



City of Sebastopol Design Review Board/Tree Board Staff Report

Meeting Date: August 22, 2023
Agenda Item: 7a
To: Tree Board
From: John Jay, Associate Planner
Subject: Tree Removal Permit
Recommendation: Approval with Conditions
Applicant/Owner: Covert Lane Owners' Association c/o Cindy Littrel Property Mgmt.
File Number: 2023-037
Address: 509 Norlee Street & Covert Lane
CEQA Status: Categorical Exemption: Section 15301: Class 1
General Plan: High Density Residential (HDR)
Zoning: Planned Community (PC)

Introduction:

The project applicant is seeking approval from the Tree Board for the removal of two (2) protected trees at 509 Norlee Street and Covert Lane also referred to as the Village Green.

Project Description:

The application proposes removal of the following trees: one (1) Douglas Fir and one (1) Tulip tree which was mislabeled as a Maple tree on the application. Trees proposed for removal are located in the areas as shown in the site photos submitted by the applicant and included as attachments in the report. The applicant is seeking approval to remove the Douglas Fir which is about 38" in diameter, and over 60 feet tall is too close to the building at 509 Norlee Street for fire clearance and has also caused damage to the walkway. The tulip tree on Covert Lane is about 19' in diameter and has caused significant damage to the public sidewalk and has also lifted several concrete panels which has created a trip hazard. Trees proposed for replacement are new Crape Myrtle trees in the same locations mentioned.

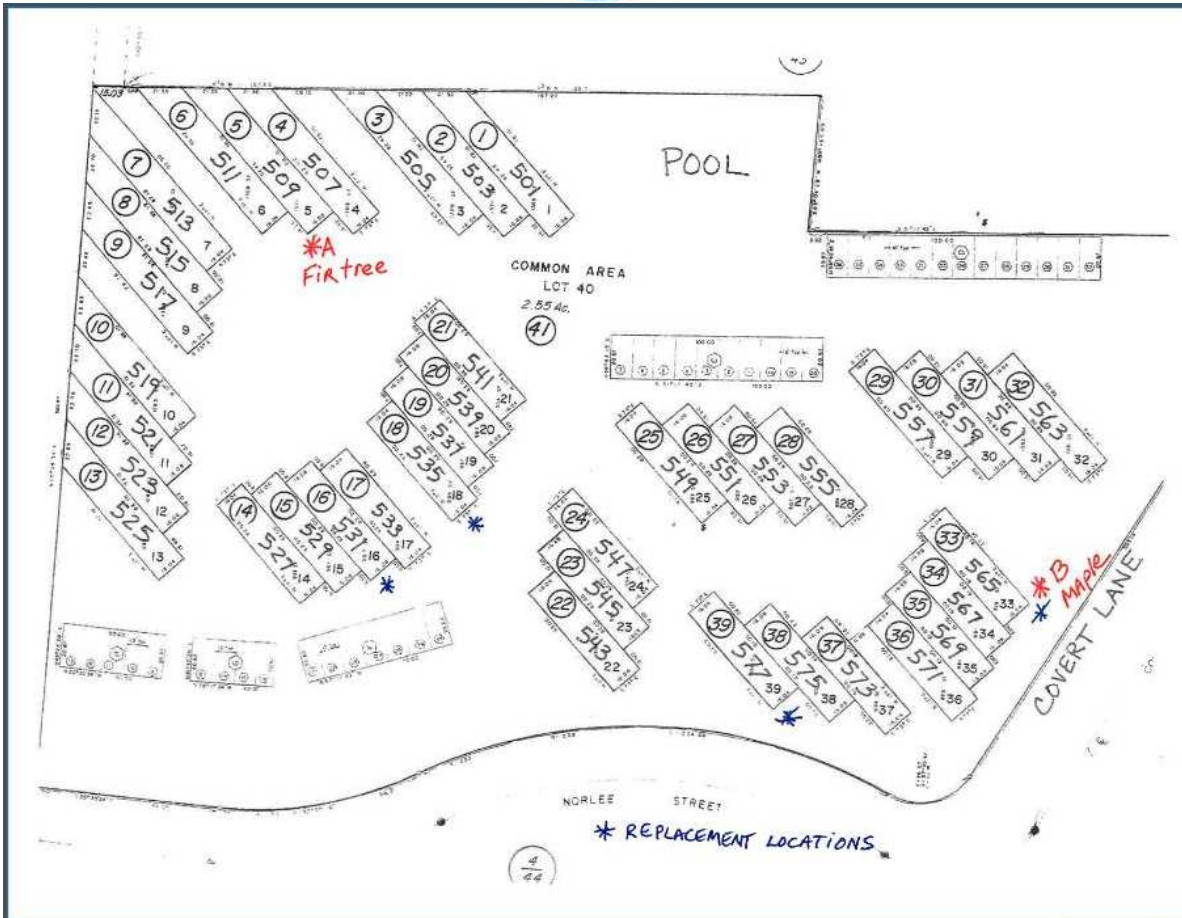


Figure 1 – Map of both locations (Application)

Environmental Review:

The proposed tree removal is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act, pursuant to Section 15301, Class 1 which includes minor alterations to existing topographical features, such as the removal of a tree.

Tree Protection Ordinance Consistency:

Requirements for Tree Removal Permit: Section 8.12.060.D of the Tree Protection Ordinance states that a Tree Removal Permit may be approved when an International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Certified Arborist has verified at least one of the following conditions:

- 1. The tree is diseased or structurally unsound and, as a result, is likely to become a significant hazard to life or property within the next two (2) years.**



2. The tree poses a likely foreseeable threat to life or property, which cannot be reasonably mitigated through pruning, root barriers, or other management methods.

3. The property owner can demonstrate that there are unreasonably onerous recurring maintenance issues, which are deemed necessary for safety or protection of property. The property owner is responsible for providing documentation to support such a claim.

4. A situation exists or is proposed in which structures or improvements, including, but not limited to, building additions, second units, swimming pools, and solar energy systems, such as solar panels, cannot be reasonably designed or altered to avoid the need for tree removal.

5. The tree has matured to such an extent that it is determined to be out of scale with adjacent structures and utilities, or with other landscape features.

Public Comment:

Notice of a tree removal permit application has been posted on the subject parcel on the trees, and in at least two public places within 300 feet of the affected trees, by the applicant, at least 10 calendar days prior to the date of the Sebastopol Tree Board meeting. The Planning Department has received multiple comments from the public as of writing this report. These comments are included as an attachment to this report.

