

To Planning Commission:

Regarding the matter of the removal of the Monterey Cypress at 709 Riverview Drive, initially I wanted to keep the tree, but after reviewing different options for placement of a house on the lot it became clear the tree was in the way. I also started to think about what would happen if the tree of that size blew over or dropped a large limb and I became concerned about its potential to cause serious damage or injury so I decided to pursue removing it instead.

I attempted to obtain a permit for the tree's removal, but the city of Capitola doesn't have a provision for removing a Monterey Cypress tree unless the tree is in poor health. I was told I could appeal to the planning commission for the tree's removal after submitting plans for development. However, I didn't want to invest a lot of time and money in plans that won't work if the tree can't be removed. This is why I am appealing to the planning commission at this early stage of the development process. The ideal time to remove this large tree will be after the existing home is demolished and before the new home is started.

Brad Suchomel