Date: August 11, 2017

To: All Tree Advisory Board Members

From: Inta Brainerd

Subject: Tree Advisory Board Meeting

I am pleased to welcome our newest TAB member representing District 2 Lawrence Latchman.

The next Tree Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, August 16, 2017 from 3:00 – 5:00pm.** in room 230, Turner Ct., Hayward.

Please bring any pertinent materials with you to the meeting. Also, please be sure to bring your TAB binders as I have new tabs for you. You may also wish to bring any TAB materials that you would like recycled.

If you are unable to attend for any reason please call to let me know of your absence in advance. I can be reached at (510) 670-5786 or you may call the general number (510) 670-5480. I can also be reached by cell at (510) 760-0734.

Please note that the next regularly scheduled meeting will be held November 15, 2017.

Sincerely,

Inta Brainerd
County Arborist
Alameda County Public Works Agency
Packet Contents:

1. Agenda
2. November 16, 2016 Minutes
3. Summary of Violations/Permits
4. Violation Letters and Appraisals
5. Hearings/Appeals
   - 832 Via Mariposa, San Lorenzo
Alameda County Public Works
Tree Advisory Board

Regular Meeting
ALAMEDA COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING
ROOM 230
951 TURNER CT.
HAYWARD, CA 94545

Wednesday, August 16, 2017 3pm

DONALD G. NELSON  DISTRICT 1
LAWRENCE LATCHMAN  DISTRICT 2
KATHIE READY  DISTRICT 3
DAN GALLAGHER  DISTRICT 4
DEE MCDONOUGH  DISTRICT 5

The Tree Advisory Board welcomes you to its meetings and your interest is appreciated. If you wish to speak on a matter on the agenda, please fill out a speaker slip at the back of the Room. When addressing the Board, please give your name for the record prior to your presentation. If you wish to speak on a matter not on the agenda, please wait until the Chair calls for public input at the beginning of the Regular Calendar. NOTE: Only matters within the Tree Advisory Boards’ jurisdiction may be addressed. Time limitations shall be at the discretion of the Chair.

Pursuant to Board Policy: (1) Applause, signs or demonstrations are prohibited during Board meetings; (2) Any Board Member may request a continuance on any item appearing for the first time; (3) All agenda items shall be received by the Environmental Services section prior to 3 p.m. on Tuesday two weeks before the meeting date and 12 noon, one day earlier when a Holiday intervenes.

If you have questions regarding the agenda, please call (510) 670-5786. The Board’s Agenda and Summary Action Minutes are also available by calling (510) 670-8467.

AGENDA

Introductions

I. Public Comment

II. Announcements

III. Minutes
   • November 16, 2016 TAB meeting

IV. Violation Process

V. Tree Violation Hearings/Appeals
   • 832 Via Mariposa, San Lorenzo

VI. Summary of 2017 Violations/Permits

VII. Wrap up and Adjourn

NEXT SCHEDULED TREE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2017
3:00PM – 5:00PM
PLEASE SIGN ATTENDANCE SHEET
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair, Dan Gallagher; Vice-Chair, Dee McDonough; Kathie Ready; and Walt Fujii; absent: Don Nelson

OTHERS PRESENT: Inta Brainerd; Howard Beckman; Sarah Odie, District 3

CALL TO ORDER: The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

I. PUBLIC COMMENT:
   - None
   - Walt requested to add a comment at the end of the agenda and Dee also asked to comment at the end.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS:
   - None

III. TAB MINUTES
   - October 19th minutes approved with Kathie’s corrections

IV. TREE ORDINANCE
   - Inta explained that PWA is ready to bring the Ordinance to the BOS following the last Unincorporated Services meeting.
   - Dan asked if TAB members need to be present when the ordinance is brought to the Board.
   - Inta assured him that TAB members need not be present.
   - Walt requested clarification regarding the contractor license requirements.
   - Dan requested that changes to the role of the TAB be included in the minutes.
   - Kathie inquired as to whether or not TAB would see any violations that are not appealed.
   - Dan requested that TAB be provided a list of violations and photos if possible.
   - Dan asked about abatement and replacement.
TAB Meeting – October 19, 2016

- Inta reiterated that any tree removed as a result of a violation would require replacement. Any tree removed requires a replacement unless an arborist determines it’s not possible.
- Dan requested that when TAB is asked to review the tree manual that they are given sections as opposed to a complete product.

V. REVIEW OF TAB ROLE:

- TAB will continue to serve as an advisory role to the Director of PWA.
- TAB will hear all appeals and their decision will be final.
- Where trees exceed a $1000 loss of value, TAB will recommend abatement actions to the BOS in addition to all other applicable fines and fees.

VI. REVIEW OF FOLLOW UP REPORTING:

- Violation report;
- Invoice report for fees and fines;

VII. WRAP UP AND ADJOURN:

- Dee requested that hard copies of the meeting packets be mailed in addition to electronic copies.
- Walt announced that this was his last meeting. Due to workload he decided to resign and has already informed Supervisor Vaille.
- Dan closed the meeting thanking Walt for his service, expertise, diligence, and helping TAB in reaching critical decisions. Additionally he suggested that the BOS should offer a formal acknowledgement of his service.
- Kathie asked that someone qualified for the position be appointed. Can TAB be given a chance to find a replacement?
- Kathie seconded the motions and they were approved unanimously.
- Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.
Staff Report
Mark and Janay Shepherd
832 Via Mariposa, San Lorenzo, CA 94580
August 16, 2017 at 4pm.

Violation: It was reported and documented that (1) Liquidambar tree was improperly pruned and no permits were acquired for the work.

Background for appeal of fine:
On March 27th, 2017 the violation was reported to the Public Works Agency. On March 31st, 2017 Inta Brainerd, County Arborist, inspected the violation and found that a tree had been improperly pruned and no permits had been issued for the work. On April 10th, 2017 Ms. Brainerd contacted Hortscience to request a Tree Evaluation and Appraisal of Value. Mr. John Leffingwell inspected the tree on April 24th, 2017 and provided his assessment on May 1st, 2017. An invoice was generated on June 7th, 2017 and a Notice of Violation was sent on June 13th, 2017. On July 10th, 2017 the Agency received a letter of appeal along with a check for the appeals fee. The matter was scheduled for the TAB meeting (August 16th, 2017) and on July 25th, 2017 the property owner was sent a Notice of Hearing.

The following fines were assessed in accordance with Sections 12.11.220 Fees and 12.11.250 Administrative penalties:

- $100.00 for work without a permit
- $1000.00 administrative penalty
- $206.10 cost of tree appraisal

Background for hearing on abatement:
Same as above for appeal.

The following required corrective actions are to be taken in order to comply with Section 12.11.130 Abatement Authority:

- Acquire permit for removal and replacement of the damaged tree;
- Remove damaged tree and grind stump;
- Replace with a *Platamns x hispanica* (Sycamore tree);
- Pay $1950.00 into a mitigation fund for the loss of value of the tree(s).

Enclosures:
- Inspection form
- Pictures
- Invoice
- Appraisal Report
- Notice of Violation
- Letter of Appeal and letter enclosures
Alameda County Urban Forestry Program
Field Inspection Form

Reference #: SLYHA
Requester Name: SLYHA
Site Location: 832 Via Mariposa
Comments: Trees Being Cut

Date: 3/27/17
Phone #: 

Owner Name: 
Owner Address: 

Number of Trees: 1

TREE INFORMATION
Date Filed: 3/21/17
Inspected By: 

Tree Species: L. O. Ambar
Height: 10
DBH: 12

Sidewalk Conflict: 
Root Prune
Meander Sidewalk

Root Barrier
Remove/Replace

Bulb Out

Right of Way Measurement:
Right of Way: Yes No
County Maintained: Yes No
Overhead High Voltage Lines: Yes No
Overall Health: Excellent

Any obvious defects/diseases: Yes No

Pictures Taken: Yes No

TYPE OF VIOLATION
Current Permit: Yes No
Tree Planted: Yes No
Tree Trimmed: Yes No
Meets ISA Standards: Yes No

Tree Topped: Yes No
Tree Removed: Yes No

Work Performed By: Contractor
Contractor Name: 

Violation Form Letter: Yes No
Date Sent: 
Response Due Date: 

Violation Notice Sent: 3/13/17
August 11, 2017

Mark and Janay Shepherd
832 Via Mariposa
San Lorenzo, CA 94580

RE: TREE ORDINANCE VIOLATION

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Shepherd,

On June 13, 2017 you were sent a Notice of Violation along with an invoice for administrative penalties and abatement requirements. The abatement requirements should not have been included in the invoice until the Alameda County Board of Supervisors has adopted the resolution. A new invoice has been included.

You have requested and been granted an appeal hearing scheduled for August 16, 2017.

Please disregard the previously sent Notice of Violation and replace with the revised notice included with this correspondence. Also included are the Notice of Administrative Hearing on Appeal of Administrative Penalty and Notice of Administrative Hearing on Abatement of Nuisance.

If you have any questions please call me at (510) 670-5786.

Sincerely,

Inta Brainerd
County Arborist
Alameda County Public Works Agency
Notice of Violation, Imposition of Penalty, and Required Abatement

June 13, 2017

Mark and Janay Shepherd
832 Via Mariposa
San Lorenzo, CA  94580

Re: REVISED NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Shepherd:

A tree has been improperly pruned in the County Road Right-of-Way adjacent to your property at the above address. The improper pruning was unpermitted and illegal. The County of Alameda’s Tree Ordinance (“Ordinance”) provides as follows:

- Section 12.11.140: “The planting, maintaining, or removing of any tree in the right-of-way, and all associated facilities... are encroachments subject to the permitting and other requirements of this Chapter.”
- Section 12.11.110: “In accordance with the California Government Code, Section 53067, no person shall top, head back, stub or pollard any tree located within the right-of-way.”
- Section 12.11.130: “The Director will require replacement of a tree within the right-of-way that is improperly removed or damaged. Where replacement is inadequate to correct the harm caused by an improperly removed or damaged tree or is impracticable, the Director may also require the property owner to pay the loss of value of such tree into a tree mitigation fund as abatement for such loss of value.”
- Section 12.11.250: “Any person, including, but not limited to, the property owner, the person performing the work, and/or any other responsible person, who violates the provisions of this Chapter or any condition imposed upon any permit issued hereunder shall be liable to the County for a civil penalty of up to $1000 per violation, under a schedule of penalties established by the Director and approved by the Board.”

Pursuant to the Ordinance, you are ordered to do the following:

Pay Fines
$100.00 fine for work without a permit
$206.10 for cost of appraisal report
$1000.00 for civil penalties

The enclosed arborist report shows the basis for the fine.

The condition of the tree also requires abatement to correct the violation.
Per the enclosed arborist’s report, the trees that were improperly pruned are considered a total loss and cannot be salvaged. Any loss associated with the pruning would be the difference in value before and after the tree was pruned. In this case the tree was considered a total loss. The destruction of these high-value trees cannot be adequately corrected by planting saplings.

The recommended method(s) of abatement are:

Abate Damage
Acquire permit for removal and replacement of the damaged tree
Remove damaged tree and grind stump
Replace with a 24 inch boxed tree (see enclosed guidelines)
Pay $1950 into mitigation fund for the loss of value of the tree

In order to avoid collection efforts, special assessment of the amounts owing, application of interest for late payment, or additional penalties for noncompliance, please make payment of the fine amount ($1036.10) within 30 days. Cash or a check may be brought or mailed to the County’s Fiscal Department at 399 Elmhurst St. Hayward. Your check should be made payable to “Alameda County Treasurer’s Office.” Please be sure to denote the invoice number (17T08:06) with your payment. Please see section 12.11.280 of the Ordinance for discussion of the consequences of noncompliance.