City Departmental Comment:

The proposal was routed out to the various City Departments. The Assistant Superintendent of Public Works Erik Billing visited the site on Covert Lane and took photographic evidence of the sidewalk damage caused by the Tulip tree roots. He also mentioned contacting property management to discuss fixing the sidewalk last year.

Analysis:

Becky Duckles, an ISA Certified Arborist serving as the City Arborist, reviewed the application, conducted a site visit, and prepared an Arborist's Report dated June 21, 2023, attached. In summary of the report states: That both trees have already visibly caused damage to their adjacent walkways. Also, that both trees are out of scale for the areas in which they are located and should be removed in their entirety. The Douglas Fir is overhanging in an area with frequent passersby and is near the condo next to it. Becky Duckles mentioned that the Douglas Fir tree is growing rapidly in a confined yard which suggests that future expansion will cause more cracking of its nearby walkway. Furthermore, because the Douglas Fir has a weak two trunk structure and is hanging directly over several homes and pedestrian-heavy pathways the failure of the tree could also result in not only property damage but injury or death.

Since last year the Public Works Department has been aware of the sidewalk damage of the Tulip tree which also indicates that this could be a recurring maintenance issue. The aforementioned sidewalk which has been lifted 5" in some areas due to the Tulip tree roots, is a trip hazard that may also cause significant injury or death and cannot be mitigated by only



trimming the tree roots. The City Arborist recommends removing the tree and then repairing the sidewalk.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the Board review the staff report, hear from the applicant, public, deliberate and conditionally approve the removal of the trees based on the facts and findings and analysis set forth in this staff report.

Attachments:

- A. Exhibit A: Findings of Approval
- B. Exhibit B: Conditions of Approval
- C. Application Documents
- D. Public Works – Memo on Covert Lane
- E. Public Works – Photo
- F. City Arborist Report
- G. Public Comments

EXHIBIT A
TREE REMOVAL PERMIT
509 Norlee Street & Covert Lane
Removal of Protected Trees

Recommended Findings of Approval

1. That the application is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act, pursuant to Section 15301, Class 1 which includes minor alterations to existing topographical features, such as the removal of a tree.
2. The tree is diseased or structurally unsound and, as a result, is likely to become a significant hazard to life or property within the next two year in that the City Arborist found that the Douglas Fir tree has grown two trunks (co-dominant leaders) over 22" which means that as the tree grows and expands there will be an increasingly weak connection between the trunks.
3. The tree poses a likely foreseeable threat to life or property which cannot be reasonably mitigated through pruning, root barriers, or other management methods in that the City Arborist noted that the Douglas Fir is in the vicinity of several homes and walkways, and if the tree were to fail, they would all be targets and significant property damage, injury, or death could occur.
4. The property owner can demonstrate that there are unreasonably onerous recurring maintenance issues, which are deemed necessary for safety or protection of property. The property owner is responsible for providing documentation to support such a claim in that the property manager had been in contact with Public Works since 2022 due to the damage of the public sidewalk near Covert Lane from the Tulip tree roots.
5. A situation exists or is proposed in which structures or improvements, including, but not limited to, building additions, second units, swimming pools, and solar energy systems, such as solar panels, cannot be reasonably designed or altered to avoid the need for tree removal in that the Tulip tree has already lifted sidewalk panels up to 5" above the surrounding grade, collapsing the sidewalk. The City Arborist recommends removing the tree to repair the sidewalk.
6. The tree has matured to such an extent that it is determined to be out of scale with adjacent structures and utilities, or with other landscape features in that the City Arborist has stated in their report that the Douglas Fir tree is in a tiny front yard and has already lifted and broken the entryway.

EXHIBIT B
TREE REMOVAL PERMIT
509 Norlee Street & Covert Lane
Removal of Protected Trees

Recommended Conditions of Approval

1. The Tree Removal Permit for the removal of two (2) protected trees, as identified on the site plan, shall be valid for a period of three (3) years, except that the applicant may request a one (1) year extension of this approval from the Planning Director, pursuant to Section 17.400.100 of the Zoning Ordinance.
2. The applicant shall plant four (4) onsite replacement trees of a type and number approved by the City Arborist for each removed protected tree. A site plan indicating the replacement trees, and/or receipts of the trees shall be submitted to the Planning Department upon tree replacement approval and selection. Alternately, the applicant may opt to allow the City to retain the per-tree replacement deposit of \$300.00, which will be transferred into the City's Tree Fund.
3. Prior to planting, the applicant shall confirm that replacement trees will be irrigated through an establishment period of 2-3 years and describe the method of irrigation. This information shall be provided to the Planning Department for review and approval.
4. The replacement trees shall be replanted within 12 months of the removal of trees.
5. An Encroachment Permit may be required prior to tree removal. Please contact the Engineering Department prior to removal if work will be performed, or materials placed, in the public right-of-way. The phone number for the Engineering Department is (707) 823-2151.
6. Tree removals shall only take place during the following hours: Monday to Friday, from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M., and Saturday and Sunday, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Additionally, no tree shall be removed on any of the following holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veterans Day, Christmas Day, and Thanksgiving Day.
7. Any replacement trees that will reach a height greater than 20 feet at maturity shall not be planted within 20 feet (measured horizontally) of overhead utility lines.



City of Sebastopol

TREE REMOVAL PERMIT Application and Checklist

The submittal information shall be provided to the Planning Department. All submittal information shall be presented along with the related fees, and any additional information required by the Planning Department before the application can be accepted as complete.

Planning File #: _____
 Date Filed: 5/9/2023
 Total Fee Paid: \$ _____
 Received by: EB
 Date Application Deemed Complete: _____

PROJECT INFORMATION

ADDRESS: @ Covert & Norlee

ASSESSOR'S PARCEL #: 004-620-041

Applicant's Information

Name: Covert Lane Owners' Assoc.
 Address: c/o Cindy LITTRELL Prop. Mgmt.
 City, State, Zip: P.O. Box 373
COTATI CA 94931
 Phone #: 707-321-5834
 Fax #: N/A
 Email: CindyLittrell@gmail.com
 Signature: Cindy Littrell

Owner's Information

Name: SAME
 Address: _____
 City, State, Zip: 0 Norlee St.
 Phone #: _____
 Fax #: _____
 Email: _____
 Signature: _____

