# STAFF REPORT

### SAUSALITO TREES AND VIEWS COMMITTEE

**Project** 

Stafford Tree / 49 Cloudview Road

**Tree Removal Permit** 

TRP 13-120

**Meeting Date** 

June 24, 2013

Staff

Lilly Schinsing, Administrative Analyst (%)



### <u>REQUEST</u>

Approval of a **Tree Removal Permit** to allow the removal of one dying Camphor Tree and one dying Magnolia Tree located near in the rear of the site at 49 Cloudview Road.

### PROJECT INFORMATION

**Applicant** 

Artistry in Trees

**Owner** 

Bob and Betsy Stafford

Location

49 Cloudview Road (APN 065-153-02) (see **Exhibit A** for vicinity map)

Authority

Municipal Code Section 11.12.030.A.2.b authorizes the Trees and Views

Committee to review and act upon Tree Removal and Alteration Permits regarding

protected trees on private developed property

**Environmental** 

Review

Issuance of Tree Removal and Alteration Permits is categorically exempt

from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), in accordance with Section

15301 of the CEQA Guidelines.

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Treemasters, on behalf of property owners Bob and Betsy Stafford, has submitted an application for the removal of one Camphor tree (*Cinnamomum Camphora*) located at the southeast of the site and one Magnolia tree located at the front of the site at 49 Cloudview Road. A Tree Inspection Report was prepared on May 16, 2013 by WCISA Certified Arborist, Randy Harris, which provides a summary of an inspection for health conducted on the Camphor and Magnoia trees.

The Arborist's report identifies the following attributes regarding the tree proposed for removal (see **Exhibit B** for full report):

- The subject trees are a Camphor which is approximately 60 inches in diameter as measured at breast height (DBH) and a Magnolia which is approximately 60 inches in DBH;
- The Camphor tree has been declining from what appears to be root fungus;
- The Camphor's tree's limbs may fail;
- The Magnolia tree has signs of root fungus at the base;
- One third of the canopy of the Magnolia tree is dead:
- Removal of the Camphor tree and Magnolia trees is recommended.

## PROJECT ANALYSIS

The required determinations for approval of a Permit to remove a protected tree are as follows (per Section 11.12.030.B):

- 1. In order to grant a tree removal or alteration permit it must be determined that removal or alteration is necessary in order to accomplish any one of the following objectives:
  - a. To insure the public safety as it relates to the health of the tree, potential hazard to life or property, proximity to existing or proposed structures, and interference with utilities or sewers.
  - b. To allow reasonable enjoyment of the property, including sunlight, and the right to develop the property.
  - c. To take reasonable advantage of views.
  - d. To pursue good, professional practices of forestry or landscape design.

The Camphor tree has been declining from what appears to be root fungus and the Magnolia tree has signs of root fungus at the base. One third of the canopy of the Magnolia tree is dead and the branches of the Camphor tree may begin to fail. Removal of the trees will insure the public safety as it relates to the health of the tree in addition to protection of life and property, thereby satisfying **Objectives a and d** listed above.

- 2. In order to grant a tree removal permit, it must be determined that any one of the following conditions is satisfied:
  - a. The tree to be removed will be replaced by a desirable tree.
  - b. The Tree Committee waives the above requirement based on information provided by the applicant/owner.

The property owner will replace each tree with a desirable tree of 24-inch box container size. The replacement trees shall be planted within 60 days of the subject tree's removal, thus satisfying **Objective a** listed above.

## PUBLIC NOTICE AND CORRESPONDENCE

On June 14, 2013, a notice of this proposal was posted at the front of the subject property, visible to the surrounding neighborhood, and the trees have been tagged.

As of the writing of the staff report the City has not received any correspondence.

## RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Trees and Views Committee approve the attached resolution (**Exhibit E**) which makes the required determinations for approval of a Tree Removal Permit to allow removal of the Camphor tree located at the southeast of the site and the Magnolia tree located at the front of the site at 49 Cloudview Road (TRP 13-120).

