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November 2, 2016

Eric Miller Architects

Attention: Carla Hashimoto

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Project: 1030 Marcheta Lane/Garibaldi

Phase: Plan Review

As you requested I have completed a review of the most recent plans for the Garibaldi residence (10/4/2016). The design has been slightly modified to provide additional growing space for one Monterey cypress tree growing offsite.

In March of 2016 I reviewed the proposed plans for the Garibaldi residence and an arborist report prepared by Frank Ono on behalf of the adjacent neighbor at 1028 Marcheta Lane.

Within my report I provided an evaluation of the health and structural integrity of the trees on the Garibaldi property and a cursory evaluation of the Monterey cypress trees on the neighboring site. In addition, I calculated the Critical Root Zone for each tree using methods consistent with those described in Mr. Ono's report.

Critical Root Zone is a process of determining the amount of roots needed to maintain both tree health and stability. It is based on trunk diameter, species tolerances and tree condition. In the past, professionals utilized "dripline" as a boundary for tree protection. This method is based on the theory that root development mirrored the foliar canopy and branch structure. Research has shown that this is not a valid assumption. The term "dripline" is only used to define the edge of the canopy, not the root structure.

Based on this information, I prepared a comprehensive strategy for reducing impacts to the offsite trees. The recommendations included the careful removal of soil to expose tree roots to enable proper root pruning. This process reduces or eliminates the chance of shattering or tearing root tissue that cannot be restored.

Root pruning using the techniques described in my report are commonly used by professionals familiar with protecting trees on construction sites.

Based on the most recent plans the excavation proposed for the site will occur five feet eight inches from the base of the 18" cypress growing on the adjacent property.

This is a more appropriate distance based on the use of Critical Root Zone, although utilizing the careful root pruning recommended I believe the tree would not suffer long-term decline or destabilization if excavation were closer to the trunk.

The broad and spreading canopy of the 18" cypress extends into the Garibaldi site. California State law allows the pruning of tree canopies that encroach into adjacent properties. It states that no encroachment into the other property is allowed without the owners permission, pruning must be performed by qualified, licensed professionals using industry standard guidelines and not harm the tree.

This tree can be pruned to improve structure and provide any clearance needed for the demolition and construction. It will be limited to removal of dead branching greater than ½" in diameter, reduction of branch length, and consistent thinning of no more than 10% of the live foliage.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns regarding the trees discussed in this memo.

Respectfully,
Maureen Hamb-Certified Arborist WE2280