Enclosed is a permit application to remove the remainder of the trees.

Should you wish to appeal the fine or the cost of the appraisal, you may submit a letter of appeal to the Tree Advisory Board no later than 30 days after the date of this notice. The letter of appeal may be submitted to the Public Works Agency Director’s attention: Daniel Woldesenbet, 399 Elmhurst St., Hayward, CA 94544. An appeal must include an address to send all notices, the $25 appeals fee, and all supporting documentation. Please see section 12.11.260 of the Ordinance for more information.

As to the required abatement, you may request a hearing before the Tree Advisory Board. If a hearing is requested, the Tree Advisory Board shall hear the matter and make a written recommendation to the Board of Supervisors following the hearing. Requests for hearing must be submitted in writing to the Director of Public Works within ten days of this notice. If no request for hearing is received, the abatement order shall be presented to the Board of Supervisors for adoption. Please see section 12.11.130 of the Ordinance for more information.

More information about the County’s tree program, including the full text of the Ordinance, can be found at https://www.acpwa.org/pas/urban-forestry.

Also enclosed is the Fee Schedule adopted under the above Ordinance as well as a copy of the appraisal report.

Your timely cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Inta Brainerd
County Arborist
Alameda County Public Works Agency
THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY
FISCAL DIVISION
399-A Elmhurst Street, 3rd Floor
Hayward, CA 94544
Tax ID 946000501

INVOICE 17T08:06
August 11, 2017

Customer No: 2723
Mark Shepherd
Attn: MARK & JANAY SHEPHERD
832 Via Mariposa
San Lorenzo, CA 94580

Description of Services

INVOICE FOR FINE DUE TO WORK DONE WITHOUT A TREE PERMIT.

VIOLATION ADDRESS: 832 Via Mariposa, San Lorenzo, CA 94580

Fine for work without a permit $ 100.00
Cost of tree appraisal 206.10
Fine for misdemeanor 1,000.00

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT INTA BRAINERD, COUNTY ARBORIST, AT 510-670-5786.

Job No: F7H018 - TREE PROGRAM - ABATEMENT

 Revenue Account No: 270401-430210-00000/99179 $100.00
                      270401-430210-50600/99179 $1,000.00
                      270401-479990-00000/99179 $206.10

Invoice Total: 1,306.10

PLEASE MAKE REMITTANCE PAYABLE TO "TREASURER OF ALAMEDA COUNTY"
SEND TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS
PLEASE REFERENCE ABOVE INVOICE # ON PAYMENT

The undersigned hereby certifies that the above claim is true and correct.

(510) 670-5475
TERESA HEWITT
TREE PERMIT APPLICATION

Public Works Agency
Alameda County

COUNTY OF ALAMEDA PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY
399 Elmhurst St., Hayward, CA 94544 * Phone: (510) 670-5480 * https://www.acpwa.org/tree-permit

Tree Planting | Tree Pruning | Tree Removal

Name / Address of Owner, Utility, or Contractor: ____________________________

Job Site Address: ____________________________

Phone Number: ____________________________

Description of Tree(s) including Proposed Work: [Identify location, condition of tree(s) and dates of work]

Tree location measured in from the edge of the face of curb towards tree ______ (ft) ______ (inches)

Tree Trimming/Removal Requirements

Contractor’s Name: ____________________________
Contractor’s License #: ____________________________
Certified Arborist #: ____________________________

County Arborists maintain the authority to monitor and inspect work to insure compliance with the Alameda County Tree Ordinance (Sec. 12.11.230)

Replacement/New Tree Species: ____________________________

I, the property owner/resident at the above address agree to water and maintain the above tree within the County right-of-way on my property. Once planted, I agree not to remove this tree without the prior written consent of the Alameda County Public Works Agency. I also understand that if the above tree dies or is damaged beyond repair, the County may require me to replant a new tree at my sole expense.

I agree to comply with all of the provisions, conditions, and other requirements of this Permit:
Signature of Applicant: ____________________________

NOTICE:
Permit will not be valid until issued. Permits shall be kept on site during work. The Permittee is responsible for and must notify the County at (510) 670-5480, no later than ten (10) days after completion of the work.
For County Use Only

Applicable Fees paid: $50.00
(Feers are non-refundable)

Date Paid:

Public Works Agency
Alameda County

Permit Number:
Permit Issuance Date:
Permit Expiration Date:

Status: ☐ APPROVED ☐ DENIED ☐ NO PERMIT REQUIRED

Permit Conditions

This Permit is issued in accordance with Chapter 12.11 of the Alameda County General Ordinance Code and the County Tree Ordinance, in order to authorize access to a public roadway for the purpose of planting, pruning or removing a tree, the trunk of which lies wholly or partially within the right-of-way of the said roadway.

Application reviewed: __________________________ County Arborist __________ Date __________

Tree Information

Number of trees: ______ Species: ______
Location of tree: ______
Overhead High Voltage Lines: ☐ Yes ☐ No
Overall health: ______
Any obvious defects/diseases: ______
Comments: ______

☐ SIDEWALK DAMAGE
Pictures Taken: ☐ Yes ☐ No

DATE FIELDDED: __________

Post-Work Inspection

Date Fielded: ______
Satisfactory: ☐ Yes ☐ No
Comments: ______

Permit Closed: ______
Date ______

Alameda County Public Works Agency
August 11, 2017

Mark and Janay Shepherd
832 Via Mariposa
San Lorenzo, CA 94580

COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING
ON APPEAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY UNDER TREE ORDINANCE

This is a notice of a hearing before the Tree Advisory Board of an appeal of administrative penalties under the Tree Ordinance.

Dated this eleventh day of August, 2017.

Tree Advisory Board

Time and Date of Hearing: 4pm, 16th of August

Location of Hearing: Room 230, 951 Turner Ct., Hayward

- All hearings shall be electronically tape recorded.
- You will be given 10 minutes to present testimony and any other evidence.
- You may send written materials for consideration at least two weeks before the hearing. Materials sent less than two weeks before the hearing may not be included in the Board’s packet. You should bring at least five copies of any documents that you wish for the Tree Advisory Board to consider at the hearing.
- Hearings need not be conducted according to the California Code of Evidence.
COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING
ON ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE UNDER TREE ORDINANCE

This is a notice of hearing before the Tree Advisory Board to ascertain whether certain damage to or removal of one or more street trees in the County of Alameda, state of California, that are abutting the property known and designated as 832 Via Mariposa, San Lorenzo in said county constitutes a public nuisance subject to abatement. If the damage to or removal of the street tree(s), is found to constitute a public nuisance as defined in Chapter 12.11.120 of the General Ordinance Code and the same is not promptly abated by the owner of said property, such nuisance may be abated by the County of Alameda, in which case the cost of such abatement will be assessed upon such property and such costs together with interest thereon, will constitute a lien upon such property until paid; in addition, the property owner(s) may be cited for violation of the provisions of county ordinances and subject to a fine.

Said alleged conditions consist of the following:

It was reported and documented that (1) Liquidambar tree has been improperly pruned and the work was performed without a permit in violation of Alameda County General Ordinance Code section(s): 12.11.120; 12.11.130; and 12.11.140.

The recommended method(s) of abatement are:

- Acquire a permit for removal and replacement of the damaged tree;
- Remove damaged tree and grind stump;
- Replace with a 24” boxed tree;
- Pay $1950 into a mitigation fund for the loss of value of the tree.

All persons having an interest in said matters may attend the hearing and their testimony and evidence will be heard and given due consideration.

Dated this eleventh day of August, 2017.

Tree Advisory Board

Time and Date of Hearing: 4pm., August 16th, 2017

Location of Hearing: Room 230, 951 Turner Ct., Hayward

- All hearings shall be electronically tape recorded.
- You will be given 10 minutes to present testimony and any other evidence.
- You may send written materials for consideration at least two weeks before the hearing. Materials sent less than two weeks before the hearing may not be included in the Board’s packet. You should bring at least five copies of any documents that you wish for the Tree Advisory Board to consider at the hearing.
- Hearings need not be conducted according to the California Code of Evidence.
To Alameda County Tree Advisory Board. Atten: Daniel Woldesenbet

July 10, 2017

Mark & Janay Shepherd
832 Via Mariposa
San Lorenzo CA, 94580
510 305-5386

This letter is our request to appeal the $100 fine for not having a permit to trim our tree. The civil penalties totaling $1000, the cost of the appraisal of our tree and the abatement of the value of the tree of $ 1950 invoice #17t06:02

We began to prune our tree in our front yard the beginning of March 2017. There were not any large limbs removed. We receive one letter from San Lorenzo Village Home owners Association on March 27 stating that we trimmed the tree without approval. At which point, we did no more trimming.

On March 28 I left a message on the Home Owners Association voicemail, letting them know that we were not aware that we needed to receive approval to trim the tree. That we did not trim the tree any further. We never received a return phone call so I just assumed that it was cleared up.

On June 17, 2017 we received a letter and invoice from Inta Brained regarding the tree in our front yard. We also received a tree assessment from Arborist John Leffingwell stating that our tree was a Sweet Gum Tree that because of our pruning of the tree it is a total loss, that numerous wounds have opened up the tree to insects and disease. He stated that the tree was a total loss.

We contacted an independent Arborist John Leone the same week we received the letter and invoice. John Leone certified Arborist came to assess our tree. John informed us that the tree is a Liquid Amber not a Sweet Gum tree as John Leffingwell listed it as. He also stated that the tree is lush, green, good color with no signs of infestation. He also stated there aren’t any signs of moisture of nutrient deficiency. See attached letter from John Leone. Please contact John Leone at (510) 657-3299 if you have any further questions.

The tree is still healthy and lush. The tree is not a loss by any means. Please see attached pictures. We would like to keep the tree. My husband and his uncle planted the tree back in 1979 for his grandmother who was the first owner of our home who has passed away 24 years ago. We purchased the home 17 years ago from my sister in law. The tree is very sentimental to our family.

Now that we are aware of the County of Alameda’s Tree Ordinance that pruning our tree was against regulations, we will not prune the tree again without the proper permits and contractors. John
Leon suggested to get it professionally trimmed in the future to re-structure the canopy of the tree and that is what we will do. We truly apologize for any misunderstanding on our part.

Thank you

Janay Shepherd
March 27, 2017

Mark & Janay Shepherd
832 Via Mariposa
San Lorenzo, CA 94580

RE: Property Address: 832 Via Mariposa
Account #: 29188

Dear Homeowner:

During a routine drive through of the Village by Association Staff, the following was noted on your property:

Tree trimmed without county or Association approval

Front Yard Policy: 2. Landscaping: (d) & (e)

Front yard trees (in or out of County right-of-way) require written permission for pruning or removing

Your property is covered by the Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions, more commonly referred to as the CC&R's. These CC&R's were filed on the tract at the time of development and are part of your Grant Deed. The purpose of the CC&R's is to maintain and enhance property values throughout the San Lorenzo Village Homes Association.

It is the responsibility of the Homes Association to enforce these CC&R's. We respectfully request that you correct the above referenced violation within 15 days. Should you not be able to meet this deadline-please contact our office at your earliest convenience to make alternate arrangements. **If you do correct the violation please contact us via phone or email to let us know that the issue has been corrected.** A picture of the correction helps our staff to close your case and expedite the process.

It is our policy to recheck your property at the end of this 15 day window for compliance, if the property is not up to the standard as defined by the CC&R's we will be forced to take further action including but not limited to a hearing before the Association's Board of Directors and possibly issuing a fine.