Date: 5-8-2023

I certify that this application is being made with my consent
 Date: Cindy Littrell Rep for Board of Directors

| Location Key | Species of Tree | Diameter at 4 1/2 feet | Heritage Tree? PROTECTED NATIVE | Area where tree is to be removed from? | Reason for Removal | Proposed Replacement |
|--------------|---------------------------|------------------------|--|--|---|---|
| A | FIR | 38.22 in. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | 509 Norlee | OUT OF SCALE PROPERTY DAMAGE | GRAPE MYRTLE |
| B | MAPLE | 19.11 in | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | COVERT LANE | COVERT LANE sidewalk damage | GRAPE MYRTLE |
| C | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | | | |
| D | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | | | |
| E | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | | | |
| F | EXAMPLES LISTED BELOW: | | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | | | |
| Sample | (Q. lobata) Valley Oak | 22.5" | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Back Yard near existing house | Large areas of decay in main trunk | 4-15 Gallon live oaks, 2 here and 2 in the front yard |
| Sample | (S. semiperv.) | Multi trunks | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | Front Yard | Root-sprouted; | 2-15 gallon |

| | | | | | | |
|--|---------------|------------------|---------|--|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | Coast Redwood | 5" - 9" diameter | [xx] No | | weak; poor specimen/form. | redwoods @ rear property line |
|--|---------------|------------------|---------|--|---------------------------|-------------------------------|

The submittal information shall be provided to the Planning Department. All submittal information shall be presented along with the Planning Application form, related fees, and any additional information required by the Planning Department before the application can be accepted as complete.

Upon receipt of this information the Planning Department has 30 days in which to determine if the application is complete. Once the application has been deemed complete, the project can be scheduled before the Tree Board. The Tree Board meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at Sebastopol City Hall, 7120 Bodega Avenue, Sebastopol, at 4:00 p.m.

The applicant and/or his representative must be present for any meetings. Failure to do so may result in the application being continued.

Size Limit: Plans should not be larger than 30" x 42" trimmed. All plans shall be folded into a 9" x 11" size. Unfolded plans will not be accepted.

Scale: The scale used on submittal plans shall generally be at a 1/8" = 1'0" for the architectural plans, 1" = 20' for site engineering plans. Include a north arrow, the scale and a bar scale on all plans.

- 1. **Application Form:**(1)
Completed and signed by applicant and property owner.
- 2. **Fee:** As defined on the fee schedule listed on the Master Planning Application. Checks should be made payable to the City of Sebastopol.
- 3. **Location Map:**(1)
Indicate the subject parcel(s) and adjacent streets on an 8 1/2" x 11" map.
- 4. **Written Statement:**(1)
Written Statement providing a description of tree(s) proposed to be removed.
- 5. **Site Plans:**(1 set)
Clearly show the location of the tree(s) proposed to be removed on the property.
- 6. **Site Photographs:**(1 set)
Clearly show the views of and from the project, including neighboring development. Include a key map indicating where the pictures were taken from and in what direction they were taken. Label the pictures accordingly. It is often desirable to provide the City with a series of overlapping photographs of the surrounding neighborhood that show a panoramic view. Polaroids or digital photos on a CD are acceptable.

INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT

"As part of this application, applicant agrees to defend, indemnify, release and hold harmless the City, its agents, officers, attorneys, employees, boards and commissions from any claim, action or proceeding brought against any of the foregoing individuals or entities, the purpose of which is to attack, set aside, void or annul the approval of this application or the adoption of the environmental document which accompanies it or otherwise arises out of or in connection with the City's action on this application. This indemnification shall include, but not be limited to, damages, costs, expenses, attorney fees or expert witness fees that may be asserted by any person or entity, including the applicant, arising out of or in connection with the City's action on this application, whether or not there is concurrent passive or active negligence on the part of the City.

If, for any reason any portion of this indemnification agreement is held to be void or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the agreement shall remain in full force and effect."

Applicant's Signature Cindy Setwell Date Signed 5/9/23 Planning File No. _____

NOTE: The purpose of the indemnification agreement is to allow the City to be held harmless in terms of potential legal costs and liabilities in conjunction with permit processing and approval.

NOTICE OF MAILING:

Effective immediately, email addresses or facsimiles will be used for sending out of staff reports and agendas to applicants, their representatives, property owners, and others to be notified if an email address or facsimile number is available.

Please sign and acknowledge you have been notified of the Notice of Mailing for applications and have provided an email address or fax number.


Signature


Printed Name

Public Notification of Tree Removal

Trees proposed for removal shall be marked by THE APPLICANT with a form prescribed by the City (attached). Notice of a Tree Removal Permit application shall be posted on the subject parcel on affected tree(s), and in at least two public places within 300 feet of the affected trees, at least ten (10) calendar days prior to the date of the Sebastopol Tree Board meeting at which the application will be considered.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT I, THE APPLICANT, AM RESPONSIBLE FOR POSTING THE TREE(S) PROPOSED FOR REMOVAL WITH THE ATTACHED FORM WITHIN 5 DAYS OF FILING THIS TREE REMOVAL APPLICATION. FAILURE TO POST THE PROPOSED TREE(S), AS REQUIRED, MAY RESULT IN THE APPLICATION BEING CONTINUED OR DENIED.

If you need help in posting the proposed tree(s), please contact the Planning Department at
707-823-6167

Please sign and acknowledge you have been notified of the Posting of Tree(s) Requirement


