

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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REDWOOD LUMBER WILL STAY IN NEWBERG'S COMMUNITY

(NEWBERG, OR) – The Coastal Redwood tree that stood in Memorial Park was felled on April 10th, 2024. In the weeks preceding the tree's removal, City Manager Will Worthey and several members of Newberg staff and City Council considered options to ensure that the Redwood could be memorialized in some way.

Newberg's city council and staff heard deep concern and sorrow from the community over losing the Redwood. This response to the tree's removal has been influential in directing ongoing formalization of tree management methods and revision of the list of trees recommended for planting in Newberg. These efforts will help the city move toward more responsible and sustainable tree management practices for the future.

As of this release, the plan for the lumber produced from the Redwood tree removal is to keep it in Newberg's community. The city's goal is to ensure that the Redwood is given to the community for free and no part of it goes to waste. To this end, the branches and small pieces of the tree were chipped and will be used in CPRD parks. The lumber will be processed into decking boards and table slices to be used in a variety of ways by local woodworkers and makers. Parties interested in the lumber produced from the Redwood removal can email will.worthey@newbergoregon.gov to pass along their contact information and a brief description of their intended use for the wood.

Two oak trees, including one on the other side of the park that sustained lightning damage and was a fall risk, were removed alongside the Redwood. This wood has been given to VFW woodcutters to be seasoned and donated to Newberg FISH to help families who use the wood for heating their homes in the colder months.

In collaboration with CPRD, six new trees were planted in Memorial Park. These will grow and thrive in the park to provide natural beauty and shade for future generations.

Options for rehabilitation or relocation of the gazebo in Memorial Park are being considered.



Memorial plaques have been temporarily removed from the structure and are being stored at Newberg Public Works, and CPRD has removed and transplanted the rhododendrons in their greenhouse to keep them safe while any work is being completed. The plants and memorial objects will be returned as soon as work on the Gazebo is completed.

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