



CITY OF CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA FOREST AND BEACH COMMISSION

Sarah Berling, Kelly Brezoczky, Tamara Michie, JC
Myers, Brian Sours

All meetings are held in the City Council Chambers
East Side of Monte Verde Street
Between Ocean and 7th Avenues

REGULAR MEETING Thursday, November 9, 2023

MEETING 3:30 PM

THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD IN PERSON AND VIA TELECONFERENCE. The public is welcome to attend the meeting in person or remotely via Zoom; however, the meeting will proceed as normal even if there are technical difficulties accessing Zoom. The City will do its best to resolve any technical issues as quickly as possible. To view or listen to the meeting from home, you may watch the YouTube Live Stream at: <https://www.youtube.com/@CityofCarmelbytheSea/streams>, or use the link below to view or listen to the meeting via Zoom teleconference:

<https://ci-carmel-ca-us.zoom.us/j/84568832420> Meeting ID: 845 6883 2420 Passcode: 466956

HOW TO OFFER PUBLIC COMMENT: Public comment may be given in person at the meeting, or using the Zoom teleconference module, provided that there is access to Zoom during the meeting. Zoom comments will be taken after the in-person comments. The public can also email comments to yculver@ci.carmel.ca.us. Comments must be received 2 hours before the meeting in order to be provided to the legislative body. Comments received after that time and up to the beginning of the meeting will be made part of the record.

ROLL CALL

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC APPEARANCES

Members of the public are entitled to speak on matters of municipal concern not on the agenda during Public Appearances. Each person's comments shall be limited to 3 minutes, or as otherwise established by the Commission. Matters not appearing on Commission's agenda will not receive action at this meeting but may be referred to staff for a future meeting. Persons are not required to give their names, but it is helpful for speakers to state their names so that they may be identified in the minutes of the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONSENT AGENDA

Items on the consent agenda are routine in nature and do not require discussion or independent action. Members of the Commission or the public may ask that any items be considered individually for purposes of Commission discussion and/ or for public comment. Unless that is done, one motion may be used to adopt all recommended actions.

1. October 12, 2023 Meeting Minutes

PUBLIC HEARINGS

2. Reconsider the removal of one Monterey pine tree at the Northwest Corner of Lincoln Street and Twelfth Avenue (Tree Permit Application 23-209)

ORDERS OF BUSINESS

Orders of Business are agenda items that require City Council, Board or Commission discussion, debate, direction to staff, and/or action.

3. Review and Update the Forest and Beach Commission Rules of Procedure
4. Public Works Director's Report, including the Forester's Report, for October 2023

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

5. Correspondence received after Agenda posting

This agenda was posted at City Hall, Monte Verde Street between Ocean Avenue and 7th Avenue, Harrison Memorial Library, located on the NE corner of Ocean Avenue and Lincoln Street, the Carmel-by-the-Sea Post Office, 5th Avenue between Dolores Street and San Carlos Street, and the City's webpage <http://www.ci.carmel.ca.us> in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL RECEIVED AFTER THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA

Any supplemental writings or documents distributed to a majority of the Forest & Beach Commission regarding any item on this agenda, received after the posting of the agenda will be available at the Public Works Department located on the east side of Junipero Street between Fourth and Fifth Avenues during normal business hours.

SPECIAL NOTICES TO PUBLIC

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 831-620-2000 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting to ensure that reasonable arrangements can be made to provide accessibility to the meeting (28CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title II).



CITY OF CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA FOREST AND BEACH COMMISSION Staff Report

November 9, 2023
CONSENT AGENDA

TO: Forest and Beach Commissioners

SUBMITTED BY: Robert M. Harary, P.E., Director of Public Works

SUBJECT: October 12, 2023 Meeting Minutes

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the October 12, 2023 Meeting Minutes.

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:

FISCAL IMPACT:

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment #1 - October 12, 2023 Meeting Minutes

**FOREST AND BEACH COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, October 12, 2023**

Tour Time 3:00

ROLL CALL

Shortly after 3:00 p.m., the Commission will leave the Council Chambers for an on-site Tour of Inspection of all properties listed on this agenda. Prior to the beginning of the Tour of Inspection, the Commission may eliminate one or more on-site visits. The public is welcome to follow the Commission on its tour of the determined sites. The Commission will return to the Council Chambers at 3:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as possible.

TOUR OF INSPECTION

- Santa Fe Street, 3 Southwest of Mountain View Avenue (23-250)

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

PRESENT:	Berling, Brezoczky, Michie, Myers, Sours
ABSENT:	None
STAFF PRESENT:	Robert Harary, P.E., Director of Public Works Guadenz Panholzer, Fire Chief Justin Ono, City Forester Mary Bilse, Environmental Programs Manager Tom Ford, Administrative Analyst Yvette Culver, Commission Secretary/Administrative Coordinator

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Myers led the public in the Pledge of Allegiance

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bill Kerr – On behalf of the Leadership Carmel Class of 2023, thanked all who attended the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at Forest Hill Park.

Dale Byrne

Ramie Allard – Announced the “Why Trees Fall” presentation at Carpenter Hall on October 14th.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Director Harary announced:

- The annual Halloween Parade will be on Tuesday, October 31, 2023, at 4:30 pm. Commissioners are encouraged to participate in the Parade. Please call Leslie Fenton in Community Activities to sign up.
- The Forest and Beach Commission bylaws have not been updated since 2002. Next month, staff will introduce the bylaws, and we will be seeking suggestions from Commissioners for improvements for updated bylaws that would be subject to adoption at a subsequent meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

Item 1: September 7, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes

Item 2: September 14, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Item 3: Executive Summary for the Shoreline and Beach Change Analysis, Task 2 which is part of the Coastal Engineering Study

Commissioner Berling moved to approve the Special Meeting Minutes, Regular Meeting Minutes, and the Executive Summary for the Shoreline and Beach Change Analysis, Task 2. Seconded by Commissioner Michie, and carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Berling, Brezoczky, Michie, Myers, Sours
 NOES: None
 ABSENT: None
 ABSTAIN: None

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Item 4: Consider the removal of seven moderately significant coast live oak trees, two non-significant coast live oak trees, and one non-significant tea tree for construction purposes at Santa Fe Street, 3 Southwest of Mountain View Avenue (TR 23-250, DS 23-290)

City Forester Ono presented the Staff Report and recommended approval for removal of nine coast live oaks and one tea tree at the Applicant's expense, contingent on approval of Design Study 23-290 and issuance of a Building Permit, for a new house to be built on a vacant lot. Should the removals be approved, require the replanting of two upper canopy trees, one on private property and one in the public right-of-way, at the Applicant's expense. Mr. Ono answered questions of the Commission.

Allan Lehman, the designer of the proposed project, spoke on behalf of the Applicant/homeowner. He stated that there are numerous trees on the lot, and the design of the new home attempts to minimize removals of the larger, healthier trees. He answered questions of the Commission.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kelly Francis
 Ramie Allard

Commissioners deliberated on the potential to have the Applicant erect story poles to better assess tree impacts, and discussed the relative health and condition of the various trees to be removed.

Commissioner Sours motioned for approval of the City Forester's recommendation for the removal of nine Coastal Live Oaks and one tea tree at the Applicant's expense, contingent on the approval of Design Study 23290 in the issuance of a Building Permit, and require replanting of two upper canopy trees at the Applicant's expense. Seconded by Commissioner Berling and carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Berling, Brezoczky, Michie, Myers, Sours
 NOES: None
 ABSENT: None
 ABSTAIN: None

ORDERS OF BUSINESS

- Item 5:** Receive a presentation regarding the Community Wildfire Protection Plan and provide Feedback

City Forester Ono introduced Fire Chief Panholzer who will present the Community Wildfire Protection Plan. This is a coordinated project between the cities of Monterey, Pacific Grove, and Carmel By-the-Sea and lead by the Monterey Fire Department. This Plan gathered information regarding fire risk for the surrounding areas, provided a forum for community input, and created a plan to minimize the risk of wildfires going forward.

Fire Chief Panholzer presented the Staff Report regarding the Community Wildfire Protection Plan and requested feedback. The Plan is primarily in the form of a GIS-based “Story Map.” The Plan is a tool designed to reduce the severity and impacts of wildfires and increase community resilience. The Plan also identifies potential actions and identifies “Priority Projects” to begin risk mitigation. Any individual project that gets initiated would need to go through any environmental reviews.

The Plan development process included a steering committee which developed the following six goals:

- To have a Community that is informed about wildfire risk through educational outreach efforts and work together to create fire adapted neighbors and communities.
- Adjacent jurisdictions and affiliated organizations will be included in fire adaptation and management efforts to create a network of fire safe communities.
- Infrastructure will be hardened against wildfire to allow for safe access and the ability of structures and landscapes to withstand wildfire.
- Landscapes and open space areas will be maintained with ecosystem health, environmental protection, and respect for cultural significance as a priority.
- The Monterey Fire Department and mutual aid partners will have the capacity to respond to wildfire emergencies while maintaining firefighter and community safety.
- Wildfire management efforts will be supported through sufficient financial investment and staffing.

The priority projects identified in Carmel include:

- Develop a Forest Management Plan for the Mission Trails Nature Preserve with a focus on forest health and ladder fuels reduction.
- Collaborate with Pebble Beach to develop a fuels reduction plan for Pescador Canyon.
- Conduct fuels reduction within Forest Hill Park.

Chief Panholzer stated the schedule is to finish the Plan in the next month and to have the city councils approve the plan. He answered questions of the Commission.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

- Item 6:** Receive a Status Update of the North Dunes Habitat Restoration Project (CDP 16-315) for Fiscal Years 2021-22 and 2022-23

Environmental Programs Manager Mary Bilse presented the Staff Report for a status update of the North Dunes Habitat Restoration Project for Fiscal Years 2021-22 and 2022-23 and answered questions of the Commission.

The North Dunes Habitat Restoration site includes 8 acres of Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Area and has 5 different habitats that are home to native species, including two special status species: the California legless lizard (*Anniella pulchra*) and Tidestrom's lupine (*Lupinus tidestromii*).

The City initiated the North Dunes Restoration Program in October 2016 under a 5-year Coastal Development Permit approved by the Planning Commission and Coastal Commission. In August 2021, the Planning Commission approved a 5-year extension through September 2026. Restoration of the site was previously managed by Joey Dorrell-Canepa (Native Solutions) during FYs 2016-17 through 2022-23 until the Agreement expired. In July 2023, based on a qualifications-based consultant selection process, Denise Duffy & Associates (DD&A) was contracted by the City for Environmental Planning and Natural Resource Management for the Restoration Project.

DD&A prepared a Memorandum summarizing the project site's habitat restoration, maintenance, and monitoring work that was conducted by Native Solutions during FYs 2021-22 and 2022-23, and next steps proposed for the current FY 2023-24. DD&A inspected the North Dunes and found that overall, the restored areas are in excellent condition and exhibit a diverse assemblage of native dune scrub species. It is clear that the prior efforts by Native Solutions, volunteers, and City staff to control public access, remove invasive plants, and establish appropriate native vegetation have been successful.

Director Harary addressed questions from Commissioner Sours that the Native Solution's Agreement expired at the end of June, and that Denise Duffy and Associates are highly qualified to continue on with the restoration efforts.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dale Byrne asked the City to pay for volunteer oversight.

Item 7: Consideration for Establishing Guidelines for Carmel Beach Cleanups and a Marine Protected Area Sign

This item was continued from the September Forest and Beach Commission Meeting.

Environmental Programs Manager Mary Bilse presented the Staff Report for Carmel Beach cleanups and recommended approving guidelines for the proposed Carmel Beach Cleanup Policy in order to remove all human-sourced waste and protect natural resources and wildlife. Previous comments from last month's meeting, plus recent, additional comments received just prior to the meeting, were also discussed and addressed.

