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NOV 8 2023

CITY OF BURLINGAME
CDD-PLANNING DIVISION

April 26, 2022

Eric Johnson, E.I.T, NABCEP Photovoltaic Associate™
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Subject: Tree Evaluation for Sutter Mills-Peninsula, California

Dear Eric,

Thank you for asking me to provide a Consulting Arborist Report for the proposed Solar Photovoltaic project for the Sutter Health – 1501 Trousdale Drive – Burlingame, California. I visited the site on April 25, 2022 to evaluate (371) trees listed on the site map you provided. All of the trees I evaluated are in parking lot islands and throughout the property.

There are (7) species of trees located on the property:

1. 124 – Chinese Elm (*Ulmus parvifolia*)
2. 94 – Redwood Trees (*Sequoia sempervirens*)
3. 63 – Hornbeam – (*Carpinus caroliniana*)
4. 37 – Red Maple – (*Acer rubrum*)
5. 27 – Yoshino cherry (*Prunus x yedoensis*)
6. 22 – Paper Birch -
7. 4 – Pin Oak (*Quercas palustris*)

Assessment Methods

BrightView assessed (371) trees on April 25, 2022. The assessment procedure consisted of each tree of any size assessed visually from the ground and evaluated as follows:

1. Identifying the tree as to species.
2. Identifying each tree with a numerical GPS plotted number
3. Measuring the trunk diameter at a point 54” above grade.

4. Evaluating the health and structural condition using a scale of 0 – 5:

5 - A healthy, vigorous tree, reasonably free of signs and symptoms of disease, with good structure and form typical of the species.

4 - Tree with slight decline in vigor, small amount of twig dieback, or minor structural defects that could be corrected.

3 - Tree with moderate vigor, moderate twig and small branch dieback, thinning of crown, poor leaf color, moderate structural defects that might be mitigated with regular care.

2 - Tree in decline, epicormic growth, extensive dieback of medium to large branches, significant structural defects that cannot be abated.

1 - Tree in severe decline, dieback of scaffold branches and/or trunk; most of foliage from epicormic shoots (secondary shoots that arise along the trunk and branches); extensive structural defects that cannot be abated.

0 – Tree is dead.

Listed below in Table 1 are the number of each species of trees and their health rating using the 0 to 5 scale described above.

Table 1. Tree Species and Health Rating.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Dead	Poor (1-2)	Fair (3)	Good (4)	Excellent (5)	Total
1. 124 – Chinese Elm (Ulmus parvifolia)			122	2			124
2. 94 – Redwood Trees (Sequoia species)			60		34		94
3. 63 – Hornbeam – (Carpinus caroliniana)			13		50		63
4. 37 – Red Maple – (Acer rubrum)			26		11		37
5. 27 – Yoshino cherry (Prunus x yedoensis)					27		27
6. 22 – Paper Birch -			22				22
7. 4 – Pin Oak (Quercas palustris)				4			4
Total			243	6	122		371

The primary species on site are the Chinese elms throughout the Campus parking lot areas. These trees have been pruned over the years to allow for trucks and large vehicles to clear the parking spaces. These trees are all planted in very compacted soil. Most of these trees are in various stages of decline with sparse canopies and signs of past aphid activity. Over time most of these trees will decline, this species of trees does not do well in confined growing spaces. I did soil probes throughout the property and the hard soil is down about 12". As the trees mature they eventually run out of nutrients and sufficient oxygen throughout the growing space. All the trees that I evaluated have the same soil conditions that are leading stunted and or declining trees. The result of this compaction is chlorotic leaves and very shallow rooted trees. All of the mature trees here have all developed surface roots and over time will all need to be removed before they fail. The recent drought conditions the past several years are making it difficult for trees planted in compacted native soil will continue to decline without aggressive water and fertilization programs for the next several years.

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The red maple trees have all had the central leader removed and have now developed weak branch structure. The hornbeam trees have been mostly planted at the end of each parking lot island and have more space for the roots to develop. These are good parking lot trees that can adapt to poor soil conditions. The Redwood trees are planted on the South side of the property at the end of the parking lot islands. These are fast growing trees that need sufficient space and irrigation in confined growing spaces. These parking lot redwood trees are in various stages of stress and decline due to lack of water and nutrients. I did evaluate a grove of trees on the side of the property not in the parking lot. The cherry trees, redwood trees, oak trees and birch trees are all competing for growing space. When the trees were first installed as small trees there was room to plant this many. As the trees have matured and continue to mature some will have to be removed as they start to crowd each other out. There are several trees in this grow in decline and or have been removed.

Please give me a call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Bob Peralta

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