We Appreciate your cooperation and prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

**Kathleen Harrigan**
Kathleen Harrigan
Operations Manager
510-276-4554 ext 8
Kathleen@slvha.com

**Beverly Horrocks**
Beverly Horrocks
CC&R Enforcement
510-276-4554 ext 7
Beverly@slvha.com

cc: Tenants (when applicable)
Tree Ordinance Fines, Permit Fees and Appeal Related Fees

Fees:
Contractor Permits: $500.00
Individual Permits: $50.00

Inspection Fees:
- Pre-inspection with permit Included in cost of permit
- Post-inspection (work completed) Included in cost of permit
- Re-inspection (if needed) $50.00/hr

Appeals to the TAB: $25.00
Appeals to the Board of Supervisors $50.00

Fines and Penalties:
- Work Performed without a Permit: $100.00
- Trees Planted without a Permit: The Director may order that the tree be removed and/or replaced with one from the Recommended Tree List.
- Trees that are topped, tipped, stubbed, removed, or otherwise damaged: The administrative penalty shall be the appraised value of the removed tree or loss of value to the damaged tree, up to a cap of $1000.00.
  - Value and loss of value shall be calculated using the most recent edition of the "Guide for Establishing Values of Trees and Other Plants" by the council of tree and landscape appraisers that is in effect at the time of the violation.
- In addition to administrative penalties, the property owner and/or contractor shall be responsible for the cost of the tree appraisal required to determine the loss of value.
- All fines and penalties shall be deemed non-exclusive and cumulative.

On July 1st of each year, the director shall automatically adjust the permit fees. This adjustment shall be the percentage change in the U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index, Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers for the San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA Area over the preceding calendar year or an equivalent annual inflation index for the Oakland-San Francisco Bay Area for the same time period, provided such increase does not exceed the reasonable costs of providing permit-related services. In addition to the adjustment described above, the board of supervisors may periodically adjust any fine, penalty, or fee to reflect increased costs, inflation, or other factors.
May 1, 2017

Inta Brainerd
Alameda County Public Works Agency
951 Turner Ct.
Hayward, CA 94545

Subject: Tree Evaluation and Appraisal of Value
832 Via Mariposa, San Lorenzo

Dear Ms. Brainerd,

The Alameda County Public Works Agency is responsible for administering tree pruning and removal permits for trees within County rights-of-way, in accordance with the Alameda County Tree Ordinance (Sec. 12.11.230 of the Alameda County General Code). To help determine losses associated with improper pruning or un-permitted removals, the County requested that HortScience, Inc. evaluate the current condition of the tree, provide management recommendations as appropriate, and establish any loss in value.

I visited the subject site on April 24, 2017. This letter summarizes my observations and assessment.

Background
You contacted me on March 10, 2017 after noticing the pruning of two sweetgum trees (Liquidambar styraciflua) at the subject site.

Since I had no photographs showing the tree pre-pruning, I used the Google Earth street view of the subject site to assist me in establishing tree condition.

From my review of the historic images available from Google Earth street view, as recently as September 2016, the tree had a full canopy.

Tree Observations and Assessment
The sweetgum tree was located in the front yard, on the north side of the Via Mariposa residence, approximately 3’ behind of the sidewalk. The trunk, measured at 54” above grade, was 12” in diameter. The tree appeared to have been topped in the past and allowed to resprout. There was a trunk wound at ~10’ associated with a previous branch failure. I considered the pre-pruning condition to be good (rated as 70%).

The northern half of the canopy was removed, removing ~40% of the live foliage (Photo, following page). The pruning consisted of cutting 6 branches to stubs, measuring between 4” and 5” in diameter. Pruning was not performed according to the Best Management Practices for Pruning (International Society of Arboriculture, 2002) and to the most recent editions of the American National Standard for Tree Care Operations (Z133.1) and Pruning (A300). The tree was in poor condition due to the pruning (rated as 30%) and the prospects for rehabilitating the tree is low. I consider the tree to be a total loss.

HortScience, Inc. | 325 Ray St. | Pleasanton, CA 94566
phone 925.448.0211 | fax 925.448.5098 | www.hortscience.com
To all concerned parties,

Called to inspect the Liquid amber tree at 832 Via Manzana in San Jose.

- Liquid amber is 15" D.B.H.
- Tree is in fair to poor condition.
- Trunk hazard structural canopy with no central leader.
- Foliage is lush and green, good color with no signs of infestation.
- No sign of moisture or nutrient deficiency.

(over)
### Appraisal Worksheet

(Taken from a form found in: *Guide for Plant Appraisal, 9th edition*)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Owner:</th>
<th>Alameda County Public Works</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location:</td>
<td>832 Via Mariposa, San Lorenzo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 1. Species            | Sweet gum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*)            |
| 2. Pre-pruning condition rating | 70% Based on Google Earth street view ©. |
| 3. Trunk diameter     | 12" Measured at 54" above grade.                |
| 4. Location rating    | 62% Based upon site rating of 60%, contribution rating of 60% and placement rating of 65%. |
| 5. Species rating     | 50% Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment*. |
| 6. Replacement tree size | 2.24 sq. in. Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment* for a Group 2 tree. |
| 7. Replacement tree cost | $172.73 |
| 8. Installation cost  | $172.73 |
| 9. Installed cost     | $345.46 Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment* for the installed cost of a 24" box tree. |
| 10. Unit tree cost    | $77.04 Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment* for a Group 2 tree. |
| 11. Appraised trunk area | 113 sq. in. (Taken from Table 4.4, 9th Edition) |
| 12. Appraised trunk area increase (over 24" box) | 110.76 sq. in. (Line 11 - Line 6) |
| 13. Basic tree cost   | $8,878 (Line 12 x Line 10 + Line 9) |
| 14. Appraised value   | $1,950 (Line 13 x Line 2 x Line 4 x Line 5, rounded to the nearest $50.00) |

### References


July 25, 2017

Mark and Janay Shepherd  
832 Via Mariposa  
San Lorenzo, CA  94580

SUBJECT: Notice of Hearing Date

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Shepherd:

We received your letter dated July 10, 2017 appealing the Notice of Violation, Imposition of Penalty, and Required Abatement that was sent on June 13th, 2017.

**A hearing before the Tree Advisory Board (TAB) regarding the fine, civil penalty, cost of appraisal, abatement, and removal requirement has been scheduled for August 16th, 2017 at 4:00pm in Room 230 of the Public Works building located at 951 Turner Ct. Hayward.** The Tree Advisory Board is made up of citizens from Alameda County like you who hear appeals and advise the Agency Director on requests related to trees in county rights of way.

You will be given the opportunity to explain why the tree work was performed without a permit and why the tree should be retained instead of removed. Please bring any additional information or documentation to the hearing. **Please notify the County if you will be unable to attend.**

Please feel free to call me at 510-670-5786, should you have questions. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Inta Brainerd  
County Arborist  
Alameda County Public Works Agency

Cc.: Daniel Woldesenbet, Director of Public Works  
Kwablah Attiogbe, Environmental Services Section Supervisor  
Tree Advisory Board members
## 2017 TREE PROGRAM UPDATES

**January 1, 2017 – July 31, 2017**

### ISSUED PERMITS

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### VIOLATIONS

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Notice of Violation, Imposition of Penalty, and Required Abatement

June 9, 2017

Sam Kalunian
115 Slate Ridge Ct.
El Dorado Hills, CA  95762

Re: 20892 Redwood Rd.
Castro Valley, CA  94546

Dear Mr. Kalunian:

Two trees have been improperly pruned in the County Road Right-of-Way adjacent to your property at the above-captioned address. The improper pruning was unpermitted and illegal. The County of Alameda’s Tree Ordinance (“Ordinance”) provides as follows:

- Section 12.11.140: "The planting, maintaining, or removing of any tree in the right-of-way, and all associated facilities... are encroachments subject to the permitting and other requirements of this Chapter."
- Section 12.11.110: "In accordance with the California Government Code, Section 53067, no person shall top, head back, stub or pollard any tree located within the right-of-way."
- Section 12.11.130: "The Director will require replacement of a tree within the right-of-way that is improperly removed or damaged. Where replacement is inadequate to correct the harm caused by an improperly removed or damaged tree or is impracticable, the Director may also require the property owner to pay the loss of value of such tree into a tree mitigation fund as abatement for such loss of value."
- Section 12.11.250: "Any person, including, but not limited to, the property owner, the person performing the work, and/or any other responsible person, who violates the provisions of this Chapter or any condition imposed upon any permit issued hereunder shall be liable to the County for a civil penalty of up to $1000 per violation, under a schedule of penalties established by the Director and approved by the Board."

Per the enclosed arborist’s report, the trees that were improperly pruned are considered a total loss and cannot be salvaged. Pre-pruning, the value of the trees was $1500 each, for a total of $3000 in loss of value (see attached appraisal). The destruction of these high-value trees cannot be adequately corrected by planting saplings.
Pursuant to the Ordinance, you are ordered to do the following:

**Pay Fines**
- $100.00 fine for work without a permit
- $285.35 for cost of appraisal report
- $2000.00 for civil penalties ($1000 for each violation)

**Abate Damage**
- Acquire permit for removal and replacement of the damaged trees
- Remove damaged trees and grind stumps
- Replace with two 24 inch boxed trees (see enclosed guidelines)
- Pay $3,000 into mitigation fund for the loss of value of the trees

In order to avoid collection efforts, special assessment of the amounts owing, application of interest for late payment, or additional penalties for noncompliance, please make payment of the total monetary amount ($5,385.35) **within 30 days**. Cash or a check may be brought or mailed to the County’s Fiscal Department at 399 Elmhurst St. Hayward. Your check should be made payable to “Alameda County Treasurer’s Office.” Please be sure to denote the invoice number (17T06:02) with your payment. Please see section 12.11.280 of the Ordinance for discussion of the consequences of noncompliance.

Enclosed is a permit application to remove the remainder of the trees. You must submit the application within 30 days to the County’s Permit Center at 399 Elmhurst St., Hayward.

Should you wish to appeal the $100.00 fine, the civil penalties totaling $2000.00, or the cost of the appraisal, you may submit a letter of appeal to the Tree Advisory Board no later than 30 days after the date of this notice. The letter of appeal may be submitted to the Public Works Agency Director’s attention: Daniel Woldeisenbet, 399 Elmhurst St., Hayward, CA 94544. An appeal must include an address to send all notices, the $25 appeals fee, and all supporting documentation. Please see section 12.11.260 of the Ordinance for more information.

As to the required abatement, you may request a hearing before the Tree Advisory Board. If a hearing is requested, the Tree Advisory Board shall hear the matter and make a written recommendation to the Board of Supervisors following the hearing. Requests for hearing must be submitted in writing to the Director of Public Works within ten days. If no request for hearing is received, this abatement order shall be final. Please see section 12.11.130 of the Ordinance for more information.

More information about the County’s tree program, including the full text of the Ordinance, can be found at [https://www.acpwa.org/pas/urban-forestry](https://www.acpwa.org/pas/urban-forestry).

Also enclosed is the Fee Schedule adopted under the above Ordinance as well as a copy of the appraisal report.

Your timely cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Inta Brainerd
County Arborist
Alameda County Public Works Agency
THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA  
PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY  
FISCAL DIVISION  
399-A Elmhurst Street, 3rd Floor  
Hayward, CA 94544  
Tax ID 946000501

INVOICE 17T06:06  
June 09, 2017

Customer No: 2726  
Sam Kalunian  
Attn: Sam & Zephyr Kalunian  
115 Slate Ridge Ct.  
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762

Description of Services

INVOICE FOR FINE DUE TO WORK DONE WITHOUT A TREE PERMIT.