Ms. Bilse clarified what qualifies as large driftwood. The City's General Plan states that any large logs should be kept on the beach for picnicking and seating, but that Public Works will assess the situation to confirm if any driftwood or logs that are potentially hazardous should be removed.

Commissioner Brezoczky asked about pools of water that have been on the beach, and does this policy prevent brackish water from being channeled back into the ocean. Ms. Bilse stated that the Coastal Development Permit does not allow the City to dig trenches to release the water as they had done in the past.

Chair Myers stated that the goal is to get a policy in place so that there can be actionable things done, and that the different groups that clean up the beach have a consistent guide to do so. He is in favor of putting a policy in place and hold the City accountable to get the work done.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dale Byrne

Shirley Moon
Kelly Francis

Mr. Harary commented that the City will have one policy for all of the beach, as opposed to different policies for each side of the Mean High Tide Line. He stated that staff will present the proposed policy to the City Council by the end of the year. Staff hopes to have the support of the Forest and Beach Commission.

Chair Myers motioned to approve the guidelines for the proposed Carmel Beach cleanup policy in order to remove all human source waste and protect natural resources and wildlife with the exception of the language about driftwood, and recommended that staff make additional research with constituents and governing bodies before taking this policy to the City Council. Seconded by Commissioner Brezoczky and carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Berling, Brezoczky, Michie, Myers, Sours
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Ms. Bilse also provided a recap of the proposed Marine Protected Area sign to be located in the Del Mar parking lot at the end of Ocean Avenue, and recommended that the Commission approve one of the two sign design options.

Commissioner Sours recommended that we table this sign issue and revisit this later after consultation with Carmel Cares about their proposed alternative signage. Commissioner Sours motioned to delay a decision on the sign, seconded by Commissioner Brezoczky and carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Berling, Brezoczky, Michie, Myers, Sours
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Item 8: City Forester's Report for September 2023

City Forester Ono presented the Foresters Report for September 2023.

- The Urban Forest Master Plan's (UFMP) Community Survey was launched to the public on September 25th and will remain open for 48 days, closing on November 13th.
- Davey Resource Group's status update for the UFMP: the Tree Canopy and Land Cover Assessment and Urban Forest Resource Analysis are complete. The Operations Review is 94% complete, and the first draft of the UFMP report is 50% complete.
- The Leadership Carmel Class of 2023 conducted a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to celebrate completion of their children's nature play facilities project at Forest Hill Park.
- As an initial phase of the Ocean Avenue Median Islands Landscaping Beautification Project, existing trees were assessed by MPC Professor Wheat and Forester Ono, and tree removals and pruning were subsequently scheduled.
- Additional task orders were issued to our tree service contractors, Community Tree Service, Tope's Tree Service, and West Coast Arborist, to reduce the backlog of dead tree removals – many adjacent to power lines, stump removals, and tree pruning.
- Landscape maintenance work across the City is fully engaged by contractor Town & Country.

- Due to a high Cal Am Water bill for August, staff checked a dozen water meters and backflow devices for leaks. Two leaks were repaired, and instructions were given to volunteers who use City water for median islands, to ensure valves are fully closed after use.
- Coordinated new forestry-related fees for services with Community Planning and Building.
- Planted several trees in Forest Hill Park to fill holes once tree stumps were removed.
- Obtained quotes and issued a Purchase Order to a vendor to replace rusty components of the children's play structure at Forest Hill Park.
- Storm-damaged trees were removed from Forest Hill Park as a fuel reduction effort.
- Shoulder maintenance was performed on overgrown shrubs along Rio Road and Ladera Drive.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Item 9: Public Works Director's Report for September 2023.

Director Harary presented the Public Works Report for September 2023.

City Council actions related to Forestry, Parks and Beach issues:

- On October 2nd, Council re-formed the Climate Committee which will be comprised of four members and meet only as needed. Their next meeting will be in November and will include Coastal Engineering Study Tasks 1 (shoreline infrastructure condition assessment) Task 2 (beach change analysis).

Forestry, Parks and Beach-related Capital Improvement issues

- For the MTNP Well and Tank/Pump House Removal Project, the contractor removed the 10,000 gallon steel tank, stone pump house, and abandoned power pole. Decommissioning of the well is pending County permit approval.
- For the MTNP 3 Drainage Improvement Projects, after a year of hurdles by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to obtain the final of three regulatory permits, the City's permit application was finally deemed complete, triggering a 60-day determination clock.
- For the Coastal Infrastructure Repair Project, staff negotiated the proposed scope of work, fees, and schedule with Wallace Group for them to oversee a third-party design consultant. An Amendment with Wallace Group will be submitted for Council approval at their November meeting.

Climate Action and Climate Adaptation Plan implementation

- For the Coastal Engineering Study, a meeting was held to review Task 5, regarding the City's existing Local Coastal Program and related policies, and a draft report was submitted for City review.

Update on Volunteer Organizations

- The Friends of Mission Trail Nature Preserve installed a wooden footbridge over the muddy bog on Doolittle Trail using lumber provided by Public Works.
- Carmel Cares installed a new faucet for a water connection on Scenic Road near Thirteenth Avenue, and subsequently replaced the adjacent water valve and regulator.

Miscellaneous Forestry, Parks, and Beach-related Public Works items.

- At the Forest Hill Park restrooms, refurbished a sink and installed LED lighting fixtures.
- Installed 220 feet of post and rail fencing along Mission Street on the west side of Forest Hill Park to prevent pedestrians from walking down the embankment and causing erosion.
- Completed replacement of corroded drinking fountain heads at City-wide locations.
- Buried three seals which washed up near the south end of Carmel Beach

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Forest and Beach by-laws

Recommendations for emergency infrastructure repair

Follow up on driftwood

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

Yvette Culver, Administrative Coordinator, Commission Secretary

Approved by:

JC Myers, Chair



CITY OF CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA FOREST AND BEACH COMMISSION Staff Report

November 9, 2023
PUBLIC HEARINGS

TO:	Forest and Beach Commissioners
SUBMITTED BY:	Mark Shurvinton Bradley
SUBJECT:	Reconsider the removal of one Monterey pine tree at the Northwest Corner of Lincoln Street and Twelfth Avenue (Tree Permit Application 23-209)

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the removal of one Monterey pine tree. Should the removal be approved, require the replanting of one upper canopy tree at the Applicant's expense.

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:

In June 2023, Tope's Tree Service submitted a Tree Permit Application (**Attachment 1**) on behalf of property owner Louise Gould to remove one 40" DBH Monterey pine tree on private property due to concerns that the tree is damaging the adjacent house. See **Attachment 2** for the Site Map.

The Applicant submitted an Arborist Report with photographs (**Attachment 3**) prepared by ISA-certified arborist Frank Ono, who found the tree to be healthy, with no significant signs of disease or insect infestation. He noted that the root collar of the pine tree is less than two inches from the outer wall of the home. Mr. Frank Ono did not report any major observable cracks in the outer walls, but did note a visible disruption to the roof trim and cracks in a nearby stone walkway. The City Forester* also assessed the Monterey pine, and found the tree to be fairly healthy and in relatively good condition.

This Application was denied by the Forest and Beach Commission in September 2023 because it was unclear if the tree was causing structural damage to the home, but the application was recently resubmitted with additional supporting documentation.

In late September 2023, the Applicant submitted a letter from geotechnical engineering firm, Haro, Kasunich & Associates, Inc. (**Attachment 4**). The firm surveyed the floor level of the home and observed evidence of significant uplift on the foundation nearest the pine tree. This uplift, combined with the proximity of the pine tree to the residence, "strongly suggests that the tree has encroached under the foundation... jeopardizing the structural integrity of the house foundation and threatening the future of the foundation."

Based on the letter submitted by the Applicant's geotechnical engineer, the City Forester now recommends approving the removal of the Monterey pine tree and requiring the replanting of one upper canopy tree on

private property.

Carmel Municipal Code Section 17.48.070 authorizes the Forest and Beach Commission to approve the removal of trees that are causing “substantial damage to a building that cannot readily be repaired or alleviated on a long-term basis, through minor reasonable building modifications.”

Per Carmel Municipal Code Section 17.48.080:

Tree Density Chart for property of 4,250 square feet		
	# of Upper Canopy	# of Lower Canopy
Recommended:	4	3
Currently:	1	4
If removal is approved:	0	4

There appears to be adequate space to replant only one upper canopy tree.

The Applicant was notified of their opportunity to speak at the Public Hearing.

*It is the opinion of the Director of Public Works that there is no conflict of interest between the report prepared by Frank Ono and the assessment by City Forester Justin Ono for this permit application.

ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION:

This action does not constitute a project within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act under Public Resources Code Section 21065. It has no potential to cause either a direct physical change in the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment and, therefore, does not require environmental review.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Applicant previously paid the \$340 tree removal permit fee, as well as the \$1,485 Forest and Beach Commission appeal fee. Per the Commission, no additional fees have been assessed for this permit application. Should the tree be approved for removal, all costs will be at the Applicant's expense. Should the Applicant be required to plant an additional upper canopy tree(s) on the private property, the Applicant will pay the cost of the replacement tree(s).

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1 - Tree Removal Permit Application 23-209

Attachment 2 - Site Map

Attachment 3 - Frank Ono Arborist Report, including photos, dated 02/16/2023

Attachment 4 - Structural Letter from Haro, Kasunich and Associates, Inc., dated 09/26/2023



City of Carmel-by-the-Sea
City Hall
PO Box CC
Carmel, CA 93921 Phone:
(831) 620-2010

Date Received: _____
FEE: \$ _____
RECEIPT #: _____
Permit #: 23-209

APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO REMOVE OR PRUNE TREE NO CONSTRUCTION

Location of property: NW Corner of Lincoln & 12th

BLOCK: _____ LOT: _____ APN: 010-183-013-000

Name of Property Owner: Louise Gould Name of Applicant/Contractor: Tope's Tree Service, Inc.

Mailing Address: 10 ALHAMBRA CT. Mailing Address: _____

PORTOLA VALLEY, CA 94028

Email: louise@wwcomm.com Email: info@topestreeservice.com

Phone #: 650-743-6625 or 650-851-5150 Phone #: 831-373-7765

WHO WILL REMOVE/PRUNE TREE(S): Tope's Tree Service, Inc.

