

CCA Tree Committee

Sept.14, 2023

Fact Sheet:

South Claiborne Ave. Green Space Restoration (tree planting); and demise of the trees, Pine St. to Leonidas St.

2016: Construction completed for the Southeast Louisiana Urban Flood Control Project (SELA) drainage for Claiborne Ave. Green Space Restoration was required because the USACE removed mature trees along S. Claiborne Ave., to improve drainage in uptown New Orleans. Mitigation was required based on federal standards and impacts to the environment.

2019, Oct: Community meeting for discussion of Green Space Restoration along Claiborne Ave. and others. Attended by Central Carrollton Assoc. (CCA) representatives.

2020, March: USACE announced that a Green Space Restoration contract was issued to Tarpon Construction LLC., for \$1.4 million.

2020: Contractor planted 98 trees from Pine St. to Leonidas St., along the median strip. The tree planting was completed by the federal contractor, with a one-year required maintenance.

2021, Aug. 4: CCA reported one dead tree to USACE, it was replaced, but later died.

2023, June-July: CCA documented 39 dead trees on the S. Claiborne Ave median between Pine and Leonidas St. No watering truck or water bags were seen by neighbors. CCA board was informed of the problems.

2023, July, 19: USACE e-mail to CCA verifying that the Dept. of Parks and Parkways is responsible for tree maintenance and protection.

2023, mid-August: Dept. of Park and Parkways (P&P) removed 53 dead trees from the Claiborne Ave. median. This amounts to 54% of the original planting, or a \$757,000 loss, using the \$1.4 million initial-cost of the project.

2023, Sept.: Pending CCA letter to P&P, which includes a request to protect remaining healthy trees and replace the SELA trees that died under P&P 's responsibility.

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