Alternatively, the Trees and Views Committee may:

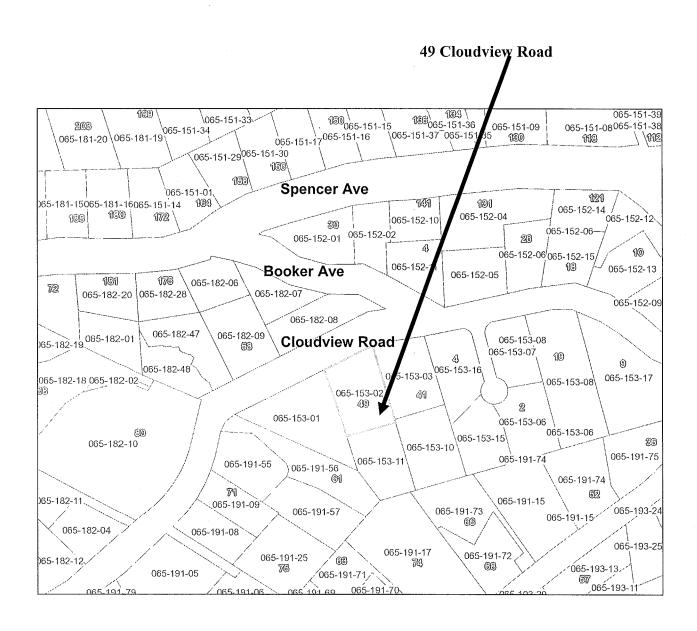
- Approve the Tree Removal Permit with modifications;
- Continue consideration of the item for additional information; or
- Deny the Tree Removal Permit and identify one or more of the Findings for Denial listed in Section 11.12.030.B.3 (see **Exhibit D**).

### **EXHIBITS**

- A. Vicinity Map
- B. Arborist Report and photographs, date-stamped received May 21, 2013
- C. Criteria for Approval or Denial of Tree Removal Permits
- D. Draft Resolution

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### Vicinity Map





#### RANDY HARRIS, PRESIDENT

WCISA Certified Arborist #420 CA State Contractor's License #630158 Insured PL/PD Workers' Compensation

## **ARTISTRY IN TREES**





P.O. BOX 2358, MILL VALLEY, CA 94942 459-4399

### Revised June 14, 2013

June 14, 2013

Bob & Betsy Staford 49 Cloudview Sausalito, CA 94965

# Tree Inspection

<u>Cinnamomum Camphora</u>, Camphor – Approximately 60" CBH

This tree has been declining from what appears to be root fungus. Recovery of this tree is not possible and branches will begin to fail. Removal to ground level is recommended.

Economic Value: No value in current state.

Soil Stability: Not effected

Privacy Factor: Not effected

Magnolia - Approximately 60" CBH

Signs of root fungus are present at the base of tree. One third of the canopy is dead. Recovery of this tree is not possible. Removal to ground level is recommended.

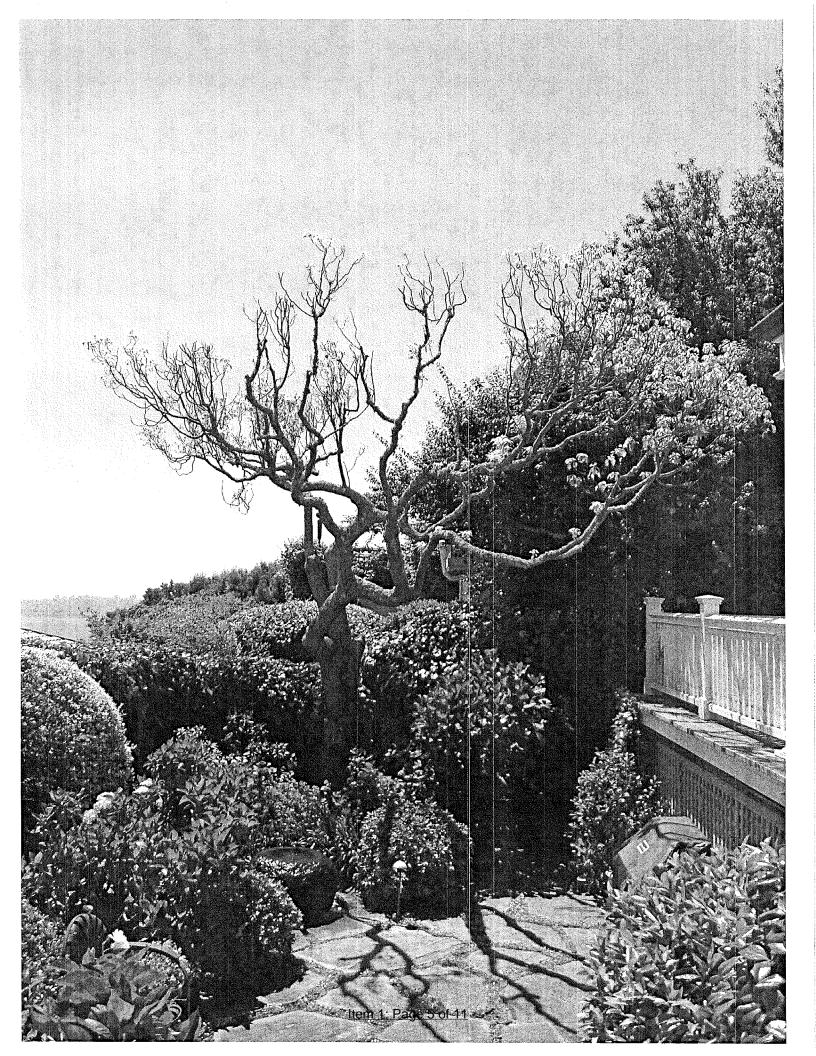
Economic Value: No Value in current state.

