



Bill Lovejoy/Sentinel

Crews remove a large tree from along Church Street Wednesday morning.

SC rooting out sidewalk upheavals

Sentinel staff report

SANTA CRUZ — Work has begun on repairs to root-damaged sidewalks around City Hall and the downtown library.

The project, which will include thinning the liquidambar trees and pruning their roots, is expected to be completed by the end of June at a cost to the city of more than \$95,000.

BDS Construction of Madera will rebuild the sidewalks once their crews finish working on the trees.

The city's arborist will inspect the roots once the existing concrete is removed to determine which trees would not survive the extensive root-pruning required to fix the sidewalks.

Officials said as many as eight of the 33 liquidambar trees may have to be removed because their root crowns have grown too large. Any trees removed during the project will be replaced.

Interlocking pavers will be installed around the trees to ensure that future root growth doesn't hurt the sidewalks.

Parking may be restricted periodically on Church and Locust streets between Chestnut and Cedar streets while the project is under way.



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Marty Rivera cuts up a trunk into portable chunks.