

REC'D APR 11 2016

Attachment C

Public Works
1465 South Lincoln St.
Stockton, CA 95206

April 8, 2016

Dear Director of Public Works,

I request a hearing in response to the application to remove the two Heritage Oak Trees near the Magnolia Historic District, at 1417 N. Hunter St., Stockton, 95202. I am deeply concerned about the removal of these trees, which are very attractive and are not in anybody's way.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "Rachel Standish", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Dr. Rachel Standish
165 E. Harding Way
Stockton, CA 95204
209.467.0782

April 2, 2016

Dear Director of Public Works,

I request a hearing in response to the application to remove the two Heritage Oak Trees near the Magnolia Historic District, at 1417 N. Hunter St., Stockton, 95202. My concern is another case where the city of Stockton is allowing the destruction of a quality of life asset. This type of tree is supposed to be relatively protected by city code and I do not see how the pending approval has taken into consideration the right factors such as the health of the trees, location, other trees in area, ...etc. before issuing a permit to remove.

On review of the application, arborist report, and site, these trees clearly should not be cut down, neither tree is unhealthy and in any danger of damaging anything. The arborist does not suggest either be removed and that both could simply be managed with some trimming. There are many ill trees on this particular block, but these two trees appear to be the healthiest and most contributory. The tree at the back of the property does have branches over the small office building and may have a PG&E cables in its branches, but PG&E can trim this. However the tree in front does not appear to even have branches over the building and its branches are not in contact with any electric cables. These trees are no more a threat to anyone or anything more so than any other healthy tree that may drop a branch, but I am pretty sure we do not declare Heritage Oaks safety hazards simply because they are big trees, if this were true every such tree in Stockton should also be cut down.

As far as posing a threat to the inhabitants of the office building, it is not a residence, no one lives there.

Title 16, Division 5, Section 16.130.060 was meant to protect just such trees. What is more, mitigating the removal of these two mature, probably 50 to 75 year old trees with one 15 gallon planting in a city park, the absolute minimum allowed by code, as compared with the suggested three trees per removal, is inadequate and planting one such small tree in a city park, leaves the Magnolia District degraded with a reduced quality of life for its residents.

Thanks,



Dr. Wesley Swanson
Chair, Cultural Heritage Board
City of Stockton
1335 N. Hunter St.
Stockton, CA
209-954-5163