

HERITAGE TREE APPEAL NOTICE

The decision to deny the removal of this Heritage Tree has been appealed. An appeal shall automatically stay issuance or denial of the Heritage Tree Notice to remove or deny removal of the tree(s) identified on the notice (Mountain View City Code Section 32.31). An appeal hearing has been set before the Urban Forestry Board for

Wednesday, March 11, 2026 at 6:00 PM, in the Maple Room of the Community Center 201 S. Rengstorff Ave, Mountain View, CA 94040. Meeting will also be in Zoom format and will be available on our website under Parks and Recreation Commission when the new agenda is ready as we get closer to the date. For information regarding the appeal, please contact the Forestry Division Office at 650-903-6273.

This notice shall be posted until a final decision has been rendered.



Posted By

01/08/26

Date

City of Mountain View
Urban Forestry Division
231 North Whisman Road
P.O. Box 7540
Mountain View, CA 94039-7540



City of
**Mountain
View**

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
URBAN FORESTRY DIVISION
231 North Whisman Road, P.O. Box 7540
Mountain View, CA 94039-7540
650-903-6273 | MountainView.gov

January 8, 2026

Ted Rees

HERITAGE TREE APPEAL: 1145 CARVER PL/HTR-10112

Dear Ted:

Please be advised that the Urban Forestry Division has scheduled the appeal hearing for the denied removal of one (1) Coast Redwood Heritage Street Tree (FACID #3290).

The Urban Forestry Board will review this appeal at their meeting on **Wednesday, March 11, 2026 at 6:00 PM**. The meeting will be held at the Community Center – Maple Room, 201 S. Rengstorff Ave, Mountain View, CA and will also be available via Zoom. If you would like to join the hearing via Zoom you will be able to find the link at <https://mountainview.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>.

You are invited to attend this meeting and present your concerns to the Board. An example of what to expect at the hearing is: staff will present a report. The appellant will have up to 10 minutes to speak. The Commission may ask questions of any presenters, including staff and the appellant. The Commission will open and close public comment. Staff will have an additional 2 minutes for final comments, and the appellant will also have 2 minutes for final remarks. Afterward, the Commission will begin deliberations, make a motion, and vote.

Sincerely,

Russell Hansen
Urban Forest Manager

9589 0710 5270 3175 2356 70

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Sent Street City	Ted Rees 2296 Sun Mor Ave Mountain View, CA 94040

See Reverse for Instructions



Matt Feisthamel
Urban Forest Coordinator
Community Services Department

Subject: Re: HTR-10112 (1145 Carver Place) Redwood Tree Removal! Request Denial - Appeal
December 4, 2025

In my thinking, the criteria that Mountain View uses to decide to *remove* or not remove a heritage tree seems flawed. As close as I can tell, the default decision is to preserve the tree, and only remove it if the damage it generates is excessive, or it is a significant threat of collapse that could cause damage or injury or expense. Of course every tree will eventually pose an issue with collapse, and an ongoing issue of maintenance of the tree and surrounding area.

There are good reasons for these criteria, for nature, for shade, for beauty, for property value. In the past, it was difficult to find a reason to decide differently. I suppose sometimes a development project ended up removing trees simply because they were in the way of the development.

But we are not living in the past. Now we have the issue of Climate Change to consider. This is not a far in the future problem. The Climate has already changed. The weather patterns are not the same as they were 3 decades ago. At a mere 1.5 degree C increase in average temperature increase, the poles and mountain glaciers are melting into oblivion. Extreme weather events like temperature, storms, droughts are more severe and unpredictable than they used to be. California is now plagued by bigger fires, more often. The recent Los Angeles fires wiped out SO square miles of homes and small businesses.

The science of climate change is very clear. CO2 acts as an inhibitor of heat radiation leaving the earth. The earth moves in the vacuum of space, where electromagnetic radiation is free to pass. The earth is heated by the sun, and cooled by the radiation from the warm earth. The action of CO2 on heat radiation is similar to the action of fog on visible light. The heat is scattered in random directions by the CO2 gas molecules. Some of the radiation passes to space. Some of the radiation goes back to earth. From space the heat radiation depends on the temperature in the upper portion of the atmosphere.

James Hansen decades ago while at NASA found that Venus underwent a CO2 runaway event that heated up the planet, boiling the water into steam, where in the upper atmosphere the water molecules were split into Hydrogen and Oxygen by solar radiation. The hydrogen was lost to space, and the oxygen went to making more CO2. Lead melts on the surface of Venus under the dense atmosphere of CO2.

Climate Change is a giant human trap. Here is how it works. People are herd animals. No one wants to behave differently than every else. People like the easy life. Technology reduces human manual labor. Energy runs the technology. Big business controls the production. Every business has to make more than they spend, and everyone is content when the production continues. But the machines require energy, and the default energy is from fossil fuels. These hydrocarbons when burnt produce CO2 and H2O as atmospheric oxygen combines with the hydrocarbons to produce heat for heats sake, or to turn engines. So no one wants to disrupt the easy life based on fossil fuels.

The trap comes from human ignorance of the nature of CO2 in the environment. It doesn't just raise the temperature slowly, but also when we put extra CO2 into the environment it doesn't disappear quickly. It takes nature tens of thousands of years to convert the CO2 into a solid molecule to keep it out of the atmosphere. This occurs mostly in the oceans as calcium carbonate is formed.

