



March 29, 2019

Compliance Memorandum  
Consulting Arborist Review: Memo 2, March 7, 2019

Re: 16 Chestnut Avenue  
Architecture and Site Application S-17-047

RECEIVED  
S-17-047  
APR 10 2019

TOWN OF LOS GATOS  
PLANNING DIVISION

Requesting approval for technical demolition of an existing pre-1941 single family residence and construction of a single-family residence on property zoned R-1:12. APN: 510-40-012.

PROPERTY OWNER: Kim Roper  
APPLICANT: Bess Wiersema, Studio 3 Design

### Observations

The revised arborist's report contains the information requested in the "recommendations" section of my original report dated October 2, 2018. The judgements regarding the driveway construction around the coast live oak #6 are considered true and accurate.

**Response:** Noted.

The plan set contains the required T-1 sheet with no plan view for protection of the trees and only provides ordinance requirements. The cross section of the proposed paver driveway in sheet C6 indicates six to seven inches of excavation to match the original grade which consists of subbase, sand, and the paver itself. This cross section is in conflict with the arborist's observations of the pavers being placed on the grade after the asphalt is removed.

**Response:** Sheet T-1 has been updated to include the plan view along with recommendations by Anderson Tree Care Specialists and Consulting Town Arborist. The cross section on sheet C6 has been revised and reflects the arborist's observations.

### Recommendations

#### Oak Tree #6

In addition to the arborist's recommendations for applying a tree growth regulator (Paclobutrazol) and remove any significant stem girdling roots I would make the following recommendations:

1. Place tree protection fence around the tree at a radius of 50 feet if the driveway is demolished early in the process. Otherwise place the fence at a radius of 15 feet to protect the trunk and scaffold branches if the driveway is to remain as recommended.

**Response:** Noted. Protective fencing has been added to the site + civil plans.

STUDIO THREE DEIGN  
ARCHITECTURE INTERIORS



2. Treat the trunk three times per year to help prevent bark beetle attacks (*Monothrum scutellare*) with (Permethrin) or (Bifenthrin) according the product labels.

**Response:** Noted. Added to recommendations on sheet T-1.

3. Maintain the existing driveway around the tree during the construction process until the new driveway is to be installed. This will significantly reduce construction impact during the demolition and construction phases.

**Response:** Noted. Added to recommendations on sheet T-1.

4. Do not excavate the existing soil grade around the tree on all four sides within a 50 foot radius (ten times the trunk diameter). Exception for one side is listed below to accommodate the underground parking.

**Response:** Noted. Added to recommendations on sheet T-1. The parking or attached garage is not underground. It will be close to the existing grade of the driveway.

5. Disturbance where the driveway is to be excavated must be outside six times the trunk diameter which is 30 feet. (Both the *ISA Best Management Practices: Root Management, 2017* and *ISA Best Management Practices: Managing trees during construction, second edition, 2016* indicate linear cuts should be beyond six times the trunk diameter distance. *Best Management Practices: Root Management (2017)* states cutting roots at three times the diameter can result in loss of stability and anything closer would result in "severe loss of stability.") If this cannot be achieved a redesign is recommended.

**Response:** Noted. Added to recommendations on sheet T-1.

6. All paver installation within 50 feet should be above the existing soil surface with only minor scarification to even out the grade under the existing asphalt. If necessary Tensor Biaxial Geogrid can be incorporated as a sub-base treatment to provide a stable base on grade without significant compaction or excavation.

**Response:** Noted. Added to recommendations on sheet T-1. Additional noted added to verify with soils engineer prior to using Tensor Biaxial Geogrid.

#### Plan Set

1. Create a new paver section to indicate the driveway will be placed above existing grade without sub-base excavation.

**Response:** See sheet C6 for revised section.

2. Place the tree protection scheme and "recommendations" from this report and those provided by the applicant on the T-1 sheet. The T-1 sheet should contain the protection plan view as described on page 9 of the report dated February 11, 2019.



**Response:** Sheet T-1 has been updated to include the plan view along with recommendations Anderson Tree Care Specialists and Consulting Town Arborist.

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