



August 19, 2003

**To: James Singleton**

San Mateo County Planning and Building Division  
Mail Drop PLN122, 455 County Center  
Redwood City, CA 94063  
650.363.1850 - FAX: 650.363.4849

**re: PLN2003-00312:** Tree Removal Permit for 2 Monterey Pine trees next to recently constructed residence.

James:

After reviewing these trees with the Applicant Larry Ross, I had the following recommendations:

1. The tree next to the garage, aside from being too close to the structure, has probably been damaged from the excavation for the foundation. The tree appears off-balance, weakened, and shows signs of developing pine pitch canker. It should be removed.
2. The other tree next to driveway shows signs of advanced pine pitch canker. It could be carefully trimmed and maintained for a few more years, if the applicant desires, but may be best removed at this time.
3. Because of the protection of the site from prevailing winds, this may be a good location to plant a coast redwood or other tall conifer (Monterey Cypress, Bishop pine, Douglas fir, red cedar, etc.) or taller deciduous coastal species (Alder or Maple).
4. The diseased wood from the two pines should be isolated and disposed in a manner that will not further spread the disease. It should not be left exposed, given away for firewood, or stored anywhere other than an approved facility for treating diseased material of this type. Guidelines for disposal are available from the California Department of Forestry and the County Agricultural Commission.

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

Chuck Kozak  
Chair, MCC Planning & Zoning Committee  
PO Box 370702  
Montara, CA 94037  
650.728.8237 (home) - 650.996.8998 (mobile) - [cgk@montara.com](mailto:cgk@montara.com)