Signature

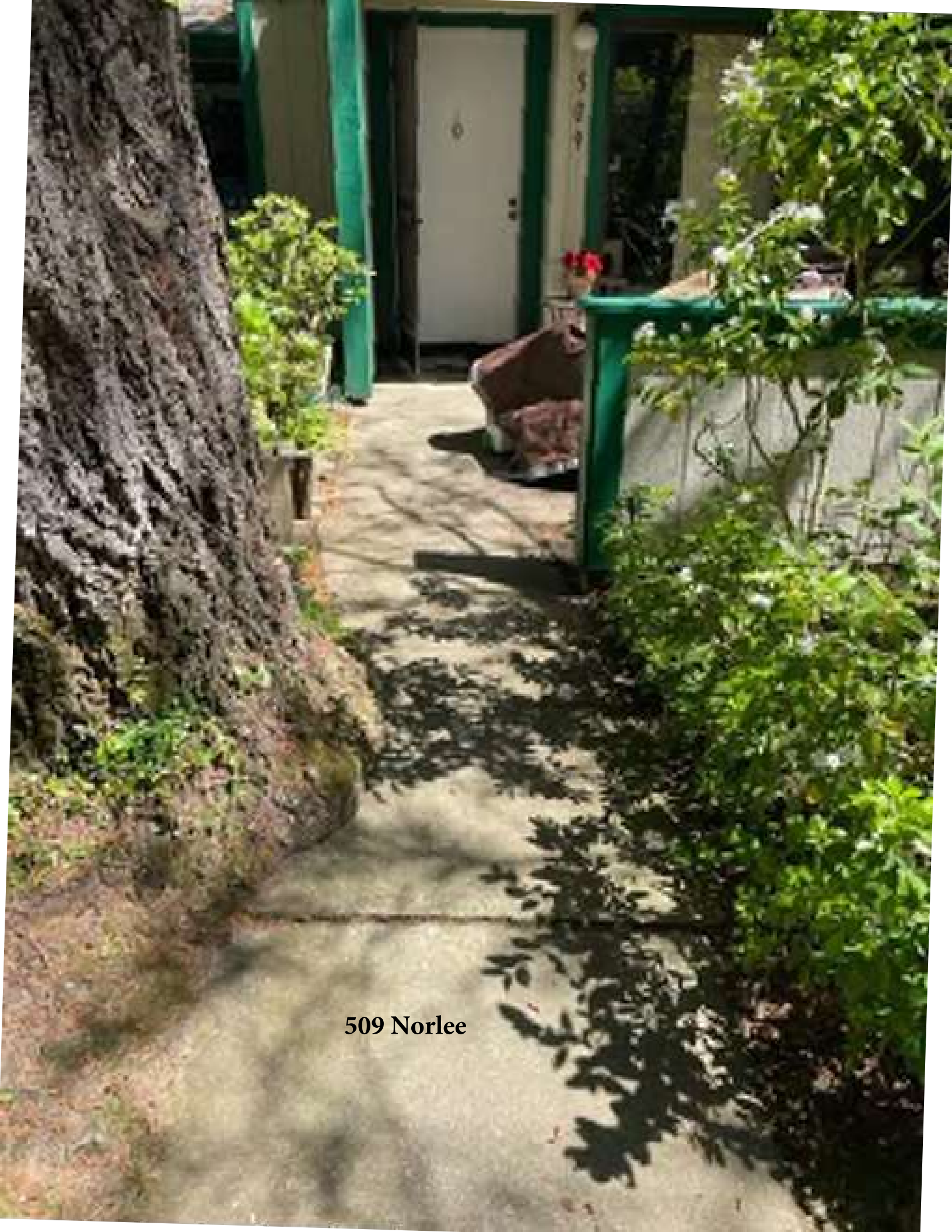

Printed Name



**509 Norlee
Fir Tree has damaged
concrete sidewalk. Tree
has outgrown its space.**



509 Norlee
Fir Tree
Split leader



509 Norlee



Covert Lane Maple



Covert Lane Maple



Covert Lane Maple



707.321.5834 cindylittrell@ymail.com

P.O. Box 373 Cotati, CA 94931

cindylittrellpropertymanagement.com

City of Sebastopol

Attn: Tree Board

May 16, 2023

RE: Request to remove two trees from Covert Lane Owners' Association

Dear Tree Board,

The Board of Directors for Covert Lane Owners' Association, located at the corner of Covert Lane and Norlee Street, hereby requests a permit for the removal of two trees which have caused damage and created property damage.

The fir tree at 509 Norlee Street has a split leader, has outgrown its space, is too close to the structure for fire clearance, and has damaged the walkway to the entrance of 509 thereby creating a hazard. The concrete now needs to be replaced. There's an abundance of trees in the nearby tree grove.

The maple tree on Covert Lane has damaged the city sidewalk and we were told to have the concrete repaired due to the trip hazard. The roots have invaded the city sidewalk.

Thank you so much for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Cindy Littrell, CCAM
Manager for Covert Lane Owners' Association
cindylittrell@ymail.com
707-321-5834



43

POOL

COMMON AREA
LOT 40
2.55 AC.