VIOLATION ADDRESS: 20892 Redwood Road, Castro Valley, CA 94546

Fine for work without a permit $ 100.00  
Cost of tree appraisal 285.35  
Fine for misdemeanor 2,000.00  
Abatement for loss of value 3,000.00

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT INTA BRAINERD, COUNTY ARBORIST, AT 510-670-5786.

Job No: F7H018 - TREE PROGRAM - ABATEMENT

Revenue Account No:  
270401-430210-00000/99179 $100.00  
270401-430210-50600/99179 $2,000.00  
270401-479990-00000/99179 $285.35  
900003-499990-00000 $3,000.00

Invoice Total: 5,385.35

PLEASE MAKE REMITTANCE PAYABLE TO "TREASURER OF ALAMEDA COUNTY"
SEND TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS
PLEASE REFERENCE ABOVE INVOICE # ON PAYMENT

The undersigned hereby certifies that the above claim is true and correct.

(510) 670-5474

SOPHIE YANG
May 1, 2017

Inta Brainerd
Alameda County Public Works Agency
951 Turner Ct.
Hayward, CA 94545

Subject: Appraisal of Value
20692 Redwood Rd., Castro Valley

Dear Mrs. Brainerd:

The Alameda County Public Works Agency is responsible for administering tree pruning and removal permits for trees within County rights-of-way, in accordance with the Alameda County Tree Ordinance (Sec. 12.11.230 of the Alameda County General Code). To help determine losses associated with improper pruning or un-permitted removals, the County requested that HortScience, Inc. attempt to establish any loss in value associated with the tree pruning performed at the subject site.

I visited the subject site on April 24, 2017. This letter summarizes my observations and assessment.

Background

You contacted me on March 10, 2017 after noticing the pruning of two (2) common hackberry trees (Celtis occidentalis) at the subject site.

Since I had no photographs showing the tree pre-pruning, I used the Google Earth street view © of the subject site to assist me in establishing tree condition.

From my review of the historic images available from Google Earth street view ©, as recently as July 2015, the trees had full canopies and were in fair condition. Both trees were in tree wells with metal grates. The grates had caused some amount of trunk wounding at the base.

Observations and Assessment

The hackberries were located in cut-outs between the curb and the sidewalk on the west side of the building. The trees had single trunks, measured at 13" in diameter. Pre-pruning, tree form and structure was fair, with upright trunks and small crowns. Minor conflicts with the metal grates were observed at the base of the trees. I considered the pre-pruning condition of both trees to be 60%.

The pruning consisted of cutting approximately 12 branches to stubs at 20' above the ground (Photo, following page). One hundred percent of the live foliage had been removed. The remaining branch stubs measured between 2" and 6" in diameter. Pruning was not performed according to the Best Management Practices for Pruning (International Society of Arboriculture, 2002) and to the most recent editions of the American National Standard for Tree Care Operations (Z133.1) and Pruning (A300). Post-pruning tree condition was poor (rated at 20%) and the prospects for rehabilitating the trees is low. I consider both trees to be a total loss.
Appraisal of Loss

To establish the loss in value, I employed the standard methods found in *Guide for Plant Appraisal*, 9th edition (published in 2000 by the International Society of Arboriculture, Savoy IL). In addition, I referred to *Species Classification and Group Assignment* (2004), a publication of the Western Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture. These two documents outline the methods employed in tree appraisal.

The value of landscape trees is based upon four factors: size, species, condition and location. Size is measured as trunk diameter, normally 54” above grade. The species factor considers the adaptability and appropriateness of the plant in the East Bay. The *Species Classification and Group Assignment* lists recommended species ratings and evaluations. Condition reflects the health and structural integrity of the tree. In this case, I used the photo provided, along with the Google Earth images, to establish the tree's condition. The location factor considers the site, placement and contribution of a tree in its surrounding landscape. In this case, the trees were located on the west side of a liquor store, in a commercial area of Castro Valley.

Pre-pruning, the value of the trees were $1,500 each. Thus, the loss in value was $3,000 (see attached Appraisal Worksheet).

If you have any questions, regarding my observations or assessment, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

John Leffingwell
Board Certified Master Arborist #ME-3966B
Registered Consulting Arborist #442

Att. Appraisal worksheet
Pre-pruning Appraisal Worksheet  
(Taken from a form found in: *Guide for Plant Appraisal, 9th edition*)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PREPARED FOR:</th>
<th>Alameda County Public Works</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LOCATION:</td>
<td>20892 Redwood Rd., Castro Valley</td>
</tr>
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</table>

1. **Species**  
   Common hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*)

2. **Pre-pruning condition rating**  
   Based on Google Earth street view ©.  
   60%

3. **Trunk diameter**  
   Measured at 54" above grade.  
   13"

4. **Location rating**  
   Based upon site rating of 50%, placement rating of 60% and contribution rating of 65%.  
   58%

5. **Species rating**  
   Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment*.  
   70%

6. **Replacement tree size**  
   Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment* for a Group 3 tree.  
   3.80 sq. in.

7. **Replacement tree cost**  
   $172.73

8. **Installation cost**  
   $172.73

9. **Installed cost**  
   Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment* for the installed cost of a 24" box tree.  
   $345.46

10. **Unit tree cost**  
    Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment* for a Group 3 tree.  
    $45.46

11. **Appraised trunk area**  
    (Taken from Table 4.4, 9th Edition)  
    133 sq. in.

12. **Appraised trunk area increase (over 24" box)**  
    (Line 11 – Line 6)  
    129.2 sq. in.

13. **Basic tree cost**  
    (Line 12 x Line 10 + Line 9)  
    $6,219

14. **Pre-pruning appraised value**  
    (Line 13 x Line 2 x Line 4 x Line 5, rounded to the nearest $50.00)  
    **$1,500**

---

**References**

Champaign IL. 143pp.

Notice of Violation, Imposition of Penalty, and Required Abatement

June 13, 2017

May Lin
16115 Via Segundo
San Lorenzo, CA 94580

Re: Tree Work

Dear Ms. Lin:

A tree has been improperly pruned in the County Road Right-of-Way adjacent to your property at the above address. The improper pruning was unpermitted and illegal. The County of Alameda’s Tree Ordinance (“Ordinance”) provides as follows:

- Section 12.11.140: "The planting, maintaining, or removing of any tree in the right-of-way, and all associated facilities... are encroachments subject to the permitting and other requirements of this Chapter."
- Section 12.11.110: "In accordance with the California Government Code, Section 53067, no person shall top, head back, stub or pollard any tree located within the right-of-way."
- Section 12.11.130: "The Director will require replacement of a tree within the right-of-way that is improperly removed or damaged. Where replacement is inadequate to correct the harm caused by an improperly removed or damaged tree or is impracticable, the Director may also require the property owner to pay the loss of value of such tree into a tree mitigation fund as abatement for such loss of value."
- Section 12.11.250: "Any person, including, but not limited to, the property owner, the person performing the work, and/or any other responsible person, who violates the provisions of this Chapter or any condition imposed upon any permit issued hereunder shall be liable to the County for a civil penalty of up to $1000 per violation, under a schedule of penalties established by the Director and approved by the Board."

Per the enclosed arborist’s report, the tree that was improperly pruned is considered a total loss and cannot be salvaged. Pre-pruning, the value of the tree was $800, for a total of $800 in loss of value (see attached appraisal). Per the arborist’s recommendation in the appraisal report, the tree can be restructured in a manner that would allow it to be retained.

Pursuant to the Ordinance, you are ordered to do the following:

_________________________________________________________________

"To Serve and Preserve Our Community"
Pay Fines
$100.00 fine for work without a permit
$286.10 for cost of appraisal report
$800.00 for civil penalties

Abate Damage
Acquire permit for restorative pruning of the damaged tree (first to be performed in 2019)
Remove damaged tree and grind stump
Replace with a 24 inch boxed tree (see enclosed guidelines)
Follow arborist’s recommendation to restoratively prune the tree a minimum of 2 times (once every 2-3 years)

In order to avoid collection efforts, special assessment of the amounts owing, application of interest for late payment, or additional penalties for noncompliance, please make payment of the total monetary amount ($1186.10) within 30 days. Cash or a check may be brought or mailed to the County’s Fiscal Department at 399 Elmhurst St. Hayward. Your check should be made payable to “Alameda County Treasurer’s Office.” Please be sure to denote the invoice number (17T06:03) with your payment. Please see section 12.11.280 of the Ordinance for discussion of the consequences of noncompliance.

Enclosed is a permit application to remove the remainder of the tree. You must submit the application within 30 days to the County’s Permit Center at 399 Elmhurst St., Hayward.

Should you wish to appeal the $100.00 fine, the civil penalties totaling $800.00, or the cost of the appraisal, you may submit a letter of appeal to the Tree Advisory Board no later than 30 days after the date of this notice. The letter of appeal may be submitted to the Public Works Agency Director’s attention: Daniel Woldeesenbet, 399 Elmhurst St., Hayward, CA 94544. An appeal must include an address to send all notices, the $25 appeals fee, and all supporting documentation. Please see section 12.11.260 of the Ordinance for more information.

As to the required abatement, you may request a hearing before the Tree Advisory Board. If a hearing is requested, the Tree Advisory Board shall hear the matter and make a written recommendation to the Board of Supervisors following the hearing. Requests for hearing must be submitted in writing to the Director of Public Works within ten days. If no request for hearing is received, this abatement order shall be final. Please see section 12.11.130 of the Ordinance for more information.

More information about the County’s tree program, including the full text of the Ordinance, can be found at https://www.acpwa.org/pas/urban-forestry.

Also enclosed is the Fee Schedule adopted under the above Ordinance as well as a copy of the appraisal report.

Your timely cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Inta Brainerd
County Arborist
Alameda County Public Works Agency

Enc.
THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY
FISCAL DIVISION
399-A Elmhurst Street, 3rd Floor
Hayward, CA 94544
Tax ID 946000501

INVOICE 17T06:03
June 08, 2017

Customer No: 2724
May Lin
16115 Via Segundo
San Lorenzo, CA 94580

Description of Services

INVOICE FOR FINE DUE TO WORK DONE WITHOUT A TREE PERMIT.

VIOLATION ADDRESS: 16115 Via Segundo, San Lorenzo, CA 94580

Fine for work without a permit $ 100.00
Cost of tree appraisal 286.10
Fine for misdemeanor 800.00

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT INTA BRAINERD, COUNTY ARBORIST, AT 510-670-5786.

Job No: F7H018 - TREE PROGRAM - ABATEMENT

Revenue Account No: 270401-430210-00000/99179 $100.00
270401-430210-50600/99179 $800.00
270401-479990-00000/99179 $286.10

Invoice Total: 1,186.10

PLEASE MAKE REMITTANCE PAYABLE TO "TREASURER OF ALAMEDA COUNTY"
SEND TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS
PLEASE REFERENCE ABOVE INVOICE # ON PAYMENT

The undersigned hereby certifies that the above claim is true and correct.

SOPHIE YANG (510) 670-5474
May 1, 2017

Inta Brainerd
Alameda County Public Works Agency
951 Turner Ct.
Hayward, CA 94545

Subject: Tree Evaluation and Appraisal of Value
16115 Via Segundo, San Lorenzo

Dear Ms. Brainerd,

The Alameda County Public Works Agency is responsible for administering tree pruning and removal permits for trees within County rights-of-way, in accordance with the Alameda County Tree Ordinance (Sec. 12.11.230 of the Alameda County General Code). To help determine losses associated with improper pruning or un-permitted removals, the County requested that HortScience, Inc. evaluate the current condition of the tree, provide management recommendations as appropriate, and establish any loss in value.

I visited the subject site on April 24, 2017. This letter summarizes my observations and assessment.

Background
You contacted me on March 10, 2017 after noticing the pruning of a purple-leaf plum tree ('Prunus cerasifera 'Atropurpurea') at the subject site.