PLEASE NOTE IF TREE(S) ARE ON CITY OR PRIVATE PROPERTY

Number, size and species of tree(s) to be removed: Remove 1 Monterey pine tree - SE corner of the house

Number, size and species of limb(s) to be removed: _____

Number, size and species of root(s) to be removed: _____

Reason for removal or pruning: See Arborist Report Prepared by F.O. Consulting

You will be notified in writing the date and time that your request is scheduled for a hearing. If you or your representative is unable to attend the hearing your application will be tabled. You may reschedule by contacting the Secretary to the Forest and Beach Commission at (831) 620-2070. You may waive your right to speak at the hearing and authorize the Forest Beach Commission to act on your absence by signing on the following line: _____ Date: _____

A SITE PLAN MUST ACCOMPANY THIS APPLICATION AND **SHOW** THE FOLLOWING:

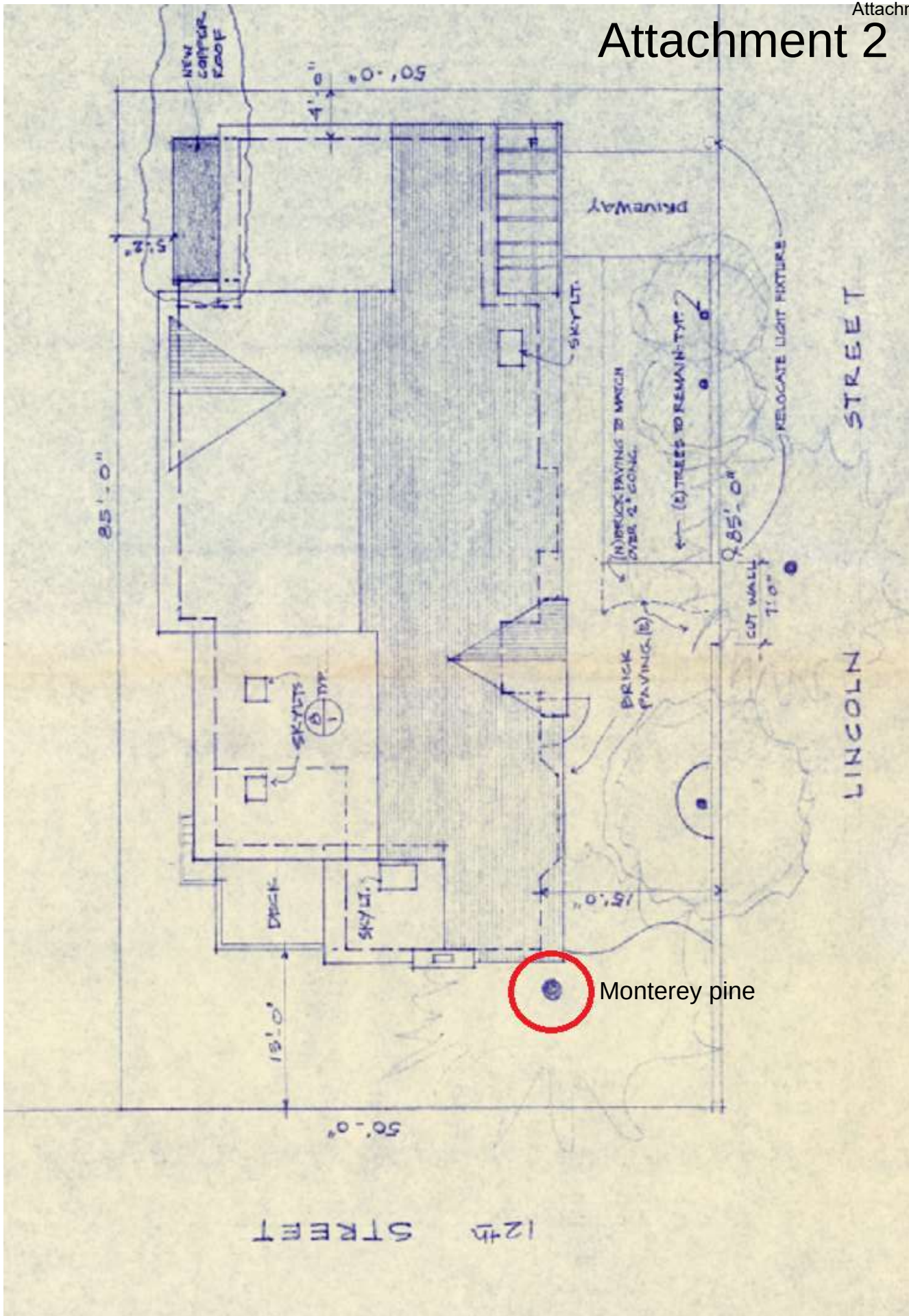
1. Location, size and species of ALL trees on the lot.
 2. Location and species of tree(s) /limb(s) to be removed or pruned
 3. Footprint of the structure
 4. Location of areas for tree replanting- The City has adopted Design Review Guidelines which include a minimum tree density per lot. Please review the attached Policy and indicate on the site plan where you intend to plant trees necessary to comply with which guideline.
- Any decision of the Forest and Beach Commission is based on information submitted with this application.
 - **PLEASE BE ACCURATE.**
 - **NO WORK IS PERMITTED** until your permit has been issued to you. The permit must be posted on the job site when work is being performed.

Owner's Signature: Louise M. Gould Date: 6/14/23

Agent for Owners: _____ Date: _____

INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE RETURNED

Attachment 2



F. O. Consulting
International Society of Arboriculture
Certified Arborist # 536
Society of American Foresters Professional Member 48004
1213 Miles Avenue
Pacific Grove, CA 93950
Telephone (831) 373-7086

February 16, 2023

Topes Tree Service
650 E Franklin St.
Monterey, CA 93940

RE: NW Corner of Lincoln and 12th - Pine
APN: 010-183-013-000

Mr. Tope;

A visual tree assessment (VTA) was requested for a Monterey pine tree located near the above-referenced property for its health, stability, and potential for damage to the structure. The tree is a 40-inch diameter Monterey pine located on the southeast corner of the house, standing approximately 85 feet tall with a crown spread of over 40 feet. You indicated that the property owner wishes to have the tree removed due to root plate uplift resulting in a lifted and cracked brick walk and that the tree is lifting the corner of the house.

The tree sits approximately 3 inches away from the southern wall with the root collar being less than 2 inches away from the brick south wall. When observing the roofline and the trim around the roof area, there is some observable disruption and the stone walkway is cracked, but no observable major visible cracks within the brick wall.

The tree appears to be healthy overall but there may be a potential for decay within the tree. It does not have any obvious signs of fungal conks or a significant presence of disease or insect infestation. The tree crown has been pruned and it does not have a dense crown that would make it susceptible to windthrow failure at present. It appears to be secure and by the looks of the bark, the tree also appears to be a granary for the local woodpecker population.

Please understand that, within the City of Carmel by the Sea, it is very difficult to remove a healthy tree and that the city may not give a permit for its removal based solely on its health. The tree would require further testing to see whether or not there is decay in the trunk and its root collar, however, the tree appears to have a shell wall thickness that can support the tree so resistograph testing would likely be inconclusive.

The entire root plate could very well be lifting the house, but this finding requires further study by a structural engineer (as I am not one) to decide that the tree's roots are detrimental to the foundation of the building. If so, then the process would be to approach the Forestry and Beach Commission, who then will need to decide if the tree roots should be cut to alleviate the pressure on the foundation, or if they can allow it to be removed.

Disclosure Statement

Use of report: This is to be considered and used as background information for the current tree removal application process implemented by the City of Carmel by the Sea. The report is prepared to assist the City, along with other required documents, in determining if and under what circumstances a permit may be issued.

Inspection limitations: The inspection of the tree consisted solely of a visual inspection from the ground. While more thorough techniques are available for inspection and evaluation, they were neither requested nor considered necessary or appropriate at this time. This report is based on a visual inspection of the tree's condition and for obvious defects. It is not intended to constitute a complete health and hazard evaluation. Further investigation would be required to more definitively evaluate the health and hazards posed by the subject trees, some of which may not be disclosed by visual inspections. Investigations include but are not limited to core samples, root crown excavation, and visual inspection of the entire trees by climbing. Please be advised that healthy trees and/or limbs may fail under certain conditions and that the above recommendations are based on industry standards of tree care.

Urban Foresters/Arborists are tree specialists who use their education, knowledge training, and experience to examine trees, recommend measures to enhance their health and beauty, and attempt to reduce the risk of living near trees. Clients may choose to accept or disregard the recommendations of the arborist or seek additional advice. Trees and other plant life are living, changing organisms affected by innumerable factors beyond our control. Trees fail in ways and because of conditions, we do not fully understand.

Urban Foresters/Arborists cannot detect or anticipate every condition or event that could lead to the structural failure of a tree. Conditions are often hidden within the trees and below ground. Urban Foresters/Arborists cannot guarantee that a tree will be healthy or safe under all circumstances, for any specific period, or when a tree or its parts may fail. Further, remedial treatments, as with any treatment or therapy, cannot be guaranteed. Treatment, pruning, bracing, and removal of trees may involve considerations beyond the scope of the arborist's skills and usual services such as the boundaries of properties, property ownership, site lines, neighbor disputes and agreements, and other issues. Therefore, urban foresters/arborists cannot consider such issues unless complete and accurate information is disclosed in a timely fashion. Then, the urban forester/arborist can be expected, reasonably, to rely upon the completeness and accuracy of the information provided. Trees can be managed but not controlled. To live near trees, regardless of their condition, is to accept some degree of risk. The only way to eliminate all risks associated with trees is to eliminate all trees.

Hazard/hazard potential: For this evaluation and/or report, a tree or tree part presents a threat to humans, livestock, vehicles, structures, landscape features, or other entities of civilization from uprooting, falling, breaking, or growth development (e.g., roots). While all large landscape trees in proximity to such targets present some degree of hazard

regardless of their condition, such inherent hazard is not intended as within this definition and its usage in this evaluation and report. As trees and other plant life are living, changing organisms affected by innumerable factors beyond our control, Ono Consulting and its personnel offer no guarantees, stated or implied, as to tree, plant, or general landscape safety, health, condition, or improvement, beyond that specifically stated in writing in accepted contracts.

Thank you very much and please feel free to call if there are any questions or if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Frank Ono

Certified Arborist #536

This report is based on a visual inspection of the tree's condition and for obvious defects. It is not intended to constitute a complete health and hazard evaluation. Further investigation would be required to more definitively evaluate the health and hazards posed by the subject trees, some of which may not be disclosed by visual inspections. Investigations may include but are not limited to core samples, root crown excavation, and visual inspection of the entire tree or trees by climbing. Please be advised that healthy trees and/or limbs may fail under certain conditions and that the above recommendations are based on industry standards of tree care. This report is made with the understanding that no representations or warranties, either expressed or implied are made that any trees referred to in the report or located on or adjacent to the subject property are sound or safe.



Subject Tree



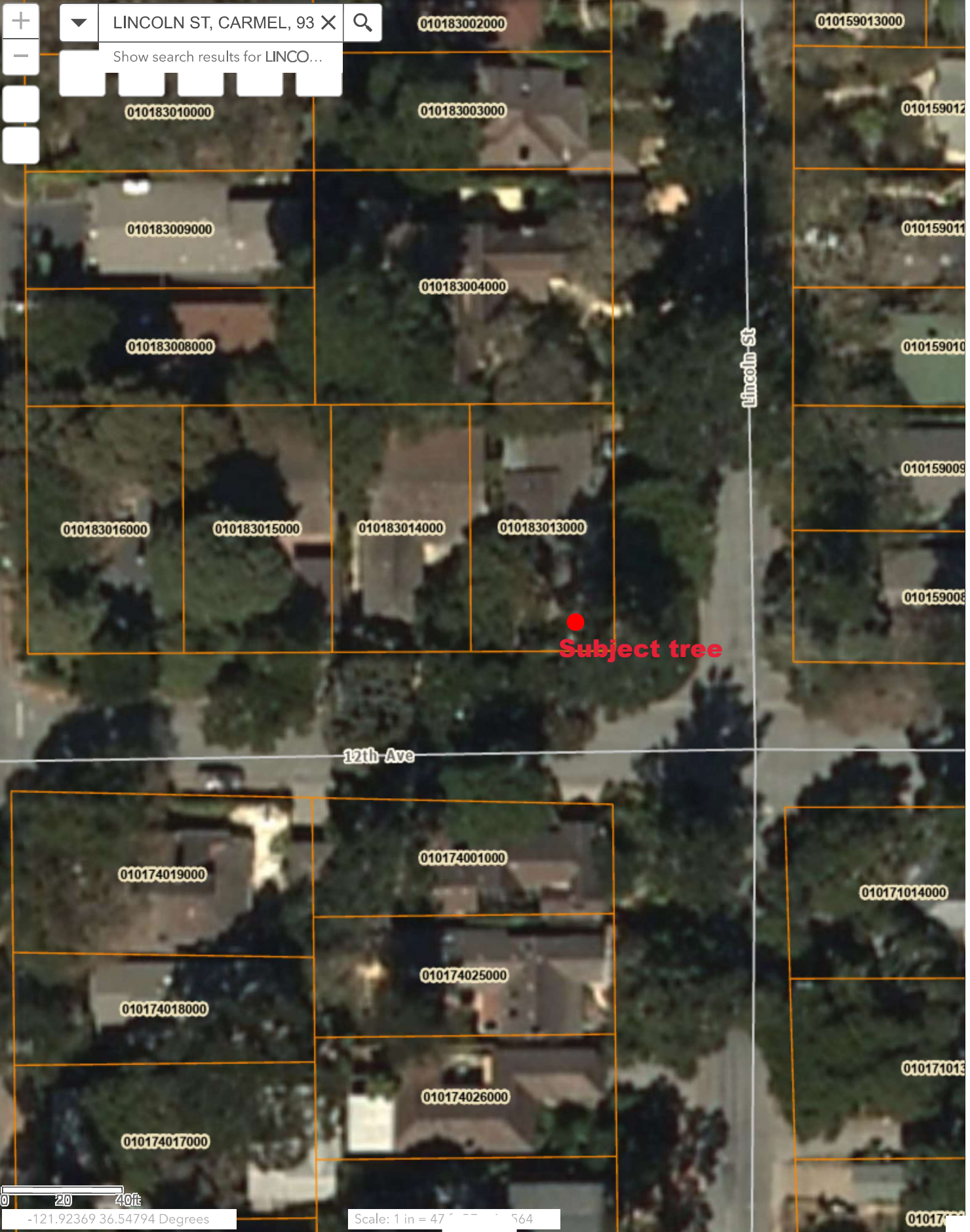
The proximity of the tree to the house



Eave of the house and trim



Separation of the trim from the house



Project No. M12370
September 26, 2023

Ms. Louise Gould
10 Alhambra Court
Portola Valley, California 94028

Subject: Geotechnically Compromised House Foundation from Pine Tree

Reference: Existing Gould Residential
APN 676-311-600
NW corner of 12th Avenue and Lincoln Street
Carmel-by-the-Sea, California

Dear Ms. Gould,

As requested, we have reviewed the existing conditions of the house foundation nearest a pine tree that is located immediately adjacent to the southern-most foundation of the existing house at the referenced property. Our observations are from structural and geotechnical engineering perspectives. The following observations were made at the site on September 25, 2023.