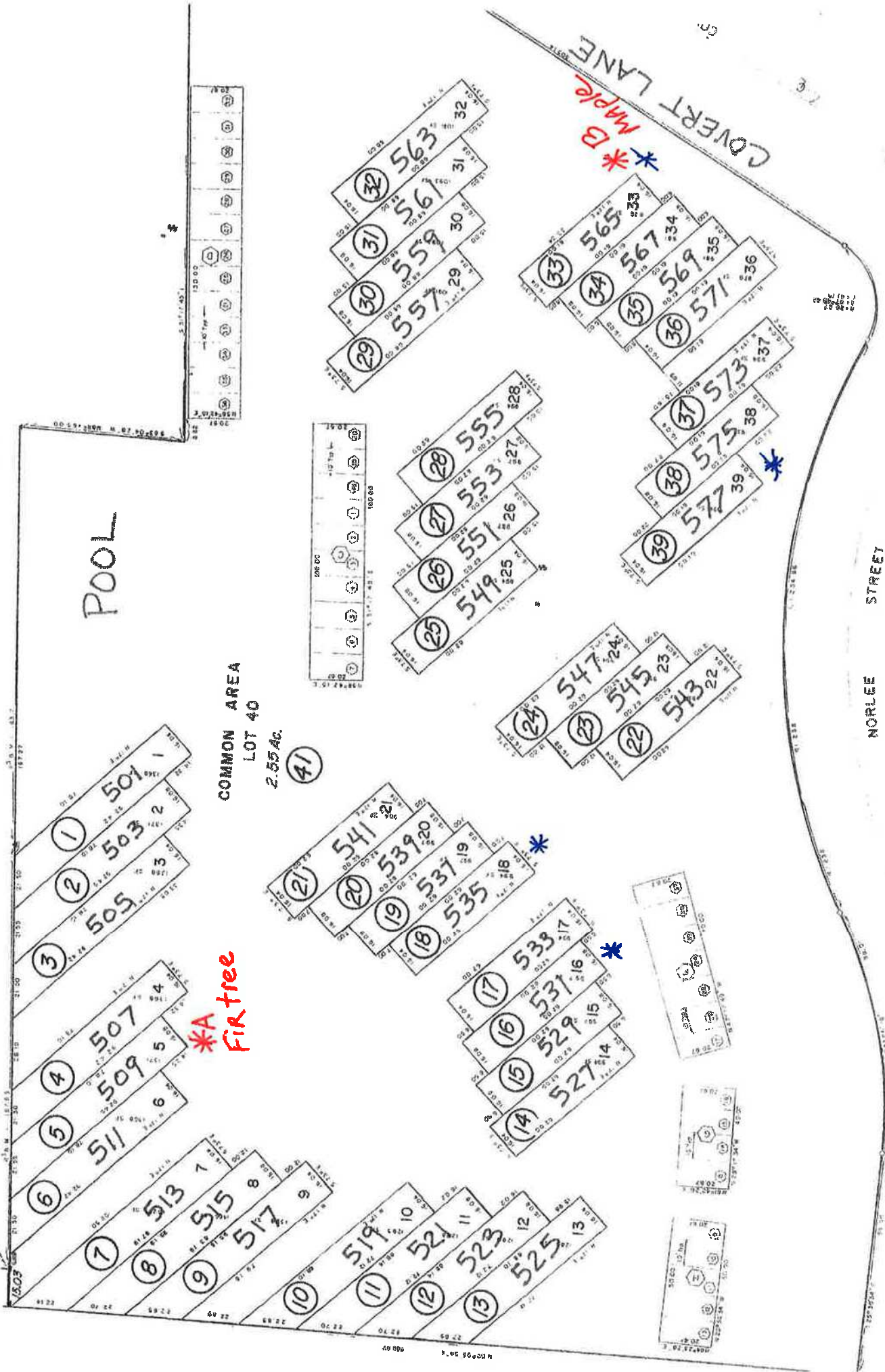
*A
FIR tree

COVERT LANE
*B
*A
Maple

NORLEE STREET

* REPLACEMENT LOCATIONS

4
44



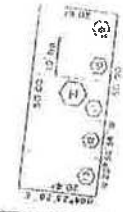
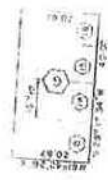
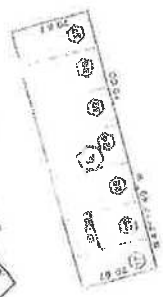
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- 39 577



From: Erik Billing
Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 9:14 AM
To: Planning Technician; Kari Svanstrom
Subject: Sidewalk On Covert At Village Green
Attachments: [Covert Sidewalk 2.jpg](#)

Attached is a picture I took of the sidewalk that is being lifted by the tree roots from the tree in the lawn. I talked to the property manager last year and asked them to fix the sidewalk. She was going to get an estimate and present it to the board for approval, I have not heard from them since. Let me know if you need anything else.

Thank you,

Erik Billing

Assistant Public Works Superintendent

City of Sebastopol | 714 Johnson St. | Sebastopol, CA 95472

Public Works Department

707-823-5331 Ofc | 707-823-4721 Fax

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.



City of Sebastopol records, including emails, are subject to the California Public Records Act. Unless exemptions apply, this email, any attachments and any replies are subject to disclosure on request, and neither the sender nor any recipients should have any expectation of privacy regarding the contents of such communications.



BECKY DUCKLES
CONSULTING ARBORIST & LANDSCAPE ADVISOR
SEBASTOPOL, CA.
707.829.0555 PH

Covert Lane & Norlee - Sebastopol
June 21, 2023

I have reviewed the Tree Removal Application for this homeowner's association and visited the site on June 19th. Tree A, listed as a 38" dbh Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) is located at 509 Norlee in the interior of the site. It has two trunks (co-dominant leaders) with included bark which extends to the base of the trunks. As the tree grows and the trunks expand radially, there is an increasingly weak connection between the trunks. The trunks bifurcate at 5' above grade and the co-dominant trunks are approximately 22" & 24" diameter above 5'. The tree is approximately 60' tall.

Although the structure is weak, the tree is healthy and growing rapidly. It is growing in a tiny front yard and the base of the trunk has lifted and broken the entry walkway, creating a trip hazard. There are many targets if this tree failed – several homes and walkways with frequent pedestrian use. Whole trunk or tree failure could cause significant property damage, injury or death. It should be removed.

Tree B along the covert Lane frontage is listed as a maple, 19" diameter. It actually is a tulip tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) and is causing significant damage to the adjacent public sidewalk. It has cracked and broken the sidewalk, lifting several panels up to 5" above the surrounding grade, collapsing the sidewalk and creating another trip hazard. This tree should be removed and the sidewalk repaired.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Duckles

Becky Duckles, City Arborist & Landscape Consultant

WE LOVE OUR PRECIOUS TREES!

May 19, 2023

Dear Planning Department Tree Board Members,

Permission has been requested by the HOA of Village Green condos on Covert Lane to destroy two trees. **One is a tall, magnificent Pine Tree whose diameter well exceeds the 50-inch diameter, and is at least 60 feet tall, making it a Heritage Tree. For fifty years, this tree has given us beauty, inspiration, and a place for our last precious birds to rest and squirrels to climb. Trees give us Air, and draw down Water. We humans cannot survive without these things. Trees make our lives possible and beautiful.**

* Mother Earth is in the throes of Environmental Emergencies. Fires, floods, drought and Earthquakes are driven by deforestation. We humans need to LOVE the gifts of Life given to us by Mother Earth. We need to steward our Trees responsibly. All Trees are precious!

* This Heritage Tree's roots are disturbing the plumbing and cement path near unit #509. The HOA receives \$32,000. per year in Homeowners' fees. (\$500./mo X 32 units = \$16,000./month or \$32,000. per year. **These fees easily accommodate the cost of fixing plumbing. Trees are priceless and require protection so they can serve our real needs.**

* **Attempting to cut this tree down is very dangerous. This Heritage Tree** lives among many tall, magnificent trees and it stands a few feet away from the condos. The trunk and branches could fall on a person, injuring or killing that person. Great damage would be done to the condos if the branches and/or trunk fall on the rooves. It could also fall against the other Trees, injuring them.

* The other magnificent Tree being considered for destruction is causing some damage to the sidewalk. * **Rather than destroy another beautiful tree, the city can re~design the sidewalk to**

go around the roots. Covert Lane is a very wide street with plenty of room for this.

In light of our ongoing Climate Catastrophes all driven by lack of human Love, we request that you contemplate these important ideas and that you do not seek to mindlessly and heartlessly destroy some of the last Trees on Earth.

*** All Trees are precious to the flow of the Life Force.**

*** Our children and younger adults have so many conditions that frighten them and disturb their peace. We need to provide them with the assurance that we are doing all we can to bring more LOVE and stability into their lives by protecting our last remaining species so they can have decent and even beautiful lives.**

* We request that you change your priorities and stop treating the precious Life~Giving Trees of Sebastopol like weeds, and that you choose to appreciate their very important gifts. Simply listen to the Love in your own hearts and use your minds to choose to use money and time wisely for our children and for all citizens, both human and other~than human.

With Faith in your Wisdom to shine,

8 Residents of Village Green Condos
corner of Norlee St. and Covert Lane
who wish to remain anonymous

June 14, 2023

Dear Tree Board assistants,

Kindly make sure that all members of the Tree Board see and read all these materials regarding the Heritage Tree and the magnificent Maple Tree at Village Green condos on Covert Lane.

