

SECTION 7

CLEARING AND GRUBBING

7-1 GENERAL

A. Clearing and grubbing

1. Shall conform to Section 17, "Clearing and Grubbing", of the Caltrans Standard Specifications, except as modified herein.
2. Areas overgrown by trees or other vegetation need to be prepared prior to the impacted construction activity, which may require the removal and maintenance of weeds in landscaped areas within the entire work zone.

B. Trees

1. All trees, or portions thereof, which are within the right-of-way shall remain unless otherwise shown on the Drawings, or the Engineer directs that a tree or trees or portions thereof are to be removed.
 - a) If directed by the Engineer, the Contractor shall remove such trees in advance of the construction of the permanent improvement and shall dispose of them as directed.
 - b) The trunks of the trees shall be removed to a depth of not less than two (2) feet below grade, and the resulting cavity shall be backfilled and compacted using approved material.
2. Care shall be taken in removing trees to ensure that damage is not done to adjacent improvements. Trees which overhang the right-of-way or the finished Work to within fourteen (14) feet of the pavement and which require trimming may need to be trimmed by the Contractor if directed by the Engineer.
3. All trees and vegetation not indicated for removal shall be protected from damage by the Contractor in accordance with Standard Drawing Number 605 and with Section 26, "Tree Protection", of these Standard Drawings and Specifications. The Contractor shall be liable for replacement in kind of any such damaged trees and vegetation.
4. All trees shall be trimmed by a certified tree worker or a qualified tree care specialist, according to the City's Tree Technical Manual available

from the City's Development Center or from the Urban Forestry Section of the Public Works Department website.

5. Tree Branch Trimming

- a) Where City street trees obstruct the Contractor's ability to perform the Work, the Contractor shall be responsible for all trimming necessary to create clearance for construction operations. Trees which overhang the right-of-way or the finished Work to within fourteen (14) feet of the pavement and which require trimming may need to be trimmed by the Contractor if directed by the Engineer.
- b) When milling, overlay or slurry seal of a street is required, the Contractor shall trim tree branches that extend over the back of curb line to ensure a minimum clearance of fourteen (14) feet.
- c) If a cut is to be made on the branch which is larger than four (4) inches in diameter, the City Arborist must be notified prior to any cutting.
- d) The schedule for tree trimming must be submitted to the City Arborist in addition to the City Engineer at least one (1) week prior to commencing work.
- e) The Contractor shall remove and dispose of all leaves, branches and debris generated as the result of the work at the end of every work day.

C. Pruning of Vegetation

1. When curb and gutter, sidewalk, driveway and walkway replacement is required, the Contractor shall prune vegetation six (6) inches from back of curb and gutter, sidewalk, driveway or walkway.

D. Pruning of Tree Roots

1. Tree roots shall be removed to a depth of twenty-four (24) inches below proposed top of adjacent curb grade.
2. When tree roots are greater than four (4) inches in diameter are encountered, the Contractor shall contact the City Arborist, prior to cutting, for a decision on treatment.
3. Root pruning method shall be approved by the Engineer.
4. Root pruning shall be by Vermeer saw or approved equal. Prior to their removal, roots shall be completely severed between work area and the

tree. Tree roots shall not be torn or ripped by a backhoe or by other means. All final root pruning cuts shall be a clean cut.

5. When demolition exposes roots two (2) inches or greater in diameter, take care to preserve any and all roots not within the grading/excavation plane. Take all reasonable steps as directed to protect exposed roots to remain, such as covering with moistened soil or burlap to prevent drying of live roots.
6. If roots to be cut are within twelve (12) inches of the vertical portion of the tree trunk, the Contractor shall contact the City Arborist, prior to cutting, for a decision on treatment.
7. Contractor shall repair all damaged utility and irrigation lines at no cost to the City. All repairs must be done within seven (7) calendar days.
8. Prevent damage to limbs, trunks and bark. To this end, the Engineer may, from time to time direct the edge or edges of the sidewalk to be realigned away from the tree.

END OF SECTION