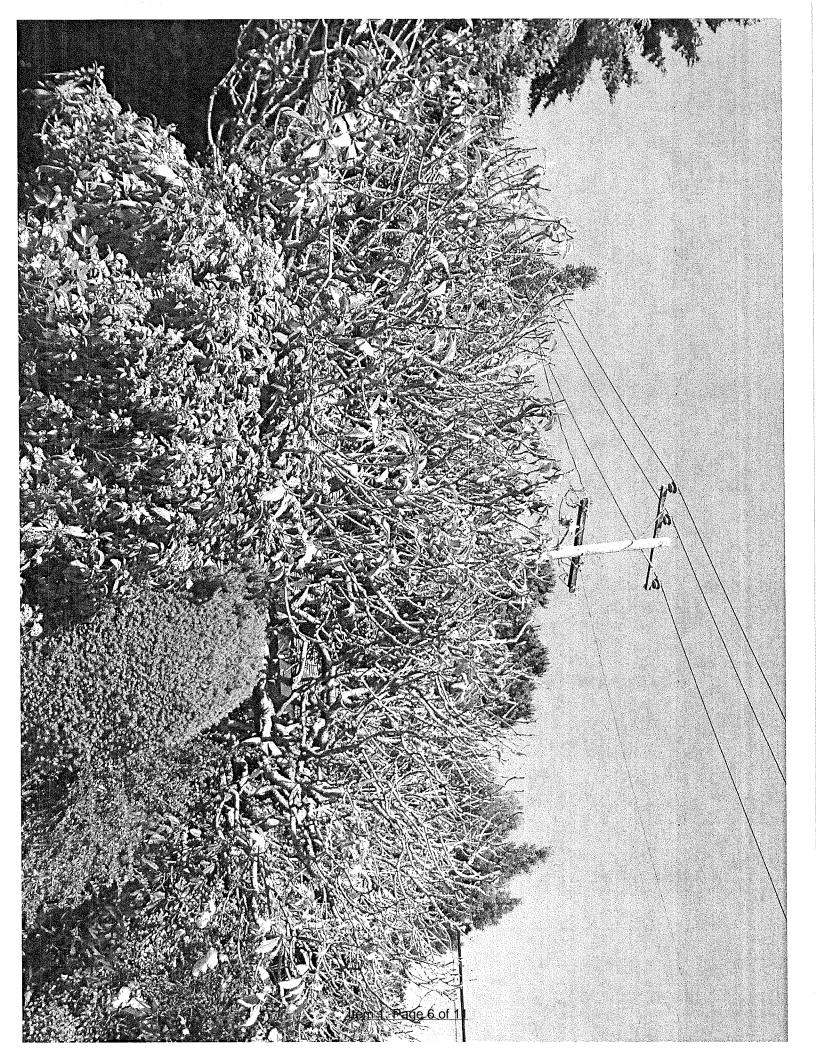
Soil Stability: Not effected

Privacy Factor: Not effected

Randy Harris, Arborist







# Criteria for Approval or Denial of Tree Removal or Alteration Permits Municipal Code Section 11.12.030.B

- 1. In order to grant a tree removal or alteration permit it must be determined that removal or alteration is necessary in order to accomplish any one of the following objectives:
  - a. To insure the public safety as it relates to the health of the tree, potential hazard to life or property, proximity to existing or proposed structures, and interference with utilities or sewers.
  - b. To allow reasonable enjoyment of the property, including sunlight, and the right to develop the property.
  - c. To take reasonable advantage of views.
  - d. To pursue good, professional practices of forestry or landscape design.
- 2. In order to grant a tree removal permit, it must be determined that any one of the following conditions is satisfied:
  - a. The tree to be removed will be replaced by a desirable tree.
  - b. The Tree Committee waives the above requirement based on information provided by the applicant/owner.
- 3. A finding of any one of the following is grounds for denial, regardless of the finding in "1." above:
  - a. Removal of a healthy tree of a desired species can be avoided by:
    - 1. Reasonable redesign of the site plan, prior to construction
    - 2. a) thinning to reduce density; e.g., "open windows"
      - b) shaping to reduce height or spread, using thinning cuts only (drop crotch)
      - c) heading or topping this is the least preferable method, due to the tree's health and appearance and cost of maintenance.
  - b. Adequate provisions for drainage, erosion control, land stability, windscreen, visual screening, privacy and for restoration of ground cover and/or other foliage damaged by the tree work have not been made in situations where such problems are anticipated as a result of the removal or alteration.
  - c. The tree to be removed is a member of a group of trees in which each tree is dependent upon the others for survival.
  - d. The value of the tree to the neighborhood is greater than its convenience to the owner. The effects on visual, auditory, and wind screening, privacy and neighboring vegetation must be considered.
  - e. The need for protection of privacy for the property on which the tree is located and/or for adjacent properties.

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# SAUSALITO TREES AND VIEWS COMMITTEE RESOLUTION NO. 2013-XX