- The tree trunk is situated about a foot away from the southernmost foundation line, near the SE corner of the house. At the base of the tree, the trunk diameter widens, where the roots begin to branch out (root ball). This root ball encroaches directly against and presumably under the adjacent house foundation.
- There are a few cracks on the exterior of the house that may be attributed to building distress associated with foundation uplift from an encroaching growing tree root.
- We surveyed the floor level along the southernmost wall on the inside of the house with a 360-degree level laser light to check if there is any measurable uplift along the foundation line. The results suggest 1¾ inches of uplift in the SE corner of the living room, nearest the tree, compared to the SW corner of the living room only 15' 2½ " away. This amount of differential uplift is considered significant.

The measured differential uplift strongly suggests that the tree has encroached under the foundation, causing the foundation distress and significant uplift in the SE corner of the house. In conclusion, it is our opinion, the tree root is currently jeopardizing the structural integrity of the house foundation and threatening the future of the foundation. It is our opinion the tree should be removed immediately.

If you have any questions, please call our office.

Respectfully Submitted,
HARO, KASUNICH AND ASSOCIATES, INC.

Vicki Odello, P.E.
C.E. 52651



VO/vo

Copies: Louise@wwcomm.com



CITY OF CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA FOREST AND BEACH COMMISSION Staff Report

November 9, 2023
ORDERS OF BUSINESS

TO: Forest and Beach Commissioners

SUBMITTED BY: Thomas C. Ford, Administrative Analyst

SUBJECT: Review and Update the Forest and Beach Commission Rules of Procedure

RECOMMENDATION:

Review the Forest and Beach Commission Rules of Procedure, consider staff suggestions for updates, and direct staff to modify the Rules of Procedure for subsequent adoption by the Commission.

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:

Rules of Procedure

The current Forest and Beach Commission Rules of Procedure are included as **Attachment 1**. Per page 12, Section V.A, *"These Rules of Procedure shall be reviewed annually."* However, the last known update is dated December 5, 2002.

Staff is requesting the Commission to:

- 1) Review these Rule of Procedure in their entirety, and make changes as the Commission deems appropriate. The Commission may request staff to perform research into certain issues and report back at the next available meeting.
- 2) Consider staff suggestions for updates, as outlined below.
- 3) Direct staff to bring the final draft Rules of Procedure for subsequent final review and adoption by the Commission.

Staff suggestions for updates:

- Page 5, D.1 – Regular meetings dates (i.e. second Thursdays) and meeting times
- Page 5, H – *"Tours of Inspection."* Suggest to conduct Tours of Inspection prior to Roll Call and start of regular meetings.
- Page 6, I.5. *"Each agenda shall contain a brief description of the item to be discussed."* Seeking feedback.

- Page 6, I.6. *“Any item may be placed on a future agenda when requested by two Forest and Beach Commissioners.”*
- Page 7, J.1.m. Adjournment by 6:00 pm. Consider in conjunction with meeting times above.
- Page 12, Section V.A, *“These Rules of Procedure shall be reviewed annually.”* Suggest to update every 3-4 years.

Carmel Municipal Code Chapter 2.32

Carmel Municipal Code (CMC) Chapter 2.32 (**Attachment 2**) also pertains to the Forest and Beach Commission’s appointment process, and duties, responsibilities, and authority. This Code section is provided for reference at this time. Modifications to the Municipal Code would require a separate process and approval by the City Council.

As has been previously discussed, upon completion and adoption of the upcoming Urban Forest Master Plan, CMC Chapters 12.28, Streets, Sidewalks, and Public Places, *“Trees and Shrubs,”* and 17.48, Zoning, *Trees and Shrubs*” are planned to be rewritten. These code sections are inconsistent, outdated, and may be contradictory in certain applications. As part of that separate process, the authority of the Forest and Beach Commission, including the possibility of imposing additional fines, will be evaluated.

Also, Section 2.32.030, “Appointment Process,” includes the following matter relative to seating the Commission Chair and Vice Chair.

“B. Terms of the members shall be staggered so that at least one term, but no more than two terms, shall expire annually. Terms of office for new members shall begin at the commencement of the first regular meeting in the month of May of the appropriate year.”

While modifying the CMC is outside of this report topic at this time, it is prudent to begin the discussion of seating the Chair and Vice Chair, especially for times when new Commissioners are intermittently sworn in outside the month of May.

Environmental Evaluation

This action does not constitute a project within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act under Public Resources Code Section 21065. It has no potential to cause either a direct physical change in the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment and, therefore, does not require environmental review.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no impact for this administrative matter.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1 - Forest and Beach Commission Rules of Procedure - Approved 12/05/2002

Attachment 2 - Carmel Municipal Code Chapter 2.32 - Forest and Beach Commission

**FOREST AND BEACH COMMISSION RULES OF PROCEDURE
(Approved 12/5/2002)**

I. ORGANIZATION, OFFICERS, AND COMMITTEES

A. Organization

The Forest and Beach Commission shall consist of five members, residents of Carmel-by-the-Sea, and appointed by the City Council. The Forest and Beach Commission shall be organized and exercise such powers as prescribed by the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea Municipal Code.

B. Duties and Powers of the Forest and Beach Commission

The Forest and Beach Commission, of the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea, shall have the following power and responsibilities:

1. To develop, with the City Forester, a management plan for the urban forest, parks and beach to correlate such plans with the City's General Plan.
2. To consider and act on applications for tree-trimming and tree removal and on matters involving construction in which root-cutting or root crown coverage is involved.
3. To advise the City Council or other government instrumentalities of the City with respect to specific items of management and technical forestry and beach matters, including the introduction of new species into the urban forest or the elimination of existing species.
4. To provide publicity in regard to the problems of the urban forest, including public information program concerning care of forest resources, as well as cooperation with school programs on conservation and the like.
5. To encourage gifts, bequests and devises to be made to the City in furtherance of any present or future object or project associated with the Commission.
6. To review landscape plans and submit comments to the Planning Commission as requested from time to time by the Department of Community Planning and Building.

Forest and Beach Commission
Rules of Procedure
Page 2

7. To advise the City Council or other government instrumentalities of the City on the preservation, enhancement, protection and care of the Camel-by-the-Sea beach and waterfront area.
8. Upon referral from the City Council, to review and recommend to the City Council possibly official positions on proposals in the City, the City's Sphere of Influence, or any wider area, which impact the natural environment of the area.

C. Officers

1. Selection

- a. A Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be elected annually from among the Commission's membership at the beginning of the annual meeting to serve at the pleasure of the Commission. The annual meeting shall be scheduled for the same meeting at which any new, regular-term Commissioners are seated.
- b. The elections process commences with individual Commissioners nominating candidates until a motion is made, seconded and approved to close nominations. At the conclusion of any discussion, the roll is called alphabetically and each Commissioner votes for one of the nominated candidates until one is elected by simple majority. The newly elected or reelected Chairman takes the Chair's seat and repeats this process for the Vice Chairman.
- c. The Vice-Chairman shall succeed the Chairman if he/she vacated his/her office before his/her term is completed, the Vice-Chairman to serve the un-expired term of the vacated office. A new Vice Chairman shall be elected at the next regular meeting.
- d. In the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, any other member shall call the Commission to order, whereupon a Chairman shall be elected from the members present to preside.
- e. The terms of office of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall not exceed two (2) consecutive terms.

2. Responsibilities

The responsibilities and powers of the officers of the Forest and Beach Commission shall be as follows:

a. Chairman

- i. Preside at all meetings of the Commission.
- ii. Call special meetings of the Commission.
- iii. Sign all documents of the Commission.
- iv. See that all actions of the Commission are properly taken.
- v. Assist staff in determining agenda items.
- vi. Appoint members for all standing and Ad Hoc Committees.
- vii. Act as parliamentarian, in consultation with the City Attorney.

b. Vice-Chairman

During the absence, disability, or disqualification of the Chairman the Vice-Chairman shall exercise or perform all the duties and be subject to all responsibilities of the Chairman.

c. Ad Hoc Committees and Sub-Committees

The Chairman may appoint Ad Hoc Committees and Subcommittees to study matters coming before the Commission, provided such appointments and the purpose of such Committee are made a matter of record in the minutes of the Commission.

- i. Subcommittee appointments and a designated staff member are to be made by the Chairman and City Forester respectively and announced at a regular Forest and Beach Commission meeting so that the appointments will be documented in the minutes.
- ii. Subcommittees established for a single, limited purpose and duration shall be considered Ad Hoc and therefore not subject to the Brown Act.

- iii. Subcommittees are to work with assigned staff and prepare subcommittee work products or review the research and draft text prepared by staff.
- iv. The first task of each subcommittee is to prepare a Scope of Work report for Commission approval which describes the issue to be addressed, the tasks and process to be used and the anticipated work products.
- v. All subcommittee meetings are to be conducted at City Hall unless a larger venue is required (for public workshops, etc.) or when field trips are required.
- vi. Subcommittees shall make monthly oral progress reports to the full Commission at regular meetings.

II. CONDUCT OF MEETINGS

A. Rules of Order

Except as otherwise stated in these Rules of Procedure or Municipal Code, Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall be used as a guide to the conduct of the meetings of the Forest and Beach Commission, provided, however, that the failure of the Commission to conform to said rules of order shall not, in any instance, be deemed to invalidate the action taken.

- B. Individual meetings between Commissioners and applicants of pending requests outside the public meeting of the Forest and Beach Commission is discouraged.

C. Public Meetings

All meetings of the Forest and Beach Commission and committees of the Forest and Beach Commission shall be held in full compliance with the provisions of the Brown Act (California Government Code, Section 54954.2), the Municipal Code, and these Rules of Procedure.

D. Regular Meetings

1. Regular meetings shall be held on the first Thursday of each month in the Council Chambers of City Hall unless otherwise determined by the Commission. Public Hearings shall commence at 2:30 P.M. or as soon as thereafter as possible unless otherwise determined by the Commission and conclude no later than 6:00 P.M. The Tour of Inspection shall be scheduled prior to the Public Hearings at a time determined to be necessary based on the length of the Tour.
2. Whenever a regular meeting falls on a public holiday, no regular meeting shall be held on that day. Such regular meeting may be rescheduled to another business day or canceled by motion adopted by the Forest and Beach Commission.

