a  
livable lovable Node? I have lived  
here most of my life and it seems  
things are not getting better.

The trees belong to the "City of Lodi" and if they are destructed - to a property owners - property causing damage etc, the "City of Lodi" should take care of the problem at their own expense, just as we must with the sidewalks.

In the past, the trees in park way strips were the property owners responsibility and the sidewalks were that of the "City of Lodi", until it seemed they fell down on their responsibility of repair and as we know had law suits due to injuries and the expense was great.

Not too long ago, the tables were turned and now we have the sidewalks to care for and the "City of Lodi", have the say of the trees. Some, "City of Lodi" even cannot assume responsibility of correcting damages to residential property. We don't dare touch the trees, except to clean up their filth.

The "City of Lodi" trees in park way strip in front of my home are the Sycamore - a dirty tree all year round. From these two Sycamore trees, I receive very little shade approx. one hour at three o'clock in the afternoon, other than that they are nothing, but a lot of work.

Now the big problem, plus everything else are, that the roots from the City-owned trees are damaging my property. I would feel very grateful if the City of Lodi would do their part in removing their trees and the many roots from the lawns, at 424 <sup>(my home)</sup> S. School St. Lodi

I have been told, if you full-filled this request for me, you will have to do it for others. What about and why not, if it is necessary.!!!

What do we care, whether Lodi is known for its beautiful trees. We like beautiful trees too, but this is our city and we live here. We want to be happy, comfortable and not living in misery. It seems our privileges depend on not <sup>what</sup> we know - it is whom we know and how much money we have.

We have one, such individual in our midst. His privileges are unlimited. Never seems to be questioned and the "City of Lodi" never curbs him. He does as he thinks and pleases.

The two Sycamore trees in the park way in front of my home are not my trees nor my responsibility. I am alone and I do not have that kind

of money to spend.

Please give this problem your  
utmost consideration. Other trees  
could be planted or have none at  
all. It is optional.

Sincerely,

Viola O. Fahrner.