
From: Dominique Vogelpohl
Sent: Monday, October 10, 2022 9:58 AM
To: Clerk of the Board
Subject: FW: #CDTP21-00076 Tree removal

To whom it may concern,

These comments were received in response to County File CDTP21-00076 scheduled to be on the Board's October 11 agenda.

Please let me know if you need anything else.

Sincerely,

Dominique Vogelpohl, Project Planner
Department of Conservation and Development
Community Development Division
30 Muir Road Martinez, CA 94553
(925) 655-2880



From: Billie Fivella
Sent: Saturday, October 8, 2022 2:20 PM
To: Dominique Vogelpohl <Dominique.Vogelpohl@dcd.cccounty.us>
Cc: District5 <District5@bos.cccounty.us>; Ken F <loloone@yahoo.com>
Subject: #CDTP21-00076 Tree removal

My husband and I have lived in the Alhambra Valley in Contra Costa County for almost 40 years; over these years we have become supporters of preserving the beauty of this unique area. For many years we have been part of the Alhambra Valley Improvement Association, a group of neighbors who live in the Alhambra Valley who care about the character and natural beauty of our Valley. At a recent neighborhood meeting, we heard about the board's approval to remove a number of Code-protected trees in order to build a single family home at 5 Casa de Campo (Creekside Oaks Development). It is our understanding that the tree removal is in violation of the Alhambra Valley Specific Plan.

We strongly disagree with the Planning Commission's approval to have these trees removed. We ask the Board of Supervisions to revoke the approval, as well as making sure all development in the Alhambra Valley is in line with the approved Alhambra Valley Specific Plan. Reference #CDTP21-00076

Sincerely,

Kenric and Billie Fivella

From: DOLORES WHITE <dolores19@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, October 8, 2022 12:56 PM
To: Clerk of the Board
Subject: Removal of protected trees

Dear Friend,

Please add my name to the community members to protest the permit to remove 26 protected live trees on the knoll view at Lot 5 Casa de Campo in the Creekside Oaks Development. The County permit indicates that 5 protected trees are dead but this has been disputed by an accredited Arborist. This issue needs more research and I am sure if those trees are alive you would not want them to be removed.

Dolores White

Martinez, CA 94553

Truthfulness is the foundation of all the virtues of the world of humanity
-Abdu'l-Baha, Baha'i World Faith -

From: Jamie Menasco <jmenasco@alhambravalley.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 9, 2022 11:04 PM
To: Clerk of the Board
Cc: Leslie Ries; Dominique Vogelpohl
Subject: RE: Tree Removal Permit Appeal - County File #CDTP21-00076
Attachments: CDTP21-00076 Menasco Comments.pdf

Dear Board of Supervisors -

As residents of Alhambra Valley, we find it objectionable that a developer can indiscriminately place a new house in the middle of a large grove of existing trees. Past residents, in fact, protected the Alhambra Valley from this kind of wanton development by crafting and adopting the Alhambra Valley Specific Plan to help guide future development projects. This lot is 5 acres large - surely the home could be situated in harmony with existing heritage oaks that were identified in the original approval documents for the Creekside Oaks Estates sub-division.

Please reconsider the denial of the appeal to the approval of the removal of 26 trees. The alternative arborist hired by the Stokes' stated that only 12 trees should need to be removed.

Please find our formal signed letter attached as a .pdf file.

Sincerely,
Jamie & Mike Menasco

Jamie & Mike Menasco

Martinez, CA 94553

jsmenasco

October 8, 2022

Attn: Board of Supervisors – Contra Costa County

RE: Tree Removal Permit Appeal - County File #CDTP21-00076

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As residents of Alhambra Valley, we find it objectionable that a developer can indiscriminately place a new house in the middle of a large grove of existing trees. Past residents, in fact, protected the Alhambra Valley from this kind of wanton development by crafting and adopting the Alhambra Valley Specific Plan to help guide future development projects. This lot is 5 acres large - surely the home could be situated in harmony with existing heritage oaks that were identified in the original approval documents for the Creekside Oaks Estates sub-division.