E. Adjourned Meetings

In the event it is the wish of the Forest and Beach Commission to adjourn its meeting to a certain hour on another day, a specific date, time and place must be set by the Commission prior to the regular motion to adjourn.

F. Special Meetings

Special meetings for the purposes of conducting study sessions or workshops may be held at any time upon the call of the Chairman or by a majority of the voting members of the Commission or upon request of the City Council following at least twenty-four hours notice to each Commission member and to the press. The time and place of the special meeting shall be determined by the convening authority.

H. Tours of Inspection

The Tour of Inspection shall include all project sites listed on the agenda. The Forest and Beach Commission may determine at the beginning of each meeting (prior to departing on the Tour of Inspection) that one or more site visits listed on the agenda are not necessary. All Forest and Beach Commission members shall participate in the Tour of Inspection in order to be fully informed of the application site conditions.

I. Agenda

1. An agenda for each meeting of the Commission shall be prepared by the City Forester. The Chair, Vice-Chair and City Forester shall review the order of the agenda to ensure that those items of highest interest to the general public are placed at the front of the agenda. The number of applications to be considered on the agenda will be determined based on the nature and complexities of the projects, other priorities in the Forest and Beach Commissions work program and what can reasonably be considered in a two-and-one-half-hour meeting.
2. The agenda for all regularly scheduled meetings shall be posted seventy-two (72) hours in advance.
3. All agendas shall be posted at City Hall, in the Library, and at the Post Office and extra copies placed in the Forest, Parks and Beach bin at the Post Office.
4. The agenda for a special meeting shall be posted twenty-four (24) hours in advance and at the same locations as for regularly scheduled meetings.
5. Each agenda shall contain a brief description of the item to be discussed.
6. Any item may be placed on a future agenda when requested by two Forest and Beach Commissioners.

J. Order of Meeting

1. The order of items shall be based on the complexity and importance of the items. Generally, the order of business shall be as follows:
 - a. The Chairman shall take the chair at the hour appointed for the meeting and call the meeting to order.
 - b. Members present and absent shall be recorded.
 - c. The Commission shall conduct a Tour of Inspection.
 - d. The Chairman shall lead those present in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

- e. Public appearances. Comments from the audience will be received on any item not before the Forest and Beach Commission.
 - f. Extraordinary Business. Any special presentations, awards, resolutions of Appreciation or other matters of community interest shall be conducted.
 - g. The Commission shall hear and act upon those proposals scheduled for consideration on a Public Hearing/Tour of Inspection Regular Calendar.
 - h. The Commission shall then hear and act upon those proposal scheduled for consideration at a regular public hearing.
 - i. The Commission shall consider any items pulled from the Regular and Public Hearing Consent Calendars.
 - j. The Commission may recess for fifteen minutes. No recess shall occur except between scheduled agenda items.
 - k. All other applications not requiring public hearing shall then be heard. No action can be taken on items unless they appear on the agenda. (California Government Code, Section 54954.2).
 - l. Any matters of administration of the Commission, monthly subcommittee reports, determinations and appeals of administrative determinations shall be brought forward.
 - m. Adjournment. The Forest and Beach Commission will adjourn no later than 6:00 p.m. unless by a majority vote the Commission elects to continue. All items not receiving action shall be continued to the next regular meeting or to a special meeting.
2. The following shall be the order of procedure for public hearings concerning tree removal-trimming applications matters:
- a. The Chairman shall announce the subject of the public hearing as advertised.
 - b. If a request is made for continuance, a motion may be made and voted upon to continue the public hearing to a definite time and date.
 - c. The staff shall be asked to present the substance of the application,

staff or committee report and recommendation, and to answer questions of the Commission. Any letters received before the hearing are entered into the record.

- d. The Chairman shall open the public hearing.
- e. Order of testimony. The order of testimony shall be as follows.

The Chair can establish shorter speaking times prior to each public hearing if the length of the Agenda or the number of speakers to be heard so warrants.

- i. Applicant's statement (3-5 minutes).
 - ii. Public input on the issue being heard (3 minutes per speaker).
 - iii. Applicant (3 minutes).
 - iv. Public hearing is closed.
- f. The Commission shall then deliberate and either determine the matter or continue to another date and time certain. The Commission may ask questions of the applicant without re-opening the hearing to all speakers. The public hearing must be reopened if a new issue is raised. If the public hearing is reopened, all interested parties shall be heard.
- g. If a motion is made and seconded that would alter a project or add new conditions not contained in the written staff report, the Chairman shall allow the applicant to state for the record whether such change is accepted or opposed by the applicant prior to a vote being taken. The Commission may then approve or reject the motion.

3. Rules of Testimony

- a. Persons are not required to give their name or address, but it is helpful for speakers to state their name in order that the Secretary may identify them in the minutes of the meeting.

- b. If there are numerous people in the audience who wish to participate on the issue, and it is known that all represent the same

opinion, a spokesperson should be encouraged to speak for the entire group. The spokesperson will then have the opportunity of speaking for a reasonable length of time and of presenting a complete case.

- c. The Chairman may limit the time of testimony to not more than three minutes on a particular issue by each individual.
 - d. No person or Commissioner shall address the Commission without first securing the permission of the Chair to do so.
 - e. All comments shall be addressed to the Commission as a whole. All questions shall be placed through the Chair.
 - f. The Chairman may re-open the hearing for public testimony at any time for the purpose of obtaining new information. It is not necessary to reopen a public hearing to ask questions of the project applicant.
4. Items may be continued by the Forest and Beach Commission for the following reason:
- a. The application was incomplete.
 - b. The applicant or their representative is absent from the meeting and did not authorize the Forest and Beach Commission to act in their absence.
 - c. The applicant could not appear at the meeting and has requested that the item be continued.
 - d. The application is revised by the applicant during the meeting.
 - e. The Forest and Beach Commission requires additional information during the meeting.
 - r. New information or issues come to light during the meeting that need further study.
 - g. The Forest and Beach Commission requests that the application be revised.

1. Voting Requirements

- a. A quorum shall consist three (3) members of the Commission, except when the Commission is acting on an appeal of an administrative decision when a quorum shall be four (4) members.
- b. The affirmative vote of a majority of the Commission present is necessary to take any action.
- c. When a member disqualifies him/herself from voting because of a potential conflict of interest, the Commissioner shall be considered absent from the meeting.
- d. Should the number of Commissioners abstaining for a conflict of interest together with absences for other reasons disrupt the quorum, the issue shall be continued to the next regular meeting. When the number of Commissioners abstaining solely for a conflict of interest disrupts the quorum and there exists no alternative source for decision, participation by a member with conflict shall be allowed pursuant to California Government Section 87100 et seq.

2. Disqualification from Voting

- a. A Commissioner shall disqualify him/herself from debate, discussion and voting on any matter before the Commission when there is an appearance of a conflict of interest. When a person disqualifies him/herself prior to the consideration of such matter by the Commission, the Commissioner shall state that he/she is disqualifying him/herself due to a conflict of interest, shall state the conflict, and then leave the voting area.
- b. If a Commissioner is in doubt as to whether or not a conflict of interest exists, the matter of conflict shall be referred to the City Attorney for his opinion.
- c. The Secretary of the Commission shall record in the minutes the time when a Forest and Beach Commissioner steps down and when he/she returns to the podium.

3. Abstentions

A Commissioner may be permitted to abstain from voting because of unpreparedness on an issue before the Commission. All votes of a member who disqualifies him/herself shall be recorded as an abstention. If a Commissioner participates in the proceedings on a matter and then abstains from voting, the vote shall be recorded as an affirmative vote on the motion.

4. Voting Order

The order of voting shall be random, with the exception of the Chairman, who shall vote last.

5. Recording of Votes

The minutes of the Commission's proceedings shall show the vote of each member including whether they were absent or failed to vote on a matter considered.

III. APPLICATION PROCESSING

- A. All applications shall be submitted to the office of Forest, Parks and Beach in compliance with the submittal requirements for each specific application. All evidence shall be submitted before the application is determined complete.
- B. Only one (1) application at a time shall be officially received and processed for a specific location.
- C. All applications will be reviewed by staff and will not be further processed until the application has been determined by the staff to be complete. The staff will be responsible for informing the applicant of the deficiencies in the application within fifteen (15) working days of receipt of the application.
- D. All staff reports and supporting information shall be reviewed and signed off by the originator of the report and the City Forester.
- E. When an application is determined to be complete, the application will be scheduled for Commission review.

- F. Any information received after the Forest and Beach Commission agenda packet has been distributed may be the basis for continuation of the application.

- G. Any application continued for a second time at the applicants request shall not be continued again but will be re-noticed and advertised for a future Forest and Beach Commission hearing.

IV. APPEALS AND RECONSIDERATION

- A. Any appeal to the City Council from a decision of the Forest and Beach Commission must be made by filing a notice of appeal within five (5) working days with the City Clerk.
- B. Any Commission member who voted on the prevailing side of a decision may request within five (5) working days of the decision that the matter be reconsidered. The question of whether the action should be considered will be placed on the next Forest and Beach Commission meeting.
- C. Any applicant may request that a Forest and Beach Commission decision be reconsidered by the Commission. Requests for reconsideration must be made in writing within five (5) working days of the Commission's action and state the specific error or omission committed by the Commission in the decision, or provide additional, relevant information not considered by the Commission.

V. REVIEW AND AMENDMENTS PROCEDURE

- A. These Rules of Procedure shall be reviewed annually.
- B. These Rules of Procedure may be amended or suspended at any meeting of the Forest and Beach Commission by a majority of the members.

Chapter 2.32 FOREST AND BEACH COMMISSION

Attachment 2

Sections:

- [2.32.010 Establishment of Commission.](#)
- [2.32.020 Membership and Criteria for Appointment.](#)
- [2.32.030 Appointment Process.](#)
- [2.32.040 Termination of Members.](#)
- [2.32.050 Bylaws, Policies, Rules and Procedures.](#)
- [2.32.060 Duties, Responsibilities and Authority.](#)
- [2.32.070 Authority to Expend Funds.](#)

2.32.010 Establishment of Commission.

There is created and established the Forest and Beach Commission of the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea. (Ord. 91-19 § 2, 1991; Ord. 88-12 § 1 (Exh. A), 1988; Ord. 213 C.S. § 1, 1970; Ord. 186 C.S. § 1, 1968; Ord. 135 C.S. § 1, 1966; Ord. 110 C.S. § 1, 1964; Ord. 88 C.S. § 1, 1963; Ord. 58 C.S. § 1, 1962; Ord. 26 C.S. § 1, 1960; Ord. 8 C.S. § 1, 1959; Code 1975 § 270.0).

2.32.020 Membership and Criteria for Appointment.

A. The Forest and Beach Commission shall consist of five members, each of whom shall be appointed to serve a four-year term.

B. A two-thirds majority of the members of the Forest and Beach Commission shall be residents of the City, and the remainder may be residents of the City's sphere of influence.

C. Membership shall be representative of persons who have an interest in, or familiarity with, the City's parks and open space. (Ord. 2000-05 § 2, 2000; Ord. 95-5 § 2, 1995; Ord. 91-19 § 2, 1991; Ord. 88-12 § 1 (Exh. A), 1988; Ord. 77-27 § 1(a), 1977; Ord. 213 C.S. § 1, 1970; Code 1975 § 270).

2.32.030 Appointment Process.

A. Members of the Forest and Beach Commission shall be nominated by the Mayor, whose nomination shall be ratified by at least three of the five members of the City Council.

B. Terms of the members shall be staggered so that at least one term, but no more than two terms, shall expire annually. Terms of office for new members shall begin at the commencement of the first regular meeting in the month of May of the appropriate year. Terms of outgoing members shall end simultaneously. The newly appointed member(s) shall be sworn in by the City Clerk.