So the easy life of fossil fuel use, and herd mentality gets everyone into ignoring the issue of climate change, and the enormous problem of stopping the use of fossil fuels. And slowly the planet warms with no fast means of cooling down. It takes about 4 years for the temperature rise from a burst of excess CO2 to stabilize. We need to stop emitting CO2 just to get the temperature and dangerous weather to stop getting worse! That means getting every home and business and vehicle on the planet to swap to using renewable energy¹

What makes the trap deadly is that we don't have the ability to make this change quickly. We even seem to lack the ability to get everyone to appreciate the problem. And even if we did, it takes a lot of time to build the machines and replace the old fossil fuel machines.

There is another diabolical issue with the human climate change trap. CO2 emissions don't just come from human generated emissions. The natural world changes as the temperature and climate change. An obvious example is fires assisted by drought and wind. When things burn, they generate more CO2. When life dies, it generates more CO2. All around the world as environmental conditions change, life dies, and more CO2 is emitted.

So what to do? Who is responsible for making the change? ... In my thinking, we need a rule: If you own something, you should be responsible for making it emission free. In my case, we own the 1145 Carver house, and it our responsibility for making it CO2 emission free. The tenants are not going to do it. Mountain View doesn't seem eager to do it, or even allow it!

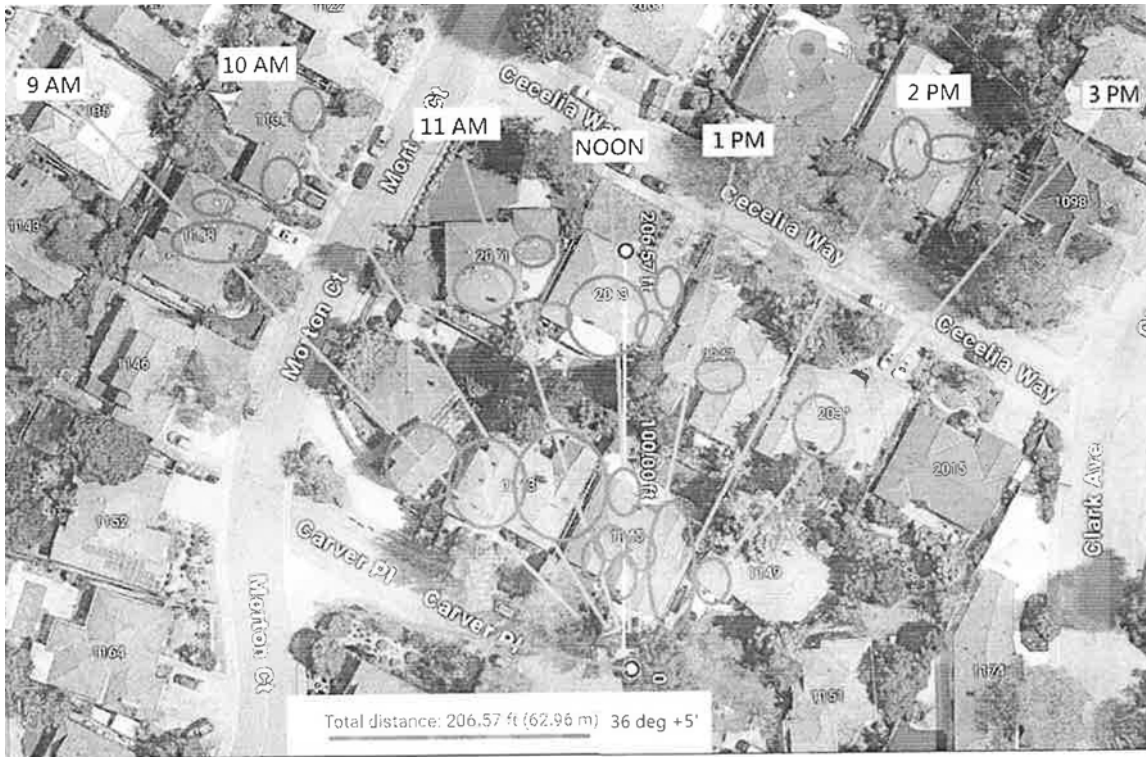
In the 2010's solar PV was introduced, and PG&E realized that it would be hard to counter the argument that if someone put Solar PV on their house, and reduced their electrical input from PG&E, and even shipped daytime excess solar electricity to the grid, that PG&E could reduce their gas fired electrical production, and credit the homeowner for later PG&E electrical production. That worked well, but in the early 2020's, they ran out of turbines to turn off. They could not justify the problem of too much solar electricity going to the grid. Now if a homeowner wants to put up solar, they have to do so without sending excess power to the grid. Unfortunately, midday, most of the time, solar works great, and many are not even home to use the power. So batteries are now advisable. But, batteries are over priced for some corrupt reason. China can ship an EV with 60KWH for \$15,000, but the homeowner needs to spend more than \$20,00 for 30KWH, without the car!

Well, there is an argument that trees absorb CO2. But the issue is how much, compared to solar PV and batteries? I read that a coastal redwood 100' high puts on about 2000 pounds per year. I read that cellulose when burnt produces 1.65 pounds of CO2 per pound of cellulose. So maybe the Carver redwood is absorbing 3500 pounds of CO2 per year. Not bad!

Meanwhile, a homeowner with an electrified home and EV can use 25 to 30 KWH per day. Natural gas generation produces about 1 pound per KWH. So a homeowner with solar would likely save 9000 or more. - triple what the tree provides. An Cars average about 12,000 miles per year, at 25 mpg, and 20 pounds of CO2 per gallon. That comes to 9600 pounds/year itself. That is where most of the higher demand for electricity comes from.

On the next page, there is a picture showing how the redwood tree messes