Please reconsider the denial of the appeal to the approval of the removal of 26 trees. The alternative arborist hired by the Stokes' stated that only 12 trees should need to be removed.

Sincerely,



Jamie & Mike Menasco

From: Mike Jones <
Sent: Monday, October 10, 2022 8:37 AM
To: Clerk of the Board
Subject: County File #CDTP21-00076

To Whom It May Concern, Having lived here my whole life , the allowance of so many enormous homes has negatively impacted everything I cherished about Alhambra Valley, nature & the quiet peacefulnessOn September 18th, 1998 I lost the home I grew up in designed by Frank Lloyd Wrights protege, Aaron Green , due to a new neighbors irresponsibility in welding a truck rack in the dry grass without a spotter , water hose or shovel. Fire always burns up. I am uphill. When the fire department responded they went to the fire starters house which is on another narrow road. Due to the difficulty turning the firetruck around by the time they finally arrived at my home it was fully engulfed in flames 100% loss. Also , properties around me have all put up high welded wire fences since then making any fire suppression even more difficult. I now have an even closer neighbor who built above the fire starters property. They have never abated their weeds or removed any of the fallen dead oaks. After years of calling the fire department , both myself & Nancy Mc Morrow my neighbor on Oakbridge Lane, we have given up on the fire department. They have not made the property owner nor themselves abate the fire hazard. Its been twelve years. Its been many years since theyve come up to my property to ensure compliance. The houses at the T. huge & extremely close to one another, along with the deveopement of what was once John Curtis's property below me on my eastern side , have already removed so many trees that screened other houses visibility to me & greatly lessened the sound suppression they provided.(& with all theses new homes & people & so many lights , the once quiet hills that John Muir chose to call home are gone, along with the beauty of the night sky) In this age of global warming we need more trees (& replacing a mature oak with a 18 inch sapling is not equal !) & much more space between dwellings that need to be much smaller. The much increased density of houses & the narrow single lane roads to them are a recipe for disaster. The removal of trees is not only affecting us visually & aurally but adding to global warming which must be acknowledged. to ignore it is to seal our fate. John Muir said the fight for conservation must always be dilligent. Once Nature is changed, removed, cut down, its gone forever. The density increase in the valley has been way too swift & without restrictions. Please , you are allowing developement to alter (by the massive size & proximity to other dwellings) the safety of all who live here. Wildfires are a very real hazard on Oakbridge Lane & the fire department has not been insuring abatement of anything. For us on Oakbridge Lane its not only permanently altering the very view that was the reason we chose to live here but endangering our lives & properties.

Thank
You for your Time
Jones

Thank
Marell & Mick

From: Dominique Vogelpohl
Sent: Monday, October 10, 2022 9:58 AM
To: Clerk of the Board
Subject: FW: #CDTP21-00076 Tree removal

To whom it may concern,

These comments were received in response to County File CDTP21-00076 scheduled to be on the Board's October 11 agenda.

Please let me know if you need anything else.

Sincerely,

Dominique Vogelpohl, Project Planner
Department of Conservation and Development
Community Development Division
30 Muir Road Martinez, CA 94553
(925) 655-2880



From: Leslie Walsh
Sent: Monday, October 10, 2022 7:53 AM
To: Dominique Vogelpohl <Dominique.Vogelpohl@dcd.cccounty.us>
Subject: #CDTP21-00076 Tree removal

Hello,

My name is Dave Silva. I am a 4th generation Martisian, and my partner, Leslie, and I have lived in Alhambra Valley for 32+ years.

We are writing as we extremely concerned with the Planning Commission's approval for the removal of code-protected (heritage) trees as follows: COUNTY FILE #CDTP21-00076: Request for approval of a Tree Permit to allow removal of 21 code-protected trees and work within the dripline of 5 code-protected trees to develop a single-family residence on a vacant lot.

Our understanding is that request for the removal of the trees is primarily to accommodate the delivery of a pre-fab home to the subject property, 5 Casa de Campo.