C. In the event an appointment cannot be made in a timely manner, the incumbent may continue to serve until a new member is appointed. (Ord. 2021-01 § 3, 2021; Ord. 93-8 § 1, 1993; Ord. 91-19 § 2, 1991; Ord. 89-3 § 2, 1989; Ord. 88-12 § 1 (Exh. A), 1988; Ord. 77-27 § 1(b), 1977; Ord. 142 C.S. § 2, 1967; Code 1975 § 281.1).

2.32.040 Termination of Members.

Members of the Forest and Beach Commission shall be terminated only under the following circumstances:

A. The member ceases to be a resident of the City, thereby causing less than a two-thirds majority of the commission to be residents of the City.

B. The member is ill or absent from the City and unable to attend three consecutive regular commission meetings, but fails to so notify either the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, or the Director of Forest, Parks and Beach.

C. The member, when neither ill nor absent from the City, fails to attend three consecutive regular commission meetings.

D. The member is terminated by a majority vote of the City Council. (Ord. 95-5 § 2, 1995; Ord. 93-8 § 1, 1993; Ord. 91-19 § 2, 1991; Ord. 89-3 § 2, 1989; Ord. 88-12 § 1 (Exh. A), 1988; Ord. 77-27 § 1(b), 1977; Ord. 142 C.S. § 2, 1967; Code 1975 § 281.1).

2.32.050 Bylaws, Policies, Rules and Procedures.

The Forest and Beach Commission shall adopt or maintain bylaws, policies, rules, and procedures governing parliamentary actions, election of officers and formation of committees. The bylaws shall be filed with the City Clerk. (Ord. 91-19 § 2, 1991; Ord. 88-12 § 1 (Exh. A), 1988; Ord. 77-27 § 1(a), 1977; Ord. 213 C.S. § 1, 1970; Code 1975 § 270.54).

2.32.060 Duties, Responsibilities and Authority.

The Forest and Beach Commission shall have the following duties, responsibilities and authority:

A. To develop, with the Director of Forest, Parks and Beach, a management plan for the urban forest, parks and beach, and to correlate such plan with the City's General Plan;

B. To consider and act on applications for tree trimming and tree removal and on matters involving construction in which root cutting or root crown coverage is involved;

C. To advise the City Council or other government instrumentalities of the City with respect to specified items of management and technical forestry and beach matters, including the introduction of new species into the urban forest, or the elimination of existing species;

D. To provide publicity in regard to the problems of the urban forest, including a public information program concerning care of forest resources, and including cooperation with school programs on conservation and the like;

E. To encourage gifts, bequests and devises to be made to the City in furtherance of any present or future object or project associated with the commission;

F. To review plans and submit comments to the Planning Commission as requested by the Department of Community Planning and Building;

G. To advise the City Council or other government instrumentalities of the City on the preservation, enhancement, protection and care of the Carmel-by-the-Sea beach and waterfront area;

H. Upon referral from the City Council, to review and recommend to the City Council possible City positions on proposals in the City, the City's sphere of influence, or any wider area, which impact the natural environment of the area. (Ord. 93-8 § 1, 1993; Ord. 91-19 § 2, 1991; Ord. 88-12 § 1 (Exh. A), 1988; Ord. 213 C.S. § 1, 1970; Code 1975 § 272).

2.32.070 Authority to Expend Funds.

The Forest and Beach Commission may incur indebtedness in the name of and on behalf of the City in furtherance of its objectives; provided, that funds are appropriated, approved, or budgeted by the City Council, in advance, for such purpose. (Ord. 91-19 § 2, 1991; Ord. 88-12 § 1 (Exh. A), 1988; Ord. 213 C.S. § 1, 1970; Code 1975 § 272).

The Carmel-by-the-Sea Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 2023-05, passed July 11, 2023.

Disclaimer: The city clerk's office has the official version of the Carmel-by-the-Sea Municipal Code. Users should contact the city clerk's office for ordinances passed subsequent to the ordinance cited above.

City Website: <https://ci.carmel.ca.us/>

City Telephone: (831) 620-2000



CITY OF CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA FOREST AND BEACH COMMISSION Staff Report

November 9, 2023
ORDERS OF BUSINESS

TO: Forest and Beach Commissioners

SUBMITTED BY: Robert M. Harary, P.E., Director of Public Works

SUBJECT: Public Works Director's Report, including the Forester's Report, for October 2023

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive the Public Works Director's Report, including the Forester's Report, for October 2023

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:

The Public Works Director's Report for October 2023 will include:

- A. City Council actions related to Forestry, Parks, and Beach issues
- B. Forester's Report
- C. Forestry, Parks, and Beach-related Capital Improvement Projects
- D. Climate Action and Climate Adaptation Plan implementation
- E. Update on Volunteer Organizations
- F. Miscellaneous Forestry, Parks, and Beach-related Public Works items

Environmental Evaluation

This action does not constitute a project within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act under Public Resources Code Section 21065. It has no potential to cause either a direct physical change in the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment and, therefore, does not require environmental review.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment #1 - Public Works Director's Report, including the Forester's Report, for October 2023



CITY OF CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA

Public Works Department

October 2023 Monthly Report

TO:	Honorable Mayor and City Council Members
SUBMITTED BY:	Robert M. Harary, P.E., Director of Public Works
SUBMITTED ON:	November 3, 2023
APPROVED BY:	Chip Rerig, City Administrator

City Council Special Meeting of October 2, 2023

- Adopted Resolution 2023-095, approving the reformation of the Climate Committee. The re-formed committee will consist of four, rather than the original eight members, and meet as needed, rather than monthly. The next meeting is scheduled for November 16th.
- Adopted Resolution 2023-096, approving a new stop sign for westbound First Avenue at the Lincoln Street intersection, and two new stop signs on Second Avenue at the intersection of Lincoln Street, all as recommended by the Traffic Safety Committee.

City Council Meeting of October 3, 2023

- Received a presentation by Wave Astound Broadband to introduce a new Fiber Optic Project and was requested to issue an Encroachment Permit with Special Conditions of Approval. Due to concerns of installing additional overhead utility lines and other public comments, Council deferred this item until responses can be developed.

Forest and Beach Commission Meeting of October 12, 2023

- At Santa Fe Street, 3 southwest of Mountain View Avenue, approved the removal of nine coast live oak trees and one tea tree to accommodate development of a vacant lot, and required planting of two upper canopy trees, all at the Applicant's expense. All is contingent on approval of a design study and issuance of a building permit.
- Received a presentation from Fire Chief Gaudenz Panholzer regarding the Community Wildfire Prevention Plan which was developed in partnership with the cities of Monterey, Pacific Grove, and Carmel. Chief Panholzer also provided a list of Action Plan projects which included vegetation management, infrastructure resilience, and public education.
- For the North Dunes Habitat Restoration Project, Environmental Programs Manager Mary Bilse gave a presentation summarizing the restoration improvements and habitat monitoring completed during Fiscal Years (FY) 2021/22 and 2022/23, and outlining work proposed for FY 2023/24.
- Ms. Bilse re-introduced proposed guidelines to remove human-generated trash from Carmel Beach in a consistent manner, and reviewed state laws associated with keeping all ecologically natural materials on the beach as required in a Marine Sanctuary and Area of Special Biological Significance. She also presented responds to Commissioner and public comments received at the September Commission meeting, as well as additional comments from Carmel Cares. She noted that these guidelines would form the basis for a new policy for City Council consideration at their December meeting. The Commission approved their recommendation to be forwarded to Council, and requested additional research into driftwood and continued coordination with regulatory agencies and Carmel Cares.
- Ms. Bilse re-introduced two design options proposed by the California Marine Sanctuary Foundation and Marine Protected Area Collaborative for a new sign to be installed in the Del Mar parking lot. The

sign would indicate that the beach is located in a Marine Protected Area. The Commission decided to delay approval of a sign to a date uncertain.

- Presented the Forester's Report and Public Works Report for September 2023.
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Administration

- For the Rule 20A Undergrounding Project, prepared the staff report and resolution for the November 7th Council meeting, and met with the City Attorney's office for guidance on the proposed Underground Utility District. The public hearing notice was published, and postcard notifications were sent out.
- Updated the Quarterly Project Assignment List which currently includes 45 different capital improvement projects, operating budget projects, and other key initiatives in progress by Public Works collectively valued at \$11.2M.
- A \$60k budget reallocation was approved for Forestry, allowing the current temporary administrator to continue through February 2024 and a second temporary to backfill for the Administrative Analyst during his upcoming FLMA leave.
- Recruitment began for temporary Maintenance Workers to reduce the backlog of infrastructure repairs.
- All Public Works staff are completing short safety courses in Lead Awareness Training and Hazardous Materials Training.
- Held the annual Public Works Pumpkin Carving Contest as a team building event.

Carmel Cares and Other Volunteer Groups

- Carmel Cares installed 25 new cigarette butt containers attached to the City's ribbon trash cans.
- Notice to proceed was issued to a roofing contractor to apply a weatherproofing coating to the back deck at the Fire Station. Carmel Cares will cover labor costs, and the City will pay for materials.
- The Rotary Club and Carmel Cares performed a detailed cleanup along Ocean Avenue in downtown.
- At the Forest Theater, Carmel High School Interact Club students supported Carmel Cares by cleaning up, planting, and watering the landscaping and painting the gate.
- "Median Minders" volunteers continued to improve medians across the Village.
- "Downtown Detail" volunteers improved the landscaping around the Park Branch Library.
- Met with the Garden Club to discuss their appreciated, ongoing commitment to maintaining various gardens at City facilities, and to review current and long-term plans for the North Dunes Habitat Restoration site.

Environmental Programs

- For the proposed Stormwater Ordinances, prepared the staff report and resolution, and the public notice was published for the Public Hearing and first reading at the November 7th Council meeting.
- The California Coastal Commission announced approval of the City's \$500,000 Local Coastal Programs Grant to fund Phase II of the Coastal Engineering Study.
- For the Coastal Engineering Study, Phase I, the Task 5 report, regarding a review of the City's existing Local Coastal Program and related policies, was revised to incorporate City review comments and is now substantially complete. Overall, Phase I is approximately 75% complete.
- Submitted the complex and technical Annual Stormwater Report to the California Water Quality Control Board.
- Received approval from the Monterey Bay Air Resources District for a \$10,000 grant toward purchasing an EV truck to replace a deteriorated, gas-fueled truck for Forestry.
- In preparation for winter storms, the City's hydrodynamic trash separators were cleared out by the Carmel Area Wastewater District (CAWD) Vactor truck, and the units were inspected by staff.
- Attended Monterey County's Carmel Lagoon flood hazards meeting.

Facility Maintenance

- Cleve Waters and Leo Hernandez completed the ChargePoint University course allowing them to perform basic maintenance and repairs on the City's EV charging stations.
- For the FY 2023/24 ADA Upgrades Project, installed 6 ADA-compliant restroom mirrors.
- For the Sunset Center Fire Recirculation Pump Project, issued notice to proceed to a contractor, parts were ordered, and the fire permit is in progress.

- For the Carpenter Hall Heater Replacement CIP Project, an initial assessment was performed, and contractors were contacted for recommendations and informal quotes.
- A vendor replaced the failed dehumidifier for the Local History vault in the Park Brand Library.
- A contractor replaced the backflow assembly at the Del Mar restroom, and other backflow and sprinkler system repairs were made.
- A contractor patched the Fire Station roof to prevent leaks.
- Patched roof leaks on the CERT Conex box in the Sunset Center north parking lot.
- Assessed the Eleventh Avenue footbridge into the entrance of Mission Trail Nature Preserve, and determined that the entire wooden superstructure must be replaced. The steel support beams below the deck are in good condition and will remain.
- Installed Halloween decorations around Devendorf Park.

Project Management for the Capital Improvement Program

4 Leaf Projects:

- For the Police Building Renovation Project, Indigo Architects submitted the second, and much improved, existing Conditions Assessment Report and a Space Programming Report. Reports were reviewed by staff, and comments were returned and reviewed with Indigo. A meeting with the Ad Hoc Committee is being scheduled in November to discuss the key findings.