# TREE REMOVAL PERMIT FOR ONE CAMPHOR TREE AND ONE MAGNOLIA TREE LOCATED AT 49 CLOUDVIEW ROAD (TRP 13-120)

WHEREAS, on May 21, 2013 a Tree Removal Permit application was filed by the applicant, Artistry in Trees, on behalf of the property owners, Bob and Betsy Stafford, requesting the removal of one Camphor tree and one Magnolia tree (*Juglan regia*) located at 49 Cloudview Road (APN 065-153-02); and

WHEREAS, a notice for the application was posted on the Tree Owner's property on June 14, 2013; and

**WHEREAS**, the Trees and Views Committee considered the application at a public meeting on June 24, 2013, at which time all interested persons were given an opportunity to be heard; and

WHEREAS, the Trees and Views Committee has reviewed and considered the information contained in the staff reports as well as any and all oral and written testimony on the proposed project; and

WHEREAS, the Trees and Views Committee finds that the application is categorically exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15301 of the CEQA Guidelines; and

### NOW, THEREFORE, THE TREES AND VIEWS COMMITTEE HEREBY RESOLVES:

Removal of the Coast Live Oak located on the Tree Owner's property at 49 Cloudview Road is approved. This decision is based upon the determinations provided in Attachment 1 and subject to the conditions of approval provided in Attachment 2. A Site Plan is provided in Attachment 3.

RESOLUTION PASSED AND ADOPTED, at the regular meeting of the Sausalito Trees and Views

Committee on the day of, 20, by the following vote:		
AYES: NOES: ABSENT: ABSTAIN:	Committee Member: Committee Member: Committee Member: Committee Member:	
		Lilly Schinsing

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1- Findings
- 2- Conditions of Approval
- 3- Site Plan

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Administrative Analyst



# TREES AND VIEWS COMMITTEE RESOLUTION June 24, 2013 TRP 13-120 49 Cloudview Road

**ATTACHMENT 1: FINDINGS** 

#### TREE REMOVAL PERMIT FINDINGS

In accordance with Municipal Code Section 11.12.030.B, the Trees and Views Committee makes the following findings with respect to the Tree Removal Permit for 49 Cloudview Road:

### Section 11.12.030.B of the Sausalito Municipal Code

- 1. In order to grant a tree removal or alteration permit it must be determined that removal or alteration is necessary in order to accomplish any one of the following objectives:
  - a. To insure the public safety as it relates to the health of the tree, potential hazard to life or property, proximity to existing or proposed structures, and interference with utilities or sewers.
  - b. To allow reasonable enjoyment of the property, including sunlight, and the right to develop the property.
  - c. To take reasonable advantage of views.
  - d. To pursue good, professional practices of forestry or landscape design.