Since I had no photographs showing the tree pre-pruning, I used the Google Earth street view of the subject site to assist me in establishing tree condition.

From my review of the historic images available from Google Earth street view, the tree had a full canopy as recently as June 2011.

Tree Observations and Assessment
The purple-leaf plum tree was located in the front yard, on the east side of the Via Segundo residence, approximately 3' behind the sidewalk. The tree had multiple stems measuring 6,5,4,4,4,3,3" in diameter at 54" above grade. Pre-pruning, the tree had a full canopy and good form and structure. I considered the pre-pruning condition to be good (rated as 80%).

The tree had been topped at ~8', removing ~50% of the live foliage (Photo, following page). The pruning consisted of cutting ~8-10 branches to 1-2" diameter stubs. Pruning was not performed according to the Best Management Practices for Pruning (International Society of Arboriculture, 2002) and to the most recent editions of the American National Standard for Tree Care Operations (Z133.1) and Pruning (A300). The tree was in fair condition due to the pruning (rated as 40%). The purple-leaf plum can recover from the topping, but will require follow-up pruning to restructure the crown.
Appraisal of Loss
To establish the loss in value associated with the pruning, I employed the standard methods found in *Guide for Plant Appraisal*, 9th edition (published in 2000 by the International Society of Arboriculture, Savoy IL). In addition, I referred to *Species Classification and Group Assignment* (2004), a publication of the Western Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture. These two documents outline the methods employed in tree appraisal.

The value of landscape trees is based upon four factors: size, species, condition and location. Size is measured as trunk diameter, normally 54" above grade. The species factor considers the adaptability and appropriateness of the plant in the East Bay. The *Species Classification and Group Assignment* lists recommended species ratings and evaluations. Condition reflects the health and structural integrity of the tree. I considered the deleterious effect of the pruning and creation of numerous wounds. The location factor considers the site, placement and contribution of a tree in its surrounding landscape. In this case, the tree is located in a residential area in San Lorenzo.

Any loss associated with the pruning, would be the difference in value before and after it was pruned. Based on my assessment of the value of the tree before and after the pruning, I established the loss in value to be $800 (see attached appraisal worksheets).

In this case, I believe the tree can be restructured through a series of restorative prunings over a 4 to 6 year period. I recommend the following:

- Have a Certified Arborist prune the tree a minimum of 2 times (once every 2 to 3 years). I suggest you obtain estimates from reputable tree care companies. However, based on conversations with local tree care companies, I estimate the cost of each pruning to be between $200 and $300, for a total of between $400 and $600 for the two prunings. The purpose is to perform corrective pruning, restoring the canopy structure following the topping.
If you have any questions, regarding my observations or assessment, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

John Leffingwell
Board Certified Master Arborist #WE-3966B
Registered Consulting Arborist #442

Att. Appraisal worksheet
**Pre-pruning Appraisal Worksheet**  
(Taken from a form found in: *Guide for Plant Appraisal, 9th edition*)

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<th>Alameda County Public Works</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LOCATION:</td>
<td>16115 Via Segundo, San Lorenzo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. **Species**  
   Purple-leaf plum (*Prunus cerasifera* Atropurpurea)

2. **Pre-pruning condition rating**  
   Based on Google Earth street view.  
   80%

3. **Trunk diameter**  
   Measured at 54" above grade.  
   6,5,4,4,4,3,3"

4. **Location rating**  
   Based upon site rating of 60%, placement rating of 60% and contribution rating of 65%.  
   62%

5. **Species rating**  
   Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment*.  
   40%

6. **Replacement tree size**  
   Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment* for a Group 2 tree.  
   2.24 sq. in.

7. **Replacement tree cost**  
   $172.73

8. **Installation cost**  
   $172.73

9. **Installed cost**  
   Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment* for the installed cost of a 24" box tree.  
   $345.46

10. **Unit tree cost**  
    Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment* for a Group 2 tree.  
    $77.04

11. **Appraised trunk area**  
    (Taken from Table 4.4, 9th Edition)  
    107 sq. in.

12. **Appraised trunk area increase (over 24" box)**  
    (Line 11 – Line 6)  
    104.76 sq. in.

13. **Basic tree cost**  
    (Line 12 x Line 10 + Line 9)  
    $8,416

14. **Pre-pruning appraised value**  
    (Line 13 x Line 2 x Line 4 x Line 5, rounded to the nearest $50.00)  
    $1,650

**References**
Champaign IL. 143pp.

## Post-pruning Appraisal Worksheet

(Taken from a form found in: *Guide for Plant Appraisal, 9th edition*)

**PREPARED FOR:** Alameda County Public Works  
**LOCATION:** 16115 Via Segundo, San Lorenzo

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<th>Item</th>
<th>Rating/Measurement</th>
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<td>Purple-leaf plum (<em>Prunus cerasifera</em> Atropurpurea)</td>
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<td>2. Post-pruning condition rating</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<td>Based on April 24, 2017 inspection</td>
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<td>3. Trunk diameter</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measured at 54&quot; above grade.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Location rating</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Based upon site rating of 60%, placement rating of 60% and contribution rating of 65%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Species rating</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Based upon guidelines provided in <em>Species Classification and Group Assignment</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Replacement tree size</td>
<td>2.24 sq. in.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Based upon guidelines provided in <em>Species Classification and Group Assignment</em> for a Group 2 tree</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Replacement tree cost</td>
<td>$172.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Installation cost</td>
<td>$172.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Installed cost</td>
<td>$345.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Based upon guidelines provided in <em>Species Classification and Group Assignment</em> for the installed cost of a 24&quot; box tree</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Unit tree cost</td>
<td>$77.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Based upon guidelines provided in <em>Species Classification and Group Assignment</em> for a Group 2 tree</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Appraised trunk area</td>
<td>107 sq. in.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Taken from Table 4.4, 9th Edition)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Appraised trunk area increase (over 24&quot; box)</td>
<td>104.76 sq. in.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Line 11 - Line 6)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Basic tree cost</td>
<td>$8,416</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Line 12 x Line 10 + Line 9)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Post-pruning appraised value</td>
<td>$850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Line 13 x Line 2 x Line 4 x Line 5, rounded to the nearest $50.00)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**References**


July 11, 2017

Mark Martinez
74 Via Hermosa
San Lorenzo, CA 94580

Re: Hearing Request

Dear Mr. Martinez:

I received your request on June 22, 2017 for an appeal/hearing before the Alameda County Tree Advisory Board (TAB) regarding assessed fines. Based on the letter you provided and lack of evidence as to when the pruning took place, the Director has decided to drop all fines/charges. Please be advised that the recommended restorative pruning schedule described in the appraisal is required to ensure the tree’s health and safety. Permits will be required for this work unless you use a contractor already in possession of a yearly maintenance permit (list included).

Should you have any questions please contact me at (510) 670-5786.

Sincerely,

Inta Brainerd
County Arborist
Alameda County Public Works Agency

Enc.
Cc: Daniel Woldesenbet, Director ACPWA
June 19, 2017

Daniel Woldesenbet
Alameda County Public Works Agency
399 Elmhurst Street
Hayward, CA 94544

Subject: 74 Via Hermosa, San Lorenzo CA 94580 – Customer No:2725 / Requesting a hearing before the Tree Advisory Board to dispute fines and penalties invoiced to me.

Dear Mr. Woldesenbet,

I am writing to request a hearing before the Tree Advisory Board in regards to a Notice of Violation, Imposition of Penalty, and Required Abatement I received on 6/19/17, which is dated June 13, 2017. The notice I received states that the tree on my property was "improperly pruned" which was "unpermitted and illegal". I sent an email on 6/19/17 through the following website - https://www.acpwa.org.

Along with the notice, a letter was included which was addressed to Inta Brainerd, and written by John Leffingwell - Board Certified Master Arborist #WE-3966B / Registered Consulting Arborist #442. In the letter John Leffingwell states "Since I had no photographs showing the tree pre-pruning, I used Google Earth street view of the subject site to assist me in establishing tree condition." In John's letter he continues to state "From my review of the historic images available from Google Earth street view, the tree had a full canopy as recently as June 2011."

As John Leffingwell points out in his letter, there are no photographs to show who or when the tree might have been pruned. My wife and I purchased our home at 74 Via Hermosa San Lorenzo, CA 94580 in November 2015, which is over 4 years since the picture on Google Earth was taken. When we purchased our home, the tree in our front yard had already been pruned to the size and shape it is now.

We are not responsible for the pruning of the tree in our front yard, which took place before we purchased our home. I do not feel we should be responsible to pay the $100 fine, the civil penalties totaling $1000.00, the $205.35 cost of appraisal, the $2,150 abatement for loss of value, or the $25 appeals fee to appeal the fines and penalties that were all unjustly invoiced to me.

The letter clearly states that there is no proof that the tree in my front yard was pruned after I purchased my home in November 2015, I do not see how Alameda County Public Works Agency can lawfully invoice me for fines and penalties as stated in the letter I received. I will be contacting Daniel Woldensenbet, however, I don't see how I can be charged $25 to appeal the fines when as I have clearly stated the tree in my front yard was pruned before I purchased my home in November 2015.

This letter/email is my written submission requesting a hearing before the Tree Advisory Board. I understand I have 10 days to submit a written request. I received the notice and responded in less than a week, so I would like to hear back from a representative within the same length of time.

Sincerely,

Mark Martinez - San Lorenzo Resident (510) 520-2776
May 5, 2017

Inta Brainerd
Alameda County Public Works Agency
951 Turner Ct.
Hayward, CA 94545

Subject: Tree Evaluation and Appraisal of Value
74 Via Hermosa, San Lorenzo

Dear Ms. Brainerd,

The Alameda County Public Works Agency is responsible for administering tree pruning and removal permits for trees within County rights-of-way, in accordance with the Alameda County Tree Ordinance (Sec. 12.11.230 of the Alameda County General Code). To help determine losses associated with improper pruning or un-permitted removals, the County requested that HortScience, Inc. evaluate the current condition of the tree, provide management recommendations as appropriate, and establish any loss in value.

I visited the subject site on April 24, 2017. This letter summarizes my observations and assessment.

Background
You contacted me on March 10, 2017 after noticing the pruning of a Japanese pagoda tree (Sophora japonica) at the subject site.

Since I had no photographs showing the tree pre-pruning, I used the Google Earth street view © of the subject site to assist me in establishing tree condition.

From my review of the historic images available from Google Earth street view ©, the tree had a full canopy as recently as June 2011.

Tree Observations and Assessment
The Japanese pagoda tree was located in the front yard, on the northwest side of the Via Hermosa residence, approximately 3' behind the sidewalk. The tree measured 14" in diameter at 54" above grade. Pre-pruning, the tree had a full canopy and good form and fair structure. There was evidence of previous topping and I considered the pre-pruning condition to be good (rated as 75%).

The tree had been topped at ~12', removing ~80% of the live foliage (Photo, following page). The pruning consisted of cutting ~6 branches to 2-6" diameter stubs. Pruning was not performed according to the Best Management Practices for Pruning (International Society of Arboriculture, 2002) and to the most recent editions of the American National Standard for Tree Care Operations (Z133.1) and Pruning (A300). The tree was in poor condition due to the pruning (rated as 30%). The Japanese pagoda can recover from the topping, but will require follow-up pruning to restructure the crown.
Appraisal of Loss
To establish the loss in value associated with the pruning, I employed the standard methods found in Guide for Plant Appraisal, 9th edition (published in 2000 by the International Society of Arboriculture, Savoy IL). In addition, I referred to Species Classification and Group Assignment (2004), a publication of the Western Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture. These two documents outline the methods employed in tree appraisal.

