

**Planning & Zoning
Committee of the
MidCoast
Community Council**
PO Box 64, Moss Beach
CA 94038
Serving 12,000 residents

April 28, 2003

To: Mike Schaller

San Mateo County Planning and Building Division
Mail Drop PLN122, 455 County Center
Redwood City, CA 94063
650.363.1849 - FAX: 650.363.4849

re: PLN2003-00133: application to remove XXX at 763 Francisco
in El Granada

Mike:

PLN 2003-00080 (763 Francisco)

On Thursday, 3/13/03, I accompanied you to visit this site. My assessment of the requested removal agrees (I believe) with yours – that the one tree is in need of immediate removal as evidenced by the extensive beetle infestation and resultant death of its foliage, and that the other tree exhibits extensive and probable fatal damage from a similar bark beetle infestation.

I would agree to immediate removal of the one tree by emergency permit, and eventual removal of the second after the regular due process.

Removal should subject to the following conditions:

1. Cuttings should be isolated so as not to allow the sp[read of the beetle infestation to other trees in the area, and,
2. Replacement plantings should be for mature trees, 24” box or larger, that would supply equivalent wildlife habitat and continue the wooded character of the neighborhood, as of the removed pines. I would suggest at least one if not both of the trees should be replaced with Monterey Cypress. From the current list of trees for replanting, the Black Acacia would also supply a good shade tree that would also contribute a tall and sheltering boreal habitat for nesting birds and raptors.

Thank you for your help, and please keep us informed of any further developments, hearings, approvals or appeals concerning this application.



Chuck Kozak
Chair, MCC Planning & Zoning Committee
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