The Camphor tree has been declining from what appears to be root fungus and the Magnolia tree has signs of root fungus at the base. One third of the canopy of the Magnolia tree is dead and the branches of the Camphor tree may begin to fail. Removal of the trees will insure the public safety as it relates to the health of the tree in addition to protection of life and property, thereby satisfying Objectives a and d listed above.

- 2. In order to grant a tree removal permit, it must be determined that any one of the following conditions is satisfied:
  - a. The tree to be removed will be replaced by a desirable tree.
  - b. The Tree Committee waives the above requirement based on information provided by the applicant/owner.

The project is conditioned to require two replacement trees to be in a 24-inch box container of desirable species, to be determined by the property owners, and shall be planted in a location to be determined by the property owner. The replacement trees shall be planted within 60 days of the Camphor and Magnolia tree removal, thus satisfying Objective a listed above.

# TREES AND VIEWS COMMITTEE RESOLUTION June 24, 2013 TRP 13-120 49 Cloudview Road

### ATTACHMENT 2: CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

This condition of approval applies to the Tree Removal Permit submitted on May 21, 2013.

- 1. Two replacement trees of a 24-inch box container of desirable species shall be planted on the subject property in a location to be determined by the property owner and within 60 days of the removal of the Camphor and Magnolia trees.
- 2. Documentation of the planting of the replacement trees (such as photographs) shall be provided to the Community Development Department within 30 days of the planting of the replacement tree.

### **Advisory Notes**

Advisory notes are provided to inform affected parties of Sausalito Municipal Code requirements, and requirements imposed by other agencies. These requirements include, but are not limited to, the items listed below.

- 1. All tree work shall be performed to the American National Standards (ANSI) A300 pruning standards.
- 2. Pursuant to Municipal Code Section 11.12.040.B, in the event litigation is required to enforce the decision of the Trees and Views Committee the party bringing any private civil action must promptly notify the City of Sausalito's Community Development Department in writing of such action.
- 3. An encroachment permit shall be obtained from the Department of Public Works prior to use of the public right-of-way for non-public purposes (e.g., materials storage, debris box storage) including any and all tree removal activities.
- 4. Pursuant to Municipal Code Section 12.16.140, the operation of construction, demolition, excavation, alteration, or repair devices and equipment within all residential zones and areas within a 500 foot radius of residential zones shall only take place during the following hours:

Weekdays – Between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Saturdays – Between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

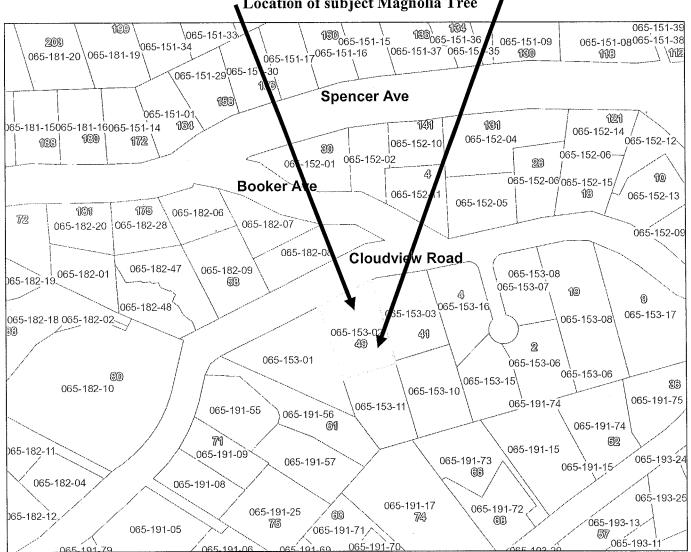
Sundays - Prohibited

City holidays (not including Sundays) – Between 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

# TREES AND VIEWS COMMITTEE RESOLUTION June 24, 2013 TRP 13-120 49 Cloudview Road

### **ATTACHMENT 3: SITE PLAN**

Location of subject Camphor Tree Location of subject Magnolia Tree



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