The value of landscape trees is based upon four factors: size, species, condition and location. Size is measured as trunk diameter, normally 54" above grade. The species factor considers the adaptability and appropriateness of the plant in the East Bay. The Species Classification and Group Assignment lists recommended species ratings and evaluations. Condition reflects the health and structural integrity of the tree. I considered the deleterious effect of the pruning and creation of numerous wounds. The location factor considers the site, placement and contribution of a tree in its surrounding landscape. In this case, the tree is located in a residential area in San Lorenzo.

Any loss associated with the pruning, would be the difference in value before and after it was pruned. Based on my assessment of the value of the tree before and after the pruning, I established the loss in value to be $2,150 (see attached appraisal worksheets).

In this case, I believe the tree can be restructured through a series of restorative prunings over a 5 to 7 year period. I recommend the following:

- Have a Certified Arborist prune the tree a minimum of 3 times (once every 2 to 3 years). I suggest you obtain estimates from reputable tree care companies. However, based on conversations with local tree care companies, I estimate the cost of each pruning to be between $200 and $300, for a total of between $600 and $900 for the three prunings. The purpose is to perform corrective pruning, restoring the canopy structure following the topping.
If you have any questions, regarding my observations or assessment, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

John Leffingwell
Board Certified Master Arborist #WE-3966B
Registered Consulting Arborist #442

Att. Appraisal worksheets
**Pre-pruning Appraisal Worksheet**
*(Taken from a form found in: Guide for Plant Appraisal, 9th edition)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PREPARED FOR:</th>
<th>Alameda County Public Works</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LOCATION:</td>
<td>74 Via Hermosa, San Lorenzo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. **Species**  
   Japanese pagoda tree (*Sophora japonica*)

2. **Pre-pruning condition rating**  
   Based on Google Earth street view ©.  
   **75%**

3. **Trunk diameter**  
   Measured at 54" above grade.  
   **14"**

4. **Location rating**  
   Based upon site rating of 60%, placement rating of 60% and contribution rating of 65%.  
   **62%**

5. **Species rating**  
   Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment*.  
   **70%**

6. **Replacement tree size**  
   Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment* for a Group 2 tree.  
   **2.24 sq. in.**

7. **Replacement tree cost**  
   **$172.73**

8. **Installation cost**  
   **$172.73**

9. **Installed cost**  
   Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment* for the installed cost of a 24" box tree.  
   **$345.46**

10. **Unit tree cost**  
    Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment* for a Group 2 tree.  
    **$77.04**

11. **Appraised trunk area**  
    (Taken from Table 4.4, 9th Edition)  
    **154 sq. in.**

12. **Appraised trunk area increase (over 24” box)**  
    (Line 11 – Line 6)  
    **151.76 sq. in.**

13. **Basic tree cost**  
    (Line 12 x Line 10 + Line 9)  
    **$12,037**

14. **Pre-pruning appraised value**  
    (Line 13 x Line 2 x Line 4 x Line 5, rounded to the nearest $50.00)  
    **$3,900**

**References**
Champaign IL. 143pp.

**Post-pruning Appraisal Worksheet**  
(Taken from a form found in: *Guide for Plant Appraisal*, 9th edition)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PREPARED FOR:</th>
<th>Alameda County Public Works</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LOCATION:</td>
<td>74 Via Hermosa, San Lorenzo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. **Species**  
Japanese pagoda (*Sophora japonica*)

2. **Post-pruning condition rating**  
30%  
Based on April 24, 2017 inspection

3. **Trunk diameter**  
14"  
Measured at 54" above grade.

4. **Location rating**  
62%  
Based upon site rating of 60%, placement rating of 60% and contribution rating of 65%.

5. **Species rating**  
70%  
Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment*.

6. **Replacement tree size**  
2.24 sq. in.  
Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment* for a Group 2 tree.

7. **Replacement tree cost**  
$172.73

8. **Installation cost**  
$172.73

9. **Installed cost**  
$345.46  
Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment* for the installed cost of a 24" box tree.

10. **Unit tree cost**  
$77.04  
Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment* for a Group 2 tree.

11. **Appraised trunk area**  
154 sq. in.  
(Taken from Table 4.4, 9th Edition)

12. **Appraised trunk area increase (over 24" box)**  
151.76 sq. in.  
(Line 11 - Line 6)

13. **Basic tree cost**  
$12,037  
(Line 12 x Line 10 + Line 9)

14. **Post-pruning appraised value**  
$1,550  
(Line 13 x Line 2 x Line 4 x Line 5, rounded to the nearest $50.00)

**References**  
Champaign IL. 143pp.

Notice of Violation, Imposition of Penalty, and Required Abatement

May 31, 2017

Antonio and Diane Pereda
21314 Outlook Ct.
Castro Valley, CA 94546

Re: 21135 Ashfield Ave.
Castro Valley, CA 94546

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Pereda:

Our Fiscal department accidentally sent you the invoice for the fine without this accompanying letter. Hopefully, when you receive this, you will better understand what the fine is for and what work will be required of you. Of course, if you still have questions feel free to give me a call at (510) 670-5786.

A Modesto Ash tree has been removed in the County Road Right-of-Way adjacent to your property. The removal was unpermitted and illegal. The County of Alameda’s Tree Ordinance (“Ordinance”) provides as follows:

- Section 12.11.140: “The planting, maintaining, or removing of any tree in the right-of-way, and all associated facilities... are encroachments subject to the permitting and other requirements of this Chapter.”
- Section 12.11.110: “In accordance with the California Government Code, Section 53067, no person shall top, head back, stub or pollard any tree located within the right-of-way.”
- Section 12.11.130: “The Director will require replacement of a tree within the right-of-way that is improperly removed or damaged. Where replacement is inadequate to correct the harm caused by an improperly removed or damaged tree or is impracticable, the Director may also require the property owner to pay the loss of value of such tree into a tree mitigation fund as abatement for such loss of value.”
- Section 12.11.250: “Any person, including, but not limited to, the property owner, the person performing the work, and/or any other responsible person, who violates the provisions of this Chapter or any condition imposed upon any permit issued hereunder shall be liable to the County for a civil penalty of up to $1000 per violation, under a schedule of penalties established by the Director and approved by the Board.”

"To Serve and Preserve Our Community"
Because this tree would have been approved for removal due to its declining state, the County is not assessing a loss of value because it would be negligible.

However, pursuant to the Ordinance, you are ordered to do the following:

**Pay Fines**
$100.00 fine for work without a permit

**Abate Removal**
Acquire permit for replacement of the removed tree
Replace with a 15 gallon tree (see enclosed guidelines)

In order to avoid collection efforts, special assessment of the amounts owing, application of interest for late payment, or additional penalties for noncompliance, please make payment of the total monetary amount ($100.00) **within 30 days**. Cash or a check may be brought or mailed to the County’s Fiscal Department at 399 Elmhurst St. Hayward. Your check should be made payable to “Alameda County Treasurer’s Office.” Please be sure to denote the invoice number (17T05:01) with your payment. Please see section 12.11.280 of the Ordinance for discussion of the consequences of noncompliance.

Enclosed is a permit application to replace the tree. You must submit the application within 30 days to the County’s Permit Center at 399 Elmhurst St., Hayward.

Should you wish to appeal the $100.00 fine, you may submit a letter of appeal to the Tree Advisory Board no later than 30 days after the date of this notice. The letter of appeal may be submitted to the Public Works Agency Director’s attention: Daniel Woldesenbet, 399 Elmhurst St., Hayward, CA 94544. An appeal must include an address to send all notices, the $25 appeals fee, and all supporting documentation. Please see section 12.11.260 of the Ordinance for more information.

As to the required abatement, you may request a hearing before the Tree Advisory Board. If a hearing is requested, the Tree Advisory Board shall hear the matter and make a written recommendation to the Board of Supervisors following the hearing. Requests for hearing must be submitted in writing to the Director of Public Works within ten days. If no request for hearing is received, this abatement order shall be final. Please see section 12.11.130 of the Ordinance for more information.

More information about the County’s tree program, including the full text of the Ordinance, can be found at [https://www.acpwa.org/pas/urban-forestry](https://www.acpwa.org/pas/urban-forestry).

Also enclosed is the Fee Schedule adopted under the above Ordinance.

Your timely cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Inta Brainerd
County Arborist
Alameda County Public Works Agency

Enc.
THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY
FISCAL DIVISION
399-A Elmhurst Street, 3rd Floor
Hayward, CA 94544
Tax ID 946000501

Customer No: 2717
Antonio/Diane Pereda
21314 Outlook Ct.
Castro Valley, CA 94546

Description of Services

INVOICE FOR FINE DUE TO WORK WITHOUT A PERMIT, $100.

VIOLATION ADDRESS: 21135 ASHFIELD AVENUE
CASTRO VALLEY, CA 94546

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT INTIA BRAINERD, COUNTY ARBORIST, AT 510-670-5786.

Revenue Account No: 270401-430210-00000/99179
$100.00

Invoice Total: 100.00

PLEASE MAKE REMITTANCE PAYABLE TO "TREASURER OF ALAMEDA COUNTY"
SEND TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS.
PLEASE REFERENCE ABOVE INVOICE # ON PAYMENT

The undersigned hereby certifies that the above claim is true and correct.

SOPHIE YANG
(510) 670-5474
July 20, 2017

Antonio and Diane Pereda
21314 Outlook Ct.
Castro Valley, CA 94546

Re.: SECOND NOTICE TO REPLACE TREE
21135 Ashfield Ave.
Castro Valley, CA 94546

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Pereda,

On 5/31/17 you were sent a Violation Notice notifying you that in order to comply with the Alameda County Tree Ordinance you are required to plant a tree in the right of way to replace the one that was removed. As of today's date, we have not heard from you nor have we received a completed permit application. As a courtesy to you, the County waived the Civil penalty that could be as much as $1000 for removing a tree from the County right of way without a permit. Please be advised that the $1000 fine can still be assessed as well as any necessary abatement costs (See enclosed fees and fines schedule).

In order to avoid any future fines or penalties, please complete and submit the Tree Permit Application or contact me at 510-670-5786 within 15 days of the date of this notice.

If we do not hear from you within this time period, the Alameda County Public Works Agency will have no choice but to proceed with available options. Those options include assessing fines and penalties and having the Public Works Agency proceed to retain a contractor to perform the necessary work, at your expense. You will be responsible for all costs associated with this work and will be billed directly for those costs pursuant to Section 12.11.130.C of the Alameda County Tree Ordinance.

Please be advised that you will receive a statement or invoice for this work and that you will be responsible for payment of the statement or invoice. If the statement/invoice is not paid in full in a timely manner, the County will pursue all available legal remedies to obtain payment.

The County reserves all rights with respect to the above. If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned at 510-670-5786.

Of course, we would prefer to proceed with your cooperation and direct involvement so please contact us as requested.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Inta Brainerd
County Arborist
Alameda County Public Works Agency

Enclosures
Notice of Violation, Imposition of Penalty, and Required Abatement

June 13, 2017

Dayani Aguilar
21324 Times Avenue
San Lorenzo, CA 94580

Re: Tree Work

Dear Property Owner:

A tree has been improperly pruned in the County Road Right-of-Way adjacent to your property at the above address. The improper pruning was unpermitted and illegal. The County of Alameda’s Tree Ordinance (“Ordinance”) provides as follows:

- Section 12.11.140: “The planting, maintaining, or removing of any tree in the right-of-way, and all associated facilities... are encroachments subject to the permitting and other requirements of this Chapter.”
- Section 12.11.110: “In accordance with the California Government Code, Section 53067, no person shall top, head back, stub or pollard any tree located within the right-of-way.”
- Section 12.11.130: “The Director will require replacement of a tree within the right-of-way that is improperly removed or damaged. Where replacement is inadequate to correct the harm caused by an improperly removed or damaged tree or is impracticable, the Director may also require the property owner to pay the loss of value of such tree into a tree mitigation fund as abatement for such loss of value.”
- Section 12.11.250: “Any person, including, but not limited to, the property owner, the person performing the work, and/or any other responsible person, who violates the provisions of this Chapter or any condition imposed upon any permit issued hereunder shall be liable to the County for a civil penalty of up to $1000 per violation, under a schedule of penalties established by the Director and approved by the Board.”