We strongly feel that the Planning Commission's approval is in violation of both the Alhambra Valley Specific Plan, established in 1992 to preserve the physical and aesthetic characteristic of Alhambra Valley and the Creekside Oaks Estate Subdivision Permit granted in 1994, which specifically addresses the provisions for building on the lot in question.

To allow the unnecessary removal of these trees will set a dangerous precedent. The negative effects will have far-reaching impacts, not only to the matter at hand, but also to the preservation of Alhambra Valley.

Therefore, we urge the Planning Commission to reconsider and revoke your approval for the unnecessary removal of these trees.

Thank you for your consideration.

Dave Silva and Leslie Walsh

Martinez, CA 94553

From: Vickie Dawes <vickiedawes@contracosta.net>
Sent: Monday, October 10, 2022 5:17 PM
To: Clerk of the Board
Subject: Agenda Discussion Item #2 Tree Removal Permit Appeal - County File #CDTP21-00076

To the members of the Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County:

As a resident of the Alhambra Valley, I implore this board overturn the department approval of a developer's application to cut down 26 old and protected oak trees in order to build a huge new single-family home.

The very reason the County enacted the heritage trees ordinance was (and is) to protect heritage trees such as these 26 native oaks that have been here for up to 100 years. Once these trees are cut down, they are gone forever. This proposed development is a 5 acre parcel. Surely the new home could be situated in such a way that the killing of 26 beautiful and healthy heritage native oak trees is not necessary.

Please overturn the denial of the appeal that effectively approves the removal of 26 healthy, heritage oak trees. One of the reasons people love the Alhambra Valley is its rural nature and its majestic native oaks. Please do not allow the destruction of these magnificent trees.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Very truly yours,

Vickie Dawes

From: c2arnold
Sent: Monday, October 10, 2022 2:16 PM
To: Clerk of the Board
Subject: Appeal of County File #CDTP21-00076

Honorable County Supervisors,

My wife and I are writing to support the appeal filed by Daniel and Sibhan Stokes regarding approval to remove 21 code-protected trees and work within the dripline of 5 code-protected trees on the Property at 5 Casa de Campo in the unincorporated Martinez area.

We are the property owners at 301 Castle Creek Court and the back entrance to our property is located on Creekside Oaks, so we are very familiar with the steep lots within Creekside Oaks Estates which includes 5 Casa de Campo. We request that you will reconsider permitting the removal of these significant code-protected Coast Live Oaks, Valley Oaks and Bay Laurel trees which not only contribute to the beauty of Alhambra Valley, but also provide stability to our steep hillsides with their erosive Contra Costa soils.

Thank you for your consideration.

Gary Thompson and Carol Arnold

From: Dominique Vogelpohl
Sent: Monday, October 10, 2022 2:41 PM
To: Clerk of the Board
Subject: FW: Support of Appeal of County File #CDTP21-00076

To whom it may concern,

These comments were received in response to County File CDTP21-00076 scheduled to be on the Board's October 11 agenda.

Please let me know if you need anything else.

Sincerely,

Dominique Vogelpohl, Project Planner
Department of Conservation and Development
Community Development Division
30 Muir Road Martinez, CA 94553
(925) 655-2880



From: c2arnold@aol.com <c2arnold@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, October 10, 2022 2:24 PM
To: Dominique Vogelpohl <Dominique.Vogelpohl@dcd.cccounty.us>
Subject: Support of Appeal of County File #CDTP21-00076

Dear Project Planner:

My wife and I are writing to support the appeal filed by Daniel and Sibhan Stokes regarding approval to remove 21 code-protected trees and work within the dripline of 5 code-protected trees on the Property at 5 Casa de Campo in the unincorporated Martinez area.

We are the property owners at 301 Castle Creek Court and the back entrance to our property is located on Creekside Oaks, so we are very familiar with the steep lots within Creekside Oaks Estates which includes 5 Casa de Campo. We request that you will reconsider permitting the removal of these significant code-protected Coast Live Oaks, Valley Oaks and Bay Laurel trees which not only contribute to the beauty of Alhambra Valley, but also provide stability to our steep hillsides with their erosive Contra Costa soils.

Thank you for your consideration.

Gary Thompson and Carol Arnold