Thank you.

May Peace and Love prevail,
Mother Earth

May Peace & Love prevail!

Photos of our
Trees included

WE LOVE OUR PRECIOUS TREES!

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With Faith in your Wisdom to shine,

8 Residents of Village Green Condos
corner of Norlee St. and Covert Lane
who wish to remain anonymous

All Trees dance
in GOD's resonance

All plants dance

in GOD's rejoicing



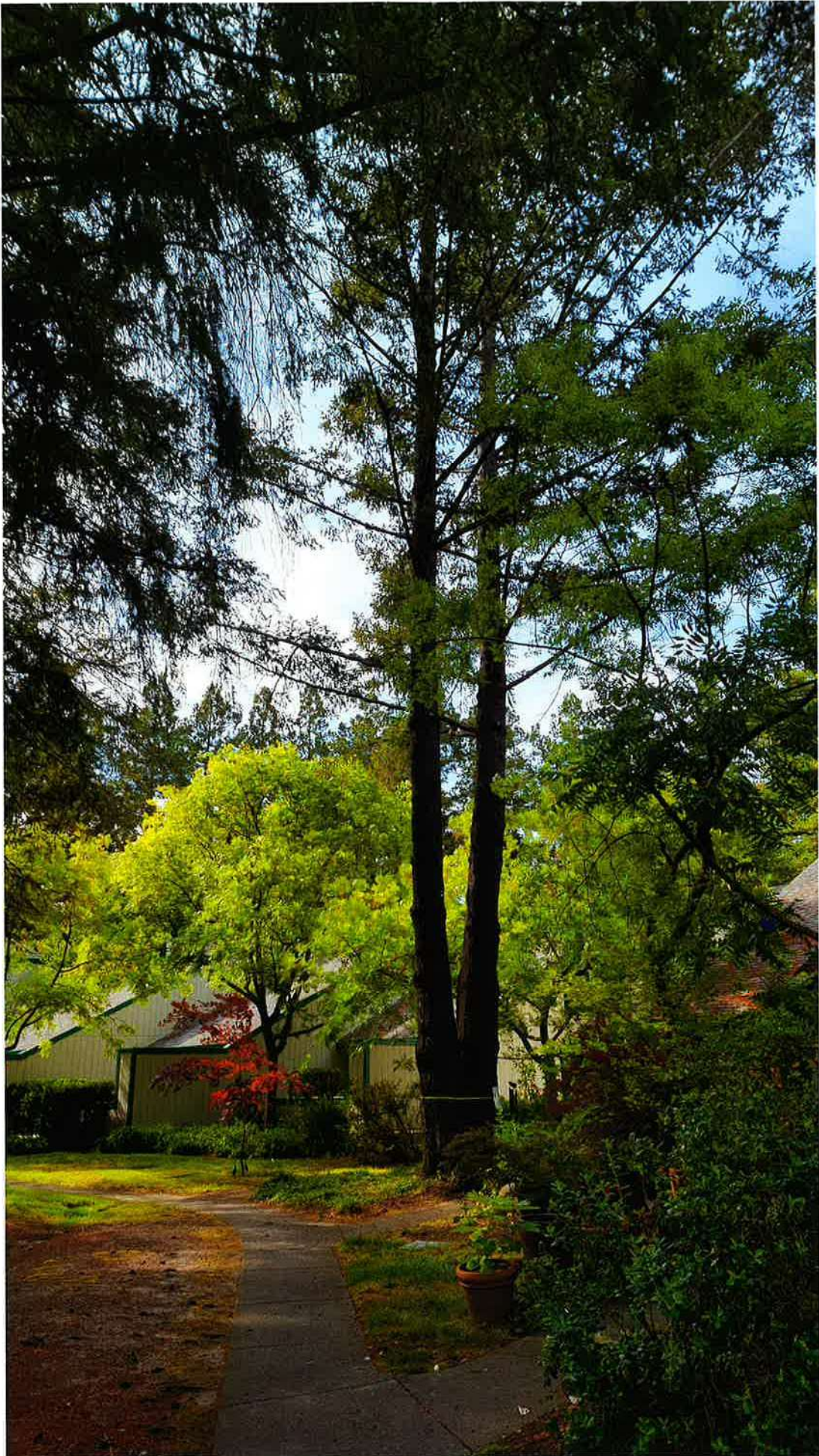


Photo by Ned Burdovich
an owner at Village Green

Heritage Fir Tree at Village Green



These are the tall, magnificent conifer
Trees at Village Green.

Notice how closely the Trees are to the homes
and to the other Trees around them.

Seeking to Kill these Trees is dangerous
and unnecessary. Love them instead!



ALL TREES ARE PRECIOUS!
We love our Trees.

June 17, 2023

Dear Members of the Tree Board and
Becky Duckles, Arborist,

Here are photographs of the tall,
magnificent conifer Trees and the
majestic, very tall Heritage Fir Tree
who grace our yard at Village Green.

All Trees give us the blessings of Water,
Air and Inspiration. All Trees are
integral to the support of the Life
Force on Earth. They make our
lives beautiful... and possible!

The two Trees you will decide the fate
of are precious. They are among the
last precious Trees on Earth. There
are always ways to choose Life and
Love for the creatures who give us the
gift of Life instead of contributing to
the prolific violence against Mother
Earth. Please use your power to preserve
sanity, grace and common sense.
all of Life on Earth thanks you.

Trees

I think that I shall never see

A poem lovely as a tree.

A tree whose hungry mouth is pressed
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast;

A tree that looks at God all day,

And lifts her leafy arms to pray;

A tree that may in summer wear

A nest of robins in her hair;

Upon whose bosom snow has lain;

Who intimately lives with rain.

Poems are made by fools like me,

But only God can make a tree.

~ Joyce Kilmer ~ 1886-1918

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 1:42 PM
To: Planning Technician
Subject: TREES to be protected - NOT cut

Tree Board:

I stand in complete agreement with all in favor of keeping the trees standing at Village Green Condos.

Every tree is a precious entity and part of our little remaining natural environment.

Please safeguard the well-being of all trees on public and private property.

Best, Judith lam
Sebastopol resident

From: Shannon King <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, June 15, 2023 5:54 PM
To: Planning Technician
Subject: Heritage Fir Trees

I respectfully request that you deny the Village Green Condos request to cut down two Heritage Fir trees on their property. Every living tree is important to our neighborhoods and our earth right now. They are the greatest protection against air pollution that we have, plus they add beauty and needed shade to our neighborhoods.

