



City of Burlingame

Parks & Recreation Department

850 Burlingame Ave., Burlingame, CA 94010
 phone: (650) 558-7330 • parksadmin@burlingame.org



June 2, 2026

Noticing adjacent property owners

Dear Neighbor,

RE: Private Tree Removal Application – 1347 Montero Ave, Burlingame

An application has been received to remove a Coast Redwood tree at 1347 Montero Ave. The application is approved.

The Coast Redwood tree grows at the rear of the property on the North side of the garage. The redwood tree appears to have good vigor and form, however, the specimen has disrupted the foundation of the garage and is actively placing pressure on the wall of the garage causing an inward bow of the garage wall. Vertical cracking of the garage foundation at the point of the root pressure is apparent with a breach of the foundation wall enough to cause water to flow through the foundation.

While the tree appears to have low likelihood of failure, the large specimen has overgrown its planting space. The applicant has submitted a Certified Arborist report supporting removal as the best mitigation measure.

Because of the poor growing location in close proximity to the garage and expected worsening of the damage due to continued growth of the tree, I am approving removal of this tree based on the factors in Chapter 11.06 of the Municipal Code, Urban Reforestation and Tree Protection Ordinance, section 11.06.060 (c) which allows removal for the following reasons:

- (1) The condition of the tree(s) with respect to: Disease, decay, structure, form and vigor, likelihood and consequences of failure and impact proximity to existing or proposed structures, yards, driveways and other trees, infrastructure and growing space constraints, utilities and improvement conflict, species desirability and age of the tree relative to average urban life span typical of the species.*
- (3) That the tree or its roots are causing, or threatening to cause, damage to any main structure on the property or on any adjacent property and there are no reasonable alternative means to mitigate the damage or threatened damage. Reasonable alternative means of mitigation include, but are not limited to, cutting tree roots, trimming the tree canopy, or installing a root barrier. Removing, relocating, or in any way altering any main structure on the property shall not be considered a reasonable alternative means of mitigation for the purposes of this Section.*
- (9) Whether an unusual or extraordinary circumstance exists whereby the denial of the permit would create a unique economic burden on the property owner*

Due to the existence of other mature trees being preserved on the property only one-36" box tree or two-24" box trees required to be replanted (Only one-24" box tree or two-15 gal. tree required if planting a City approved California native). New trees become protected at time of planting regardless of size. Replacement tree must meet the following conditions:

- **At least one tree must be single stem (standard) trunk with a mature height of greater than 35'.**
- **Fruit, nut, Japanese Maple, palm and Italian Cypress trees are not acceptable replacements.**
- **Tree(s) must be planted in accordance with current arboriculture standards.**
- **At least one tree must be planted within 20' of the Coast Redwood tree being removed.**

Failure to plant as required will subject the applicant to an in-lieu fee of \$325/inch diameter of the tree removed. In this instance, the in-lieu fee shall be **\$21,775** should the applicant not perform the required above planting within the timeline specified in the approved permit.

Adjacent property owner(s) within 300 feet of the property listed above are also receiving notification of this decision. Appeals to this decision or any of its conditions or findings, must be filed in writing to our office by June 12, 2026, as provided in Section 11.06.090 of the *Urban Reforestation and Tree Protection Ordinance (Burlingame Municipal Code Chapter 11.06)*. The permit will be issued at the end of the workday on June 12, 2026, if no appeal has been received by that date. The applicant is required to post City provided signage in front of the property notifying public of intent to remove tree. Photos of the posting must be provided on Day#1, 4, 7, and 10.

Sincerely,

Richard Holtz (ad)

Richard Holtz
Parks Superintendent/City Arborist
Certified Arborist WE-8393AM
RH/ad

CC: Adjacent Property Owners



SCAN ME



Burlingame Municipal Code
Tree Code - Chapter 11.06