Per the enclosed arborist’s report, the tree that was improperly pruned is considered a total loss and cannot be salvaged. Pre-pruning, the value of the tree was $1800, for a total of $1800 in loss of value (see attached appraisal). The destruction of this high-value tree cannot be adequately corrected by planting a sapling.

Pursuant to the Ordinance, you are ordered to do the following:

"To Serve and Preserve Our Community"
Pay Fines
$100.00 fine for work without a permit
$206.35 for cost of appraisal report
$1000.00 for civil penalties

Abate Damage
Acquire permit for removal and replacement of the damaged tree
Remove damaged tree and grind stump
Replace with a 24 inch boxed tree (see enclosed guidelines)
Pay $1800 into mitigation fund for the loss of value of the tree

In order to avoid collection efforts, special assessment of the amounts owing, application of interest for late payment, or additional penalties for noncompliance, please make payment of the total monetary amount ($3106.35) within 30 days. Cash or a check may be brought or mailed to the County’s Fiscal Department at 399 Elmhurst St. Hayward. Your check should be made payable to “Alameda County Treasurer’s Office.” Please be sure to denote the invoice number (17T06:05) with your payment. Please see section 12.11.280 of the Ordinance for discussion of the consequences of noncompliance.

Enclosed is a permit application to remove the remainder of the tree. You must submit the application within 30 days to the County’s Permit Center at 399 Elmhurst St., Hayward.

Should you wish to appeal the $100.00 fine, the civil penalties totaling $1000.00, or the cost of the appraisal, you may submit a letter of appeal to the Tree Advisory Board no later than 30 days after the date of this notice. The letter of appeal may be submitted to the Public Works Agency Director’s attention: Daniel Woldesenbet, 399 Elmhurst St., Hayward, CA 94544. An appeal must include an address to send all notices, the $25 appeals fee, and all supporting documentation. Please see section 12.11.260 of the Ordinance for more information.

As to the required abatement, you may request a hearing before the Tree Advisory Board. If a hearing is requested, the Tree Advisory Board shall hear the matter and make a written recommendation to the Board of Supervisors following the hearing. Requests for hearing must be submitted in writing to the Director of Public Works within ten days. If no request for hearing is received, this abatement order shall be final. Please see section 12.11.130 of the Ordinance for more information.

More information about the County’s tree program, including the full text of the Ordinance, can be found at https://www.acpwa.org/pas/urban-forestry.

Also enclosed is the Fee Schedule adopted under the above Ordinance as well as a copy of the appraisal report.

Your timely cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Inta Brainerd
County Arborist
Alameda County Public Works Agency

Enc.
INVOICE 17T06:05  
June 08, 2017

THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA  
PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY  
FISCAL DIVISION  
399-A Elmhurst Street, 3rd Floor  
Hayward, CA 94544  
Tax ID 946000501

Customer No: 2727  
Dayani Aguilar  
Attn: Dayani & Lilian Aguilar  
21324 Times Avenue  
San Lorenzo, CA 94580

Description of Services

INVOICE FOR FINE DUE TO WORK DONE WITHOUT A TREE PERMIT.

VIOLATION ADDRESS: 21324 Times Ave., San Lorenzo, CA 94580

Fine for work without a permit $ 100.00  
Cost of tree appraisal $ 206.35  
Fine for misdemeanor $ 1,000.00  
Abatement for loss of value $ 1,800.00

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT INTA BRAINERD, COUNTY ARBORIST, AT 510-670-5786.

Job No: F7H018 - TREE PROGRAM - ABATEMENT

Revenue Account No:  
270401-430210-0000099179 $ 100.00  
270401-430210-5060099179 $ 1,000.00  
270401-479990-0000099179 $ 206.35  
900003-498990-00000 $ 1,800.00

Invoice Total: 3,106.35

PLEASE MAKE REMITTANCE PAYABLE TO "TREASURER OF ALAMEDA COUNTY"  
SEND TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS  
PLEASE REFERENCE ABOVE INVOICE # ON PAYMENT

The undersigned hereby certifies that the above claim is true and correct.

SOPHIE YANG (510) 670-5474
May 5, 2017

Inta Brainerd  
Alameda County Public Works Agency  
951 Turner Ct.  
Hayward, CA  94545

Subject:  Tree Evaluation and Appraisal of Value  
21324 Times Ave., San Lorenzo

Dear Ms. Brainerd:

The Alameda County Public Works Agency is responsible for administering tree pruning and removal permits for trees within County rights-of-way, in accordance with the Alameda County Tree Ordinance (Sec. 12.11.230 of the Alameda County General Code). To help determine losses associated with improper pruning or un-permitted removals, the County requested that HortScience, Inc. evaluate the current condition of the tree, provide management recommendations as appropriate, and establish any loss in value.

I visited the subject site on April 24, 2017. This letter summarizes my observations and assessment.

Background
You contacted me on March 10, 2017 after noticing the pruning of a London plane tree (Platanus x hispanica) at the subject site.

Since I had no photographs showing the tree pre-pruning, I used the Google Earth street view © of the subject site to assist me in establishing tree condition.

From my review of the historic images available from Google Earth street view ©, the tree has a history of topping for the overhead utility lines and has never had a full canopy. I used the August 2016 image as the basis for the pre-pruning condition.

Observations and Assessment
The London plane was located in the front yard of the Times Ave. address, approximately 3’ behind the sidewalk. The tree had a single trunk, measuring 24” in diameter at 54” above grade and had displaced the adjacent sidewalk and curb and gutter by 2-3”. Pre-pruning, the tree had a partial canopy due to the topping for the overhead utilities. I considered the pre-pruning condition to be fair (rated as 50%).

The tree had been topped at ~15’, removing ~100% of the live foliage (Photo, following page). The pruning consisted of cutting ~20 branches to 3-7” diameter stubs. Pruning was not performed according to the Best Management Practices for Pruning (International Society of Arboriculture, 2002) and to the most recent editions of the American National Standard for Tree Care Operations (Z133.1) and Pruning (A300). The tree was in poor condition due to the pruning (rated as 30%). The London plane can recover from the topping, but I see no reason to recommend restorative pruning if it will continue to be topped periodically by the utility company.
Appraisal of Loss

To establish the loss in value associated with damage resulting from pruning, I employed the standard methods found in *Guide for Plant Appraisal*, 9th edition (published in 2000 by the International Society of Arboriculture, Savoy IL). In addition, I referred to *Species Classification and Group Assignment* (2004), a publication of the Western Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture. These two documents outline the methods employed in tree appraisal.

The value of landscape trees is based upon four factors: size, species, condition and location. Size is measured as trunk diameter, normally 54" above grade. The species factor considers the adaptability and appropriateness of the plant in the East Bay. The *Species Classification and Group Assignment* lists recommended species ratings and evaluations. Condition reflects the health and structural integrity of the tree. In this case, I used the aerial photo provided and the Google Earth street view to help establish the pre-pruning condition. The location factor considers the site, placement and contribution of a tree in its surrounding landscape. In this case, the tree is located in a residential area in San Lorenzo.

Any loss associated with the pruning, would be the difference in value before and after it was pruned. Based on my assessment of the value of the tree before and after the pruning, I established the loss in value to be $1,800 (see attached appraisal worksheets).

In this case, I see no reason to recommend restorative pruning if the tree will continue to be topped periodically by the utility company.
If you have any questions, regarding my observations or assessment, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

John Leffingwell
Board Certified Master Arborist #WE-3886B
Registered Consulting Arborist #442

Att. Pre-pruning appraisal worksheet

Post-pruning appraisal worksheet
### Pre-pruning Appraisal Worksheet
(Taken from a form found in: Guide for Plant Appraisal, 9th edition)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PREPARED FOR:</th>
<th>Alameda County Public Works</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LOCATION:</td>
<td>21324 Times Ave., San Lorenzo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. **Species**  
   London plane (*Platanus x hispanica*)

2. **Pre-pruning condition rating**  
   Based on Google Earth street view.  
   50%

3. **Trunk diameter**  
   Measured at 54" above grade.  
   24"

4. **Location rating**  
   Based upon site rating of 60%, placement rating of 60% and contribution rating of 65%.  
   62%

5. **Species rating**  
   Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment*.  
   70%

6. **Replacement tree size**  
   Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment* for a Group 3 tree.  
   3.80 sq. in.

7. **Replacement tree cost**  
   $172.73

8. **Installation cost**  
   $172.73

9. **Installed cost**  
   Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment* for the installed cost of a 24" box tree.  
   $345.46

10. **Unit tree cost**  
    Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment* for a Group 3 tree.  
    $45.46

11. **Appraised trunk area**  
    (Taken from Table 4.4, 9th Edition)  
    452 sq. in.

12. **Appraised trunk area increase** (over 24" box)  
    (Line 11 – Line 6)  
    448.2 sq. in.

13. **Basic tree cost**  
    (Line 12 x Line 10 + Line 9)  
    $20,721

14. **Pre-pruning appraised value**  
    (Line 13 x Line 2 x Line 4 x Line 5, rounded to the nearest $50.00)  
    $4,500

---

**References**

Champaign IL. 143pp.

**Post-pruning Appraisal Worksheet**
(Taken from a form found in: *Guide for Plant Appraisal, 9th edition*)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PREPARED FOR:</th>
<th>Alameda County Public Works</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LOCATION:</td>
<td>21324 Times Ave., San Lorenzo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. **Species**
   - London plane (*Platanus x hispanica*)

2. **Post-pruning condition rating**
   - 30%
   - Based on Google Earth street view.

3. **Trunk diameter**
   - 24" (Measured at 54" above grade)

4. **Location rating**
   - 62%
   - Based upon site rating of 60%, placement rating of 60% and contribution rating of 65%.

5. **Species rating**
   - 70%
   - Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment*.

6. **Replacement tree size**
   - 3.80 sq. in.
   - Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment* for a Group 3 tree.

7. **Replacement tree cost**
   - $172.73

8. **Installation cost**
   - $172.73

9. **Installed cost**
   - $345.46
   - Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment* for the installed cost of a 24" box tree.

10. **Unit tree cost**
    - $45.46
    - Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment* for a Group 3 tree.

11. **Appraised trunk area**
    - 452 sq. in.
    - (Taken from Table 4.4, 9th Edition)

12. **Appraised trunk area increase (over 24" box)**
    - 448.2 sq. in.
    - (Line 11 - Line 6)

13. **Basic tree cost**
    - $20,721
    - (Line 12 x Line 10 + Line 9)

14. **Pre-pruning appraised value**
    - $2,700
    - (Line 13 x Line 2 x Line 4 x Line 5, rounded to the nearest $50.00)

**References**

Notice of Violation, Imposition of Penalty, and Required Abatement

June 9, 2017

Durith Chau
16026 Via Olinda
San Lorenzo, CA 94580

Re: Tree Work

Dear Mr. Chau:

A tree has been improperly pruned in the County Road Right-of-Way adjacent to your property. The improper pruning was unpermitted and illegal. The County of Alameda’s Tree Ordinance ("Ordinance") provides as follows:

- Section 12.11.140: "The planting, maintaining, or removing of any tree in the right-of-way, and all associated facilities... are encroachments subject to the permitting and other requirements of this Chapter."