Thank you very much,
Shannon King

I now live in Minnesota but I once lived near Sebastopol.

From: Craig Darian [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 15, 2023 7:21 PM
To: Planning Technician
Subject: Notice Soliciting Public Comment re: Heritage Fir Tree Marked for Removal

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please be advised that we own a condo on Norlee Street in the Covert Lane condominium complex, and I have been alerted in the above-referenced regard.

Our long-term occupant, Loriel Sweet, has conveyed her deep concern about the subject 70' tall protected Heritage Fir, to the extent that she admires this tree and believes that there are other means by which to mitigate damage other than its removal.

The purpose of this letter is to convey concurrence with Ms. Sweet, and to request that the City takes all steps necessary to protect this tree and find a solution pursuant to which the tree needn't be destroyed.

I can be reached at the Hollywood Office below if this merits a conversation.

Your courteous attention and careful review of this matter is anticipated and appreciated. C. Darian

CRAIG C. DARIAN, Chairman & CEO

OCCIDENTAL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP HOLDINGS, INC.
TRICOR ENTERTAINMENT

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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DMG HOLDINGS, INC.
DARIAN MANAGEMENT GROUP

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2023 11:13 AM
To: Planning Technician
Cc: Loriel Golden
Subject: 60 year-old fir tree on Covert Lane

Dear City of Sebastopol,

I hear from a friend that you are planning on taking this tree down.

I urge you not to.

I used to live in the condos on Covert Lane and remember that tree, which is a magnificent expression of nature, and deserves not to die.

Many blessings,

Jim Dreaver



City of Sebastopol Planning Department

Date: June 26, 2023

To: Planning Director & Design Review/Tree Board

From: Planning Temp

Subject: Village Green Public Comment

This memo is to note that we have received 7 phone calls regarding opposition to the Village Green tree removal.

From: getting emailhere <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2023 12:44 PM
To: Planning Technician
Subject: Tree

Dear Board,

Please do not cut down the 60 ft Heritage tree at the Village Green condos. Trees are so necessary for the environment and our health. Please find another way around the problem.

Thank you,
A concerned friend of nature

Ned Buratovich
[Redacted] Norlee St.
Sebastopol, CA 95472

SAN FRANCISCO CA 940
14 JUN 2023 PM 2 L



CITY of SEBASTOPOL PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Attn: TREE BOARD

7120 Bodega Ave.

Sebastopol, CA 95472

95472-370020



June 13, 2023

Dear Tree Board members,

I own a condo in the Sebastopol Village Green community at [REDACTED] Norlee Street.

We have a magnificent tree here (photos attached) which is scheduled for removal. Reportedly, it is/has caused problems with the plumbing in that area of the complex. There should be alternative remedies for the plumbing/sewer line issues that don't require removal of this tree.

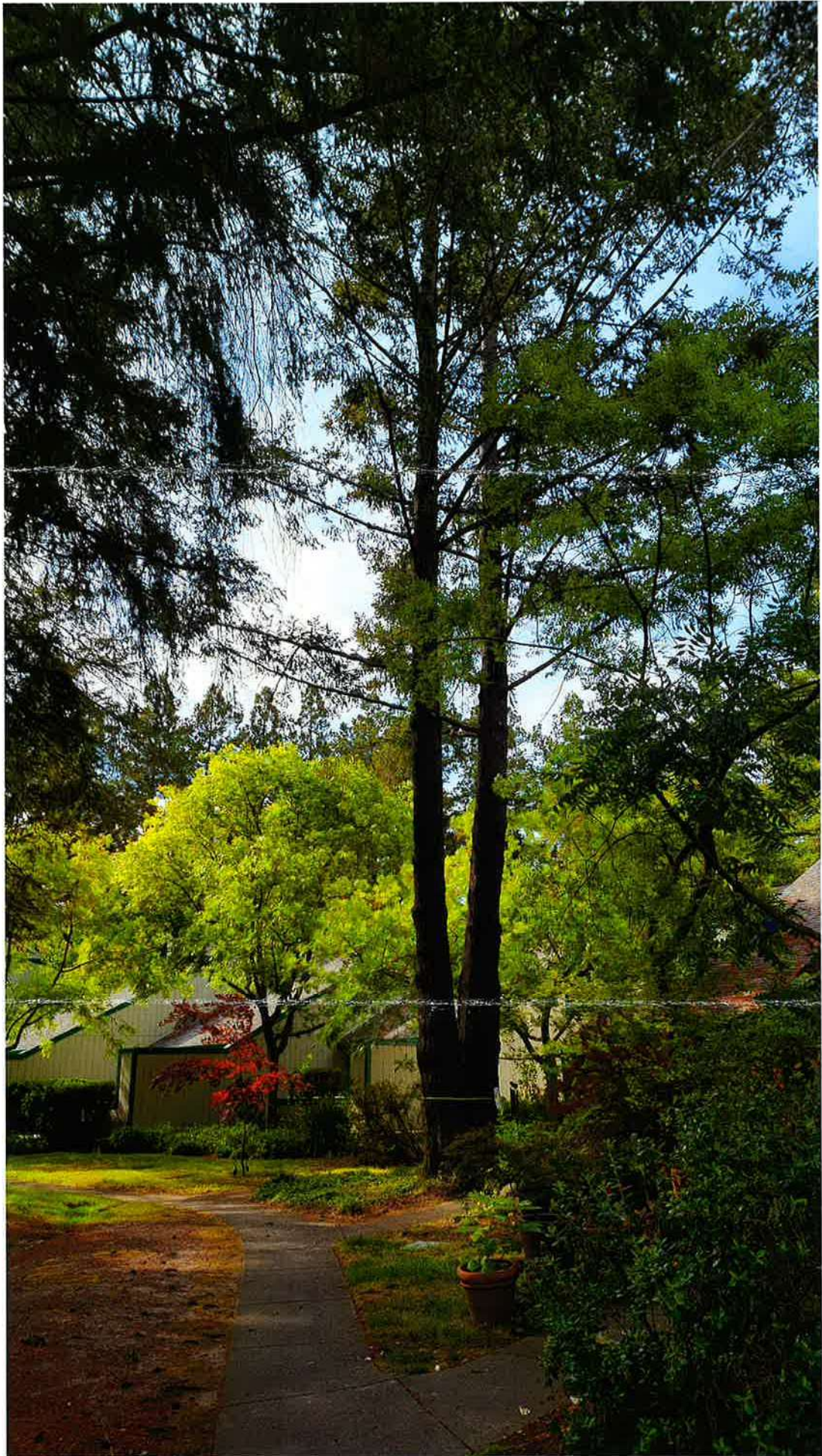
The tree, at 70-ft tall and with a girth that qualifies it for heritage status, contributes to the wooded ambiance that gives this condominium complex its "green village" appeal.