Ausonio, Inc. Projects:

- For the Sunset Center North Wing and Harrison Memorial Library Exterior/Interior Painting Project, completed and approved the contract documents for rebidding, advertised the project for bids, and notified painting contractors. Bids are due on December 5th.
- For the Sunset Center Portico Design Project, accepted revised fee proposal from Ten Over Studio for conceptual portico designs. Amendment No. 2 to their Professional Services Agreement is scheduled for approval at the January 2024 Council meeting.
- For the Sunset Center Retaining Walls Repair Project and San Antonio Walkway Repair Project, Second to Fourth Avenues, dismissed both fee proposals submitted by Ten Over Studio. Ausonio contacting structural contractors and engineers for next steps.
- As part of Ausonio's on-call project management services, assigned project for decommissioning the unused Park Branch Library dumbwaiter. Obtained background information and researched California Department of Industrial Relations requirements.

Wallace Group Projects:

- For the FY 23/24 City-wide Paving Project and the Coastal Infrastructure Repair Project, the staff report was prepared for the November 6th Council meeting to award Amendment No. 1 to Wallace Group, for a combined fee of \$241, 258.

Additional Capital Projects:

- For the Mission Trail Nature Preserve (MTNP) Well and Tank/Pump House Removal Project, Bowen Engineering removed the 10,000-gallon steel tank, stone pump house, and abandoned power pole. The remaining task, decommissioning the well, will be completed upon issuance of the County Environmental Health permit.
- For the FY 2021/22 Paving Project, the staff report was prepared for Council to award the base bid, plus 5% contingency, of \$1.14 million to Monterey Peninsula Engineering, at the November 6th meeting, upon the transfer of \$261,000 from the CIP Contingency Fund.
- Advanced Design Consultants submitted: a) draft technical reports regarding conditions and corrections needed for Electrical Panels at City Hall, Fire Station, and Vista Lobos facilities, b) 30% design plans for the Sunset Center Electrical Panel Upgrade Project, and c) 60% plans for the Vista Lobos Parking Lot EV Charging Station Project.
- Also for the Vista Lobos EV Charging Station Project, the staff report was prepared for the Carmel-by-the-Sea Public Improvement Authority meeting on November 7th to approve an Easement Deed allowing PG&E to install electrical equipment at the southeastern corner of the parking lot.

- For the 4 Drainage Improvements Project, Neill Engineers submitted 30% design plans which are being reviewed by staff. Two of the four sites have potential environmental and/or right-of-way impacts that are currently being evaluated by staff.
- For Cal Am Water's Dolores Street pipeline replacement project, along Dolores Street between Santa Lucia to Eighth Avenues, final plans were reviewed, Special Conditions of Approval for the Encroachment Permit were completed, and preparation is underway for Cal Am to present their project at the December Council meeting.
- CAWD submitted preliminary plans for their sewer pipe bursting and manhole rehabilitations project along Santa Rita and Guadalupe Streets, from the northern City limits to Ocean Avenue. Special Conditions of Approval will need to be prepared for this project.

Street Maintenance

- Provided staffing, barricades, fencing, and clean up for the Pumpkin Roll event on October 28th.
- Began the annual Storm Drain System Inspection Program to inspect every drain channel, culvert, pipe, and catch basin. Also began to clear out vegetation and debris along drainage channels.
- The storm drainage system along the shore was converted from the dry weather to wet weather configurations, to allow winter stormwater to flow out freely to the ocean.
- As approved by the Traffic Safety Committee, three new Stop signs were installed at uncontrolled intersections at Lincoln Street: at First and Second Avenues.
- Installed drainage berms and made pavement repairs at four locations using 7 tons of hot mix asphalt.
- Closed the beach access stairs off the Scenic Pathway at Ninth Avenue due to unsafe exposed boulders at the foot of the stairs.
- CAWD's Vactor truck cleared out detention ponds along Fourth Avenue.
- The public sandbag station was set up at the Vista Lobos parking lot.
- Reconstructed a storm-damaged portion of fence along the Flander's Mansion driveway.
- Purchased an e-bicycle for use by Environmental and other Public Works office staff.
- An old patrol vehicle and street sweeper were prepared for auction and posted for sale.
- Provided information to Finance to support the annual Measure X report to TAMC.
- Served on the selection panel for the City of Marina's Public Works Superintendent interviews.

Forestry, Parks, and Beach (Forester's Report)

- Over 200 responses to the Urban Forest Master Plan (UFMP) Community Survey has been received. The Survey closes on November 13th.
- Status of Davey Resource Group's development of the UFMP is as follows:
 - ✓ Tree Canopy and Land Cover Assessment - complete
 - ✓ Urban Forest Resource Analysis (Eco) - complete
 - ✓ Operations Review – 99% complete
 - ✓ Draft 1 UFMP – 80% complete
 - Summarizing challenges and opportunities
 - Developing potential recommendations
 - ✓ Community Survey – In Progress
- For the UFMP Project, submitted the fourth CalFire Grant Reimbursement Status Report in a potential last attempt to recover the \$150,000 grant funds. Reports are inordinately onerous with shifting and undocumented requirements. City funds have been nearly fully expended, but no reimbursement has been received.
- In the MTNP, the \$75,000, Council-directed FY 2023/24 Forestry Operating Budget project was substantially completed. Resulting from winter storms, this project included removal of 20 dead/fallen trees, 7 leaning trees, and pruning of 3 large trees.
- Contractor also removed 7 large, dead or dying trees from the Lester Rowntree Native Plant Garden and near Flander's Mansion.
- Met with Friends of Carmel Forest and Carmel Cares to coordinate consistent watering of young trees.

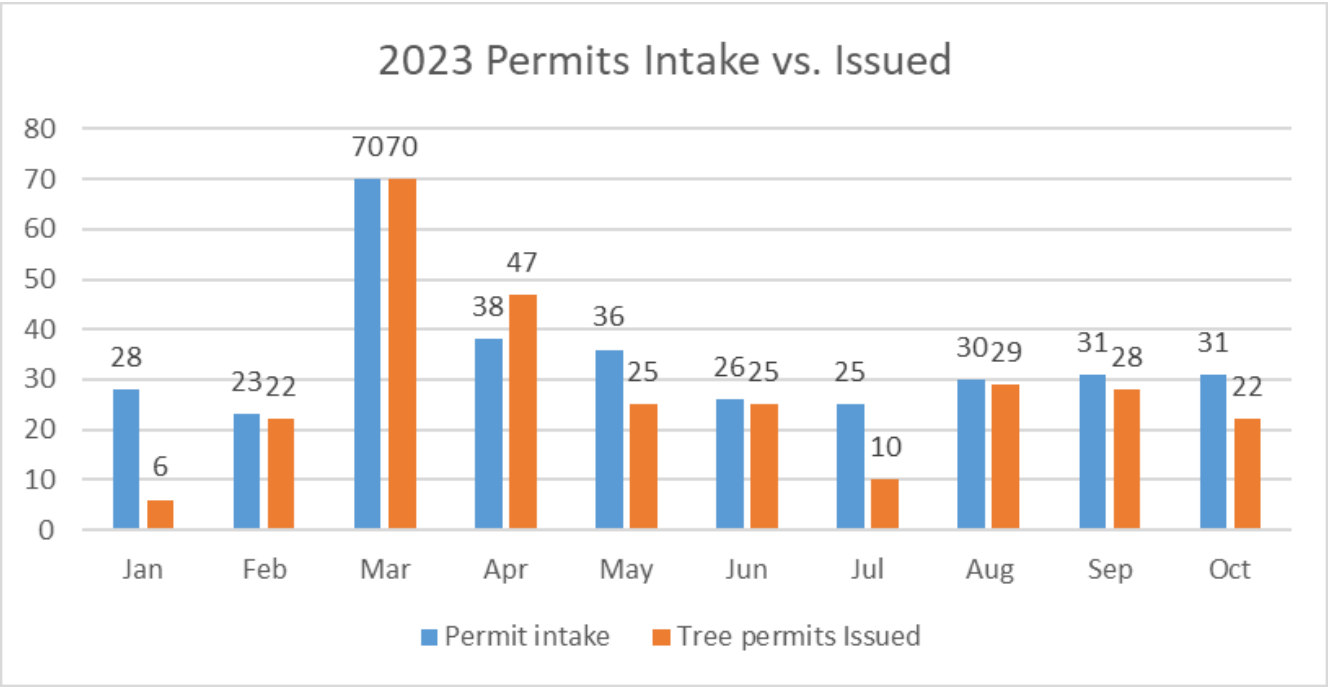
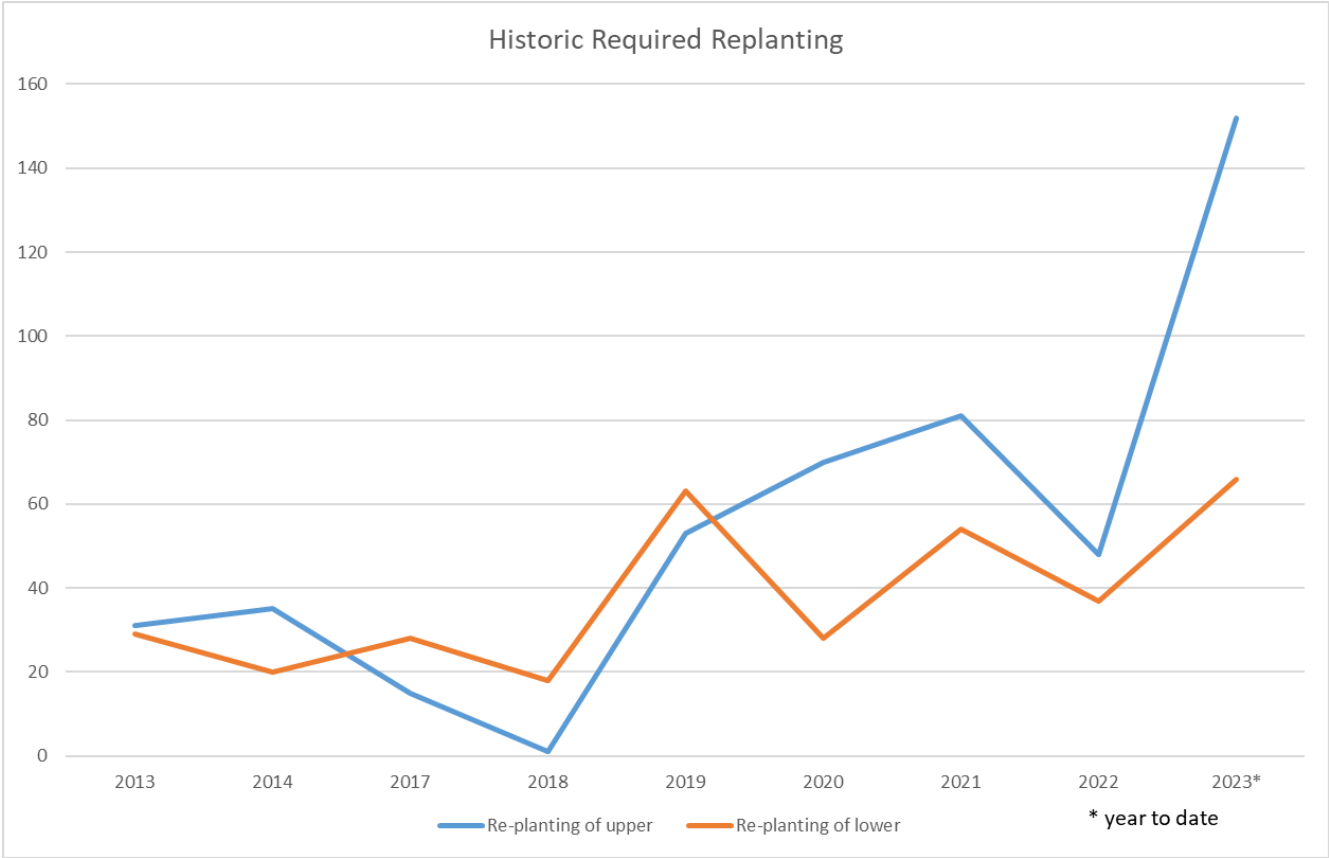
- As an initial phase of the Ocean Avenue Median Islands Landscaping Beautification Project, four dead or dying pine trees were tagged for removal by Forestry crews.
- Additional task orders were issued to our tree service contractors, Community Tree Service, Tope's Tree Service, and West Coast Arborist, to reduce the backlog of dead tree removals – many adjacent to power lines, as well as stump removals and tree pruning.
- Landscape maintenance work across the City continues to be fully engaged by contractor Town & Country.
- A vendor replaced rusty components of the children's play structure at Forest Hill Park.
- Dead wood, grass, weeds, and other potential fire fuel were removed by Forestry crews from the upper portion Forest Hill Park as a fuel reduction effort.
- Forestry crews helped with setup and operation of City's Halloween Pumpkin Roll and Halloween Parade.

