

HOBBS REPORT

E. L. Hobbs Company

Certified Arborists

6680 Alhambra Ave. #342

Martinez, CA 94553-6105

Date: March 19, 2009

-----ARBORIST REPORT-----

Purpose of this report:

To document the results of a tree inspection and evaluation in regards to a proposed development on a neighboring residential property.

Person requesting this report:

Thomas Newlin, 2444 Lunada Lane, Alamo, CA 94507 Tel: 925 282-0151; Fax: 925-681-1575; email comresfr@aol

Site: 2450 Lunada Lane, Alamo (Adjoining 2444 Lunada to the south.)

Ownership: Thomas and Erin Newlin.

Site Description:

These residential properties were developed several decades ago and have existing houses and various out buildings. The terrain is gently sloped to the east and abuts to the Iron Horse Trail. Currently a redwood fence separates the properties.

Date of inspection: March 18, 2009

Subject Trees:

1. Tag: 578
Species: Thuja plicata, Western red cedar
Size: 18" in diameter as measured at 4.5' above average grade, within inches of the fence.
Location: At the front of the property, on the south side of the existing fence
Characteristics: The trunk is initially straight but bifurcates at approx. 30' Crown is abnormally shaped, predominate to the south due to competition.
Condition: Good, except for trunk structure. (Can be corrected.)
2. Tag: 579
Species: Sequoia sempervirens. Coastal redwood
Size: 21.5" in diameter.
Location: Towards the mid-way point from front to rear and 8'- 6" from the existing fence.
Characteristics: The trunk is straight and the limbs have been removed up to 15'

The canopy is one-sided, predominately shaped to the north due to competition.

3. Tag 580

Species: Quercus lobata, Valley oak

Size: 26.2" in diameter

Location: East of Tree #2 at a distance of 8' from the existing fence.

Characteristics: The lower trunk is curved to the north due to competition.

It bifurcates at approx' 12' above grade. There is an old branch removal wound 6' above grade that has been covered with callous tissue.

Condition: Good, except for the unusual structure.

4. Tag 581

Species: Quercus lobata, Valley oak

Size: 45" diameter.

Location: To the east of Tree #3 at a distance of 8' from the existing fence.

Characteristics: Large spreading canopy in all direction. The trunk divides into 4 trunks at approximately 12' above grade. There are 3 old branch removal wounds approximately 8" in diameter at an approximate height of 10'.

Condition: Good except for trunk structure.

Note: The existing fence does not represent the true property line. See Exhibit A of the "Stormwater Control Plan" for tree locations.

Reporting Party's statement:

One of Mister Newlin's concerns is the effect of the proposed construction as illustrated on the "Stormwater Control Plan" to the existing trees on their property, particularly to trees #3 & #4. They have contacted several arborists and have received mixed opinions on the planned hardscape that encroaches upon the driplines of these trees. In addition to this, the planned trench and drain pipe installation is within the driplines of other large oak trees on the east side of their property. A landscape authority was contacted and this person's opinion was that the planned roadway installation next to the property line would be detrimental to the Subject Trees in so far as soil compaction and aeration within the root zone of said trees are concerned. He further stated that the effects upon the health of these trees might not be evident for 5 years after completion of the planned construction.

Opinions:

It is my opinion based upon 40 years of personal experience in the tree and landscape business, plus the data supplied by the International Society of Arboriculture over the years, that the planned roadway and trenching construction will be stressful particularly to these old oak trees.

Photographs:

Several images of the Subject Trees are attached to this report showing the Tag numbers, etc..

Report prepared by:

E. L. Hobbs
Certified Arborist, ISA-WE 0353A

encl: Arborist Qualifications

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