Please do what you can to protect this tree.

Sincerely,

Ned Buratovich

[REDACTED]



Elizabeth Bennett
[REDACTED] Norlee Street
Sebastopol, CA 95472
[REDACTED]

June 17, 2023

Dear Tree Board members,

I own a condo in the Sebastopol Village Green community at [REDACTED] Norlee Street.

We have a magnificent tree here, situated near 509 Norlee Street, which will be discussed at your meeting on June 27 at 3:30. I hope that it can be saved. Is there an alternative remedy for the sidewalk issue that doesn't require removal of this tree?

The tree, at 70-ft tall and with a girth that qualifies it for heritage status, contributes to the wooded ambiance that gives this condominium complex its "green village" appeal.

Please do what you can to protect this tree.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Bennett

From: Jo Wilson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 23, 2023 3:18 AM
To: Planning Technician
Cc: Jo Wilson
Subject: Preserve the 60 Year Old 60 Foot Heritage Fir Tree and the Beautiful Maple Tree.

To the Tree Board and HOA at Village Green Condos in Sebastopol California,

My name is Jo Wilson. I am a resident of a California community and I am writing you with great concern.

I have friends and family who are residents of your beautiful community for over 20 years. Everyone is concerned and alerting surrounding communities and counties around Sebastopol and other California cities to take a moment to pray for these two great majestic trees YOU are considering to kill. The 60 year old Heritage Fir tree Near unit #509 as well as the Maple tree on Covert Lane.

These grand majestic trees are wildlife habitats and are natures warriors of climate change.

We ask that you put your great creative minds together to find a solution to work around and preserve This 60 year old, 60 foot Heritage Fir tree on a path near unit #509. And preserve the beautiful Maple tree near a Covert lane sidewalk.

Please preserve these trees.

Save them for all the good they do for the atmosphere wildlife and community.

PLEASE!

This is doing God's work!

This is being a good citizen!

This is being mindful!

Respectfully,

Jo Wilson
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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From: jeanier bates [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, June 27, 2023 10:44 AM
To: Planning Technician
Subject: Tree work at Village Green

I am hoping that the folks making decisions about the two trees that have been identified as problems, one on the Covert Lane sidewalk and the other within our complex, can be preserved and a protective solution can be found.

Thank you,

Jeanie Bates, resident of Village Green

From: Tom Watzka <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 11:32 AM
To: Barbara
Cc: John Jay; Kari Svanstrom; Cindy Littrell
Subject: Re: Project ID 2023-037 Tree Removal Permit

Hello,

I am writing in regard to the permit request to remove a tree on the Covert Lane Owners Association property. Several factors have initially drawn out attention to this tree including sidewalk damage causing trip hazards and the fact that it has just outgrown its space. This in turn has created a fire hazard and limits our work in creating defensible space.

Some of our owners are rightfully concerned about losing a tree on the property, but as a board member one of our top priorities is the safety of our community.

Thomas Watzka
Owner, [REDACTED] Norlee Street
Member Board of Directors

From: ERIN M EWART [REDACTED] <>
Sent: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 5:18 AM
To: Barbara [REDACTED]
Cc: John Jay <jjay@cityofsebastopol.org>; Kari Svanstrom <ksvanstrom@cityofsebastopol.org>; Cindy Littrell [REDACTED] <>
Subject: Project ID 2023-037 Tree Removal Permit

I am a member of the Covert Lane Owners Association Board of Directors and I am writing in support of our recent request for tree removal.

One of my joys in living in this complex are our beautiful trees and it saddens me that we need to remove any tree. Unfortunately in this particular case, the trees in question are now posing a safety hazard to our residents and buildings. As a result, we have spent years considering this issue and have finally come to the painful conclusion that there must removal. I recommend your approval

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Best regards,

Erin Ewart
[REDACTED] Norlee St
Sebastopol, CA 95472
Member Board of Directors

From: ERIN M EWART [REDACTED] <>
Sent: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 8:59 AM
To: John Jay
Cc: Barbara; Kari Svanstrom; Cindy Littrell
Subject: Re: Project ID 2023-037 Tree Removal Permit

Thank you John,

If I could also add for the file some of the specific concerns I have about the tree. These include:

1. The tree has outgrown its space
2. It constantly drops dry debris on the roofs
3. It is a fire hazard, and doesn't allow for defensible space.
4. And finally, there is damage to the concrete and the trip hazard to the resident, making it very difficult for elderly and disabled residents to navigate.

Best regards,

Erin Ewart
Board Member

(No subject)

Bill Galli 

Wed 8/2/2023 10:46 AM

To: Planning Technician <planningtemp@cityofsebastopol.org>

Dear Tree Board:

Kindly protect the lives of the 2 Trees at Covert Lane condos. All Trees are precious. They give us Water, Air, Beauty and Inspiration. They make our lives possible...and beautiful. There is money to fix the small areas of cement where the roots disrupt the sidewalks. Thank you for paying attention to what truly matters.

We must be part of the healing of Mother Earth now. Only Love matters.

respectfully,
Bill Galli

Don't cut down trees!

Barry Barnett <[REDACTED]>

Mon 7/3/2023 6:19 PM

To: Planning Technician <planningtemp@cityofsebastopol.org>

Trees are more important than sidewalks. Please refrain from executing 2 large, beautiful trees at the Covert Lane condominium complex. Thank you!

From: Barbara <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 12:24 PM
To: John Jay; Kari Svanstrom
Cc: Cindy Littrell
Subject: Project ID 2023-037 Tree Removal Permit

I am writing in support of subject tree removal as a member of the Covert Lane Owners Association Board of Directors.

We are concerned about health and safety issues for our residents.

I care about our trees and the environment they create, but like all of us, everything has a lifespan.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Barbara A. Coen
Owner, [REDACTED] Norlee Street
Member Board of Directors

From: Catherine Younger [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, August 13, 2023 8:11 PM
To: John Jay
Subject: tree removal at 509 Norlee St

Hi John,

I'm an owner in the Village Green complex and took a look at the tree(s) in question.

While it's sad to cut down a tree, I support the request to remove them. They are a hazard, damaging and blocking the sidewalk leading to a home.

I will not be attending the meeting.

Catherine Younger

[REDACTED] Norlee St /Village Green