



PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE

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From: [Jim Wing](#)
To: [Public Comment](#)
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM 05 MEETING DATE 05-24-2022
Date: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 8:20:53 AM

Council Mayor Enander and Distinguished Council Members,

Council 5/24/2022 Meeting Agenda Item 5, Tree Protection Ordinance

I am a 54 year “customer” of Los Altos Tree Protection Ordinance and request you provide Environmental Commission and Staff with some specific guidelines for their review / recommendations. This will help ensure improvements needed by residents will be included in their discussion.

Please consider the following Los Altos Tree Protection Ordinance objective improvements guidelines:

- All tree removal requests require arborists report to be done on **ISA Basic Tree Risk Assessment Form** [rev. 2013 or later]. This will ensure that report recommendations are based on objective data and done by arborists who use current tools / knowledge to collect data. Based on form data, tree removal should be approved only if assessment risk is **High or Extreme**.
- When resident or developer requests tree removal because of “economic impact”, what is the minimum value to justify economic impact? [5%, 10%] Developer / resident to provide justification report as part of application.
- When contractor has building site accident and damages protected tree, is another onsite replacement tree required?
- Los Altos Street Tree Planting List needs to be reviewed for drought resistant trees and ones with minimum of lateral roots that cause sidewalk / street pavement damage.
- All replacement trees to be planted per **Los Altos Tree Planting and Staking [L1-1]** to ensure rapid and healthy growth.
- **Los Altos Tree Removal Permit Process [updated February 2020]** is easy for residents to follow for normal tree removal and many elements should be included in code.
- What should a resident do when major tree limb falls and damages house? Who can give approval to remove limb from house and make tree safe without risk of killing tree?

Jim Wing, Milverton Road, Los Altos