Permit Information

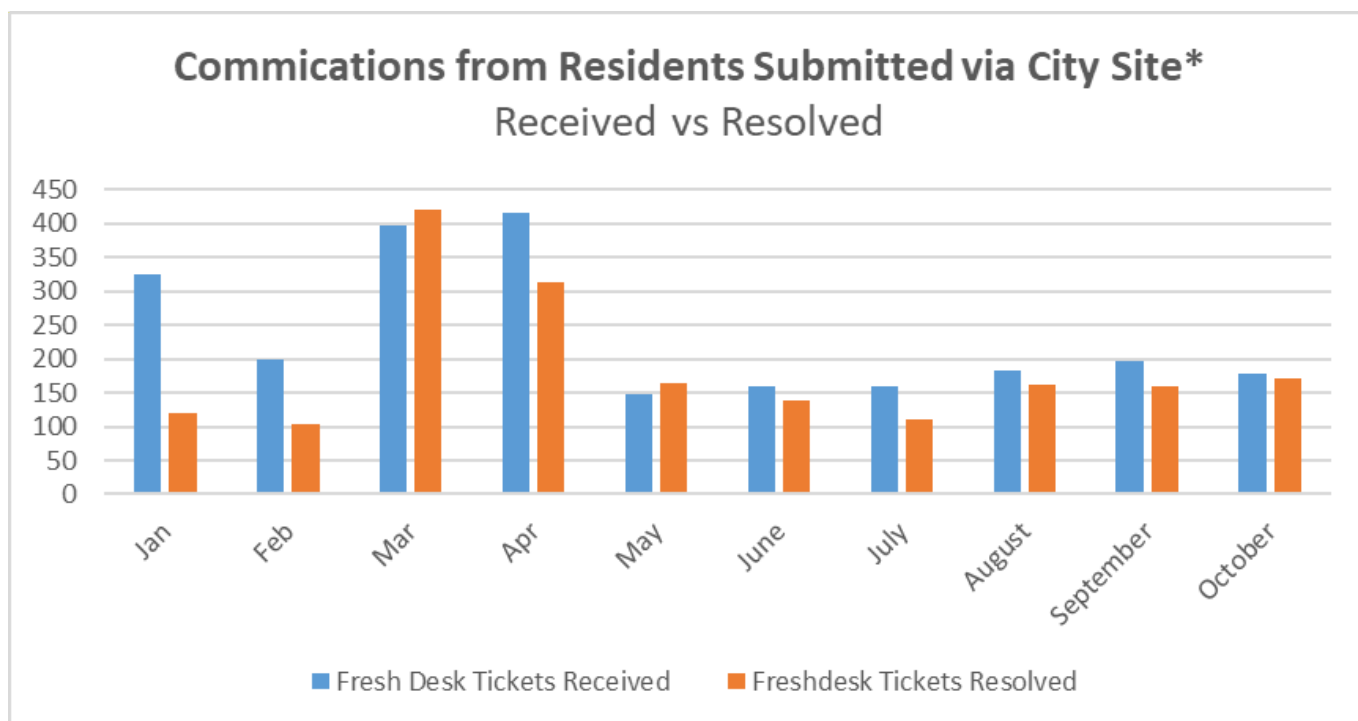
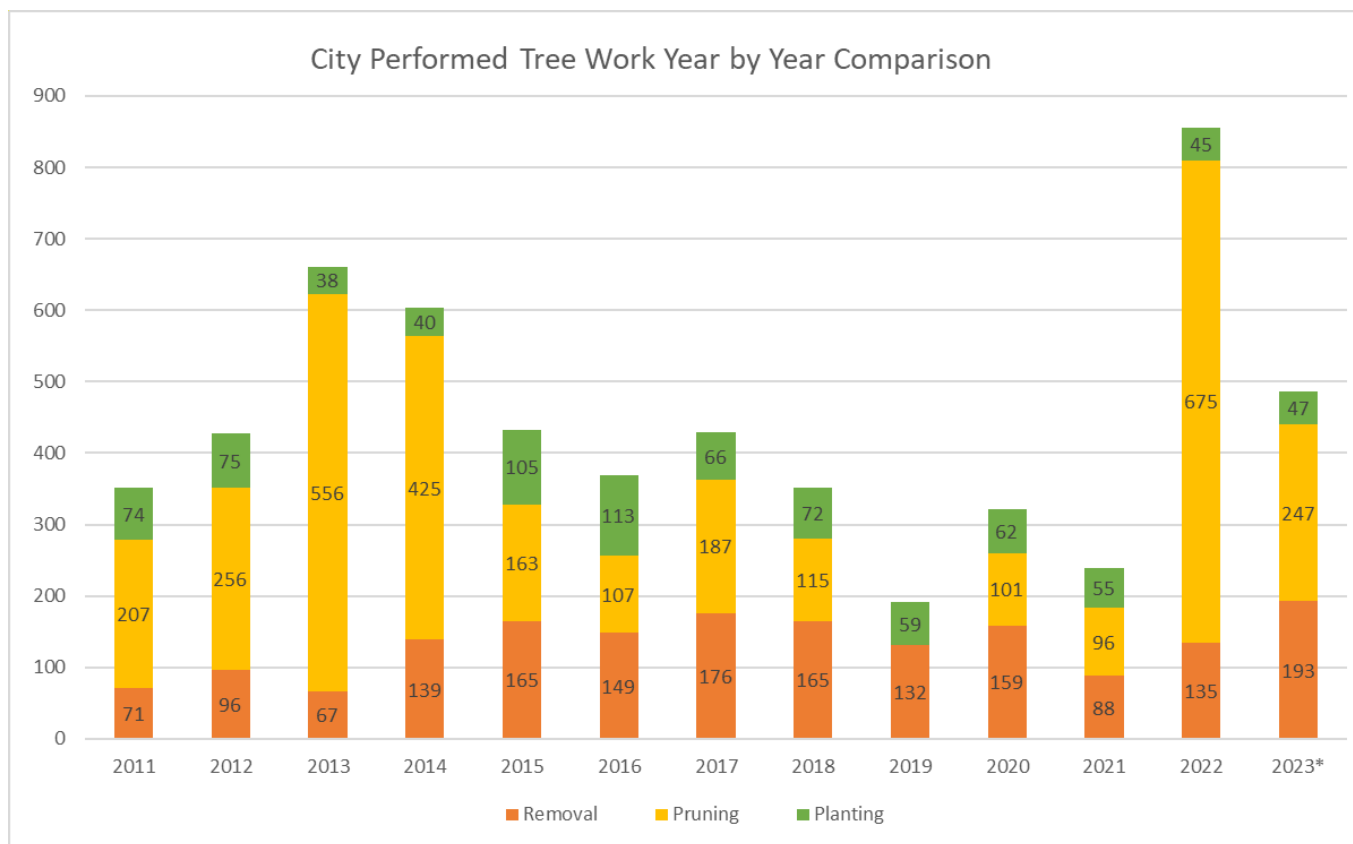
2023 Permitted removals, pruning, and required planting											
	Tree permits received	Tree permits Issued	Total Prunings	Total Removals	Removal of Upper	Removal of Lower	Required to Plant Upper	Required to Plant Lower	No room for new tree	Meets Density Rec.	Total Number of Trees Required
January	28	6	0	12	3	7	5	1	0	2	6
February	23	22	1	24	15	9	15	10	0	0	25
March	70	70	21	71	47	24	32	14	1	7	46
April	38	47	16	53	49	4	32	3	2	2	35
May	36	25	9	26	20	6	18	4	4	7	22
June	26	25	14	26	17	9	16	6	0	4	22
July	25	10	7	7	5	2	3	2	0	2	5
August	30	29	5	24	12	20	8	12	2	6	20
September	31	28	6	22	14	9	12	8	0	7	20
October	30	22	1	20	14	7	11	6	0	2	17
November											0
December											0
2023 Totals	337	284	80	285	196	97	152	66	9	39	218

Historic permitted removals and required planting

Year	Permitted removals	Removal of upper	Removal of lower	Replanting Required	Replanting of upper	Replanting of lower	Replanting %	Applications processed
2021	204	81	123	135	81	54	66.18%	213
2022	149	82	67	85	48	37	57.05%	155
2023*	285	196	97	218	152	66	76.49%	284
*Year To Date								



City Forestry, Parks, and Beach Activities



*Numbers only represent correspondences received via the City's website and do not include live calls, coicemails, drop-in visitors, and emails sent directly to employees from residents, nor return calls and emails from staff.



**Carmel-
by-the-Sea**

Yvette Culver <yculver@ci.carmel.ca.us>

Monterey pine on Lincoln and 12th

Linda L. Smith <lachmund@pacbell.net>

Wed, Nov 8, 2023 at 12:43 PM

To: Yvette Oblander <yoblander@ci.carmel.ca.us>

Dear Yvette,

Would you please share this with our Forest and Beach Commission and make sure it is the public record. Many thanks.

Regards,

Linda Smith

Dear Chair Meyers and Commissioners,

I just looked at the Monterey pine on Lincoln and 12th that is again on the agenda for removal at this week's Forest and Beach Commission meeting. I don't know if anyone had mentioned it, but that tree, other than being healthy, and lovely, is also a granary tree for acorn woodpeckers. Monterey pines are often used by these birds as food storage granaries and can have 30,000 holes painstakingly carved out by these birds to store acorns. I've attached excerpts from an article in Scientific American by our own Hastings scientists that will be of interest, I hope.

Sincerely,

Linda Smith
Carmel, CA
831-624-1127



Granary Trees importance for Acorn Woodpecker survival Scientific American 1984.pdf

137K

Cooperative Breeding in the Acorn Woodpecker

The birds share mates and raise their young in groups. Study of the acorn woodpecker's unusual social system shows how natural selection yields both cooperation and competition

by Peter B. Stacey and Walter D. Koenig

The feature of acorn woodpecker behavior that first attracted the attention of ornithologists was not the fact that the birds live in groups but their habit of storing large quantities of acorns, piñon nuts and other mast in a granary tree. In the fall the group members harvest the mast and wedge it into holes drilled in bark or in a dead tree. Some granary trees have more than 30,000 holes. Storage facilities with this kind of capacity enable the group to protect large quantities of food from the effects of weather and from other animals.

Any bird that is a member of the group can feed on the mast at any time. Over the winter the stored mast is a highly significant resource for the survival of the group. In the spring and summer the woodpeckers eat insects, tree sap, leaf catkins and flower nectar. In most temperate habitats, however, such foods are either scarce or completely unavailable in winter. An acorn woodpecker group that exhausts its stored mast in the winter months is often forced to abandon its territory.

Many granary trees are easily accessible to the student of the acorn woodpecker, and with patience the stored acorns or nuts can be counted. In this way the energetic value of the stores and of the area's total woodpecker population can be estimated. The estimates show that stored mast is critical not only for survival but also for reproduction.