

# CORRESPONDENCE FROM CHRIS BUCK



"Buck, Chris"  
<Chris.Buck@sfdpw.org>  
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To "Hui, Mei Ling" <MeiLing.Hui@sfgov.org>  
cc  
bcc

Subject Landmark tree committee mtng today

Hi Mei Ling,

I had a crazy start to (4am) the day today, so I can't make the landmark tree committee, which I otherwise would have enjoyed going to.

DPW views this application for the Monterey cypress favorably. We do have some serious concerns about the proposed construction on the property directly behind the tree, which fronts Eureka. Also, the tree is just about up against the fence shared by the other neighbor on the west side.

While the tree is great and amazing, and the structural issue of the codominant leaders could be "monitored," the location of the tree so close to two properties makes things a little complicated.

I meant to ask you and the owner these questions once I looked at the tree a couple of weeks ago, but maybe they could be addressed at the full UFC?

The UFC really needs to see the full set of plans for the proposed construction. While we may all want to landmark the tree and protect the tree, what impacts will the construction of the new building have on the tree? Is there a basement planned? Is there an existing basement already? How far back will a basement/garage extend, if one is planned at all. What will there be enough clearance from the roof of the new building and the lower limbs that overhang the property?

The neighbor who has the detached garage, viewable from Eureka, when this area begins to get damaged, how will these repairs be made? The base of the tree's trunk is very close to the base of the garage footing. What will happen when the tree begins to damage this garage footing?

So it is a great tree but its location raises some serious concerns that may require a lot of time from the City when these issues arrive. Great that current neighbors all seem to be on board. What happens when there is turnover? The City is going to be in a difficult position trying to keep the tree protected and all parties happy.

Still worth landmarking? Probably so. We just need to have a frank conversation about these issues at the full UFC and we need to review the plans for the neighbor's new house.

Thanks a bunch!

Chris Buck  
Urban Forestry Inspector  
DPW Urban Forestry Permits & Policy  
(415) 641-2677 phone