- Section 12.11.110: "In accordance with the California Government Code, Section 53067, no person shall top, head back, stub or pollard any tree located within the right-of-way."

- Section 12.11.130: "The Director will require replacement of a tree within the right-of-way that is improperly removed or damaged. Where replacement is inadequate to correct the harm caused by an improperly removed or damaged tree or is impracticable, the Director may also require the property owner to pay the loss of value of such tree into a tree mitigation fund as abatement for such loss of value."

- Section 12.11.250: "Any person, including, but not limited to, the property owner, the person performing the work, and/or any other responsible person, who violates the provisions of this Chapter or any condition imposed upon any permit issued hereunder shall be liable to the County for a civil penalty of up to $1000 per violation, under a schedule of penalties established by the Director and approved by the Board."

Per the enclosed arborist’s report, the tree that was improperly pruned is considered a total loss and cannot be salvaged. Pre-pruning, the value of the tree was $900, for a total of $900 in loss of value (see attached appraisal). Given the historical pruning of the tree, the incremental loss of value from the most recent pruning is negligible and therefore, the County will not assess the loss of value ($900).

"To Serve and Preserve Our Community"
However, pursuant to the Ordinance, you are ordered to do the following:

**Pay Fines**
$100.00 fine for work without a permit

**Abate Damage**
Acquire permit for removal and replacement of the damaged tree
Remove damaged tree and grind stump
Replace with a 15 gallon tree (see enclosed guidelines)

In order to avoid collection efforts, special assessment of the amounts owing, application of interest for late payment, or additional penalties for noncompliance, please make payment of the total monetary amount ($100.00) **within 30 days**. Cash or a check may be brought or mailed to the County’s Fiscal Department at 399 Elmhurst St. Hayward. Your check should be made payable to “Alameda County Treasurer’s Office.” Please be sure to denote the invoice number **(17T06:01)** with your payment. Please see section 12.11.280 of the Ordinance for discussion of the consequences of noncompliance.

Enclosed is a permit application to remove the remainder of the tree. You must submit the application within 30 days to the County’s Permit Center at 399 Elmhurst St., Hayward.

Should you wish to appeal the $100.00 fine, you may submit a letter of appeal to the Tree Advisory Board no later than 30 days after the date of this notice. The letter of appeal may be submitted to the Public Works Agency Director’s attention: Daniel Woldesenbet, 399 Elmhurst St., Hayward, CA 94544. An appeal must include an address to send all notices, the $25 appeals fee, and all supporting documentation. Please see section 12.11.260 of the Ordinance for more information.

As to the required abatement, you may request a hearing before the Tree Advisory Board. If a hearing is requested, the Tree Advisory Board shall hear the matter and make a written recommendation to the Board of Supervisors following the hearing. Requests for hearing must be submitted in writing to the Director of Public Works within ten days. If no request for hearing is received, this abatement order shall be final. Please see section 12.11.130 of the Ordinance for more information.

More information about the County’s tree program, including the full text of the Ordinance, can be found at [https://www.acpwa.org/pas/urban-forestry](https://www.acpwa.org/pas/urban-forestry).

Also enclosed is the Fee Schedule adopted under the above Ordinance as well as a copy of the appraisal report.

Your timely cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Inta Brainerd
County Arborist
Alameda County Public Works Agency

Enc.
TREE PERMIT APPLICATION

Public Works Agency
Alameda County

COUNTY OF ALAMEDA PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY
399 Elmhurst St., Hayward, CA 94544 * Phone: (510) 670-5480 * https://www.acpwa.org/tree-permit

Tree Planting ☒ Tree Pruning ☐ Tree Removal ☒

Name / Address of Owner, Utility, or Contractor:
Duane Chau
16626 Via Pienda, San Lorenzo, CA 94580
Phone Number: (510) 589-3219

Job Site Address:

Description of Tree(s) including Proposed Work: [Identify location, condition of tree(s) and dates of work]

This tree is in front of my house. I'd like to remove it as soon as I get the permit and I will let the (HOA) know also that I'd remove this tree and replace the 2 1/2 London plane tree.

Tree location measured in from the edge of the face of curb towards tree (ft) (inches)

Tree Trimming/Removal Requirements

Contractor's Name: A&K Tree Services Inc (510) 538-8761
Contractor's License #: 028250
Certified Arborist #: 

County Arborists maintain the authority to monitor and inspect work to insure compliance with the Alameda County Tree Ordinance (Sec. 12.11.230)

Replacement/New Tree Species: 2 1/2 London plane tree

I, the property owner/resident at the above address agree to water and maintain the above tree within the County right-of-way on my property. Once planted, I agree not to remove this tree without the prior written consent of the Alameda County Public Works Agency. I also understand that if the above tree dies or is damaged beyond repair, the County may require me to replant a new tree at my sole expense.

I agree to comply with all of the provisions, conditions, and other requirements of this Permit:

Signature of Applicant: 

NOTICE:

Permit will not be valid until issued. Permits shall be kept on site during work. The Permittee is responsible for and must notify the County at (510) 670-5480, no later than ten (10) days after completion of the work.
Status: ☑ APPROVED  □ DENIED  □ NO PERMIT REQUIRED

Permit Conditions: Replacement tree must be planted in the right of way within 9' from curb.

This Permit is issued in accordance with Chapter 12.11 of the Alameda County General Ordinance Code and the County Tree Ordinance, in order to authorize access to a public roadway for the purpose of planting, pruning or removing a tree, the trunk of which lies wholly or partially within the right-of-way of the said roadway.

Application reviewed:  County Arborist  7/18/17

Tree Information

Number of trees: (1)  Species: Fiselkova Em  Height: 22 ft  DBH: 10 in

Location of tree:  Front Yard

Overhead High Voltage Lines: ☑ Yes ☑ No

Overall health: Poor

Any obvious defects/diseases: Yes

Comments: Tree has been repeatedly topped.

☐ SIDEWALK DAMAGE  Pictures Taken: ☑ Yes ☑ No

Post-Work Inspection

Date Fielded: 4/15/17
Satisfactory: Yes ☑ No  ☑

Comments:

Permit Closed:  — — — —  Date
Alameda County Public Works Agency
May 1, 2017

Inta Brainerd
Alameda County Public Works Agency
951 Turner Ct.
Hayward, CA 94545

Subject: Tree Evaluation and Appraisal of Value
16026 Via Olinda, San Lorenzo

Dear Ms. Brainerd,

The Alameda County Public Works Agency is responsible for administering tree pruning and removal permits for trees within County rights-of-way, in accordance with the Alameda County Tree Ordinance (Sec. 12.11.230 of the Alameda County General Code). To help determine losses associated with improper pruning or un-permitted removals, the County requested that HortScience, Inc. evaluate the current condition of the tree, provide management recommendations as appropriate, and establish any loss in value.

I visited the subject site on April 24, 2017. This letter summarizes my observations and assessment.

Background
You contacted me on March 10, 2017 after noticing the pruning of a sawleaf zelkova tree (Zelkova serrata) at the subject site.

Since I had no photographs showing the tree pre-pruning, I used the Google Earth street view © of the subject site to assist me in establishing tree condition.

From my review of the historic images available from Google Earth street view ©, the tree has not had a full canopy in the past 10 years.

Tree Observations and Assessment
The sawleaf zelkova tree was located in the front yard, on the west side of the Via Olinda residence, approximately 3’ behind of the sidewalk. The trunk, measured at 54” above grade, was 22” in diameter. The tree had been topped repeatedly in the past and allowed to resprout. There were two large trunk wounds on the lower trunk. I considered the pre-pruning condition to be poor (rated as 10%).

The tree had been topped at ~10’, removing ~100% of the live foliage (Photo, following page). The pruning consisted of cutting the tree into a 10’ stump. Pruning was not performed according to the Best Management Practices for Pruning (International Society of Arboriculture, 2002) and to the most recent editions of the American National Standard for Tree Care Operations (Z133.1) and Pruning (A300). The tree was in poor condition due to the pruning (rated as 10%) and the prospects for rehabilitating the tree is low. I consider the tree to be a total loss.
Appraisal of Loss
To establish the loss in value associated with the pruning, I employed the standard methods found in *Guide for Plant Appraisal*, 9th edition (published in 2000 by the International Society of Arboriculture, Savoy IL). In addition, I referred to *Species Classification and Group Assignment* (2004), a publication of the Western Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture. These two documents outline the methods employed in tree appraisal.

The value of landscape trees is based upon four factors: size, species, condition and location. Size is measured as trunk diameter, normally 4" above grade. The species factor considers the adaptability and appropriateness of the plant in the East Bay. The *Species Classification and Group Assignment* lists recommended species ratings and evaluations. Condition reflects the health and structural integrity of the tree. I considered the deleterious effect of the pruning and creation of numerous wounds. The location factor considers the site, placement and contribution of a tree in its surrounding landscape. In this case, the tree is located in a residential area in San Lorenzo.

Any loss associated with the pruning would be the difference in value before and after it was pruned. In this case, the condition of the tree did not change as a result of the pruning. However, I consider the tree to be a total loss.

Pre-pruning, the value of the tree was $900. Thus, the loss in value was $900 (see attached Appraisal Worksheet).

If you have any questions, regarding my observations or assessment, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

John Leffingwell
Board Certified Master Arborist #WE-3966B
Registered Consulting Arborist #442

Att. Appraisal worksheet
## Appraisal Worksheet
*(Taken from a form found in: Guide for Plant Appraisal, 9th edition)*

| **OWNER:** | Alameda County Public Works |
| **LOCATION:** | 16026 Via Olinda, San Lorenzo |

| **1. Species** | Sawleaf zelkova (*Zelkova serrata*) |
| **2. Pre-pruning condition rating** | 10% |
| Based on Google Earth street view ©. |
| **3. Trunk diameter** | 22" |
| Measured at 54" above grade. |
| **4. Pre-pruning location rating** | 62% |
| Based upon site rating of 60%, contribution rating of 60% and placement rating of 65%. |
| **5. Species rating** | 50% |
| Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment*. |
| **6. Replacement tree size** | 2.24 sq. in. |
| Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment* for a Group 2 tree. |
| **7. Replacement tree cost** | $172.73 |
| **8. Installation cost** | $172.73 |
| **9. Installed cost** | $345.46 |
| Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment* for the installed cost of a 24" box tree. |
| **10. Unit tree cost** | $77.04 |
| Based upon guidelines provided in *Species Classification and Group Assignment* for a Group 2 tree. |
| **11. Appraised trunk area** | 380 sq. in. |
| (Taken from Table 4.4, 9th Edition) |
| **12. Appraised trunk area increase (over 24" box)** | 377.76 sq. in. |
| (Line 11 - Line 6) |
| **13. Basic tree cost** | $29,448 |
| (Line 12 x Line 10 + Line 9) |
| **14. Appraised value** | $900 |
| (Line 13 x Line 2 x Line 4 x Line 5, rounded to the nearest $50.00) |

**References**
INVOICE FOR FINE DUE TO WORK WITHOUT A PERMIT, $100.

VIOLATION ADDRESS: 16026 Via Olinda, San Lorenzo, CA 94580

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT INTA BRAINERD, COUNTY ARBORIST, AT 510-670-5786.

Revenue Account No: 270401-430210-00000/99179

$100.00

Invoice Total: 100.00

PLEASE MAKE REMITTANCE PAYABLE TO "TREASURER OF ALAMEDA COUNTY"
SEND TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS
PLEASE REFERENCE ABOVE INVOICE # ON PAYMENT

The undersigned hereby certifies that the above claim is true and correct.

(510) 670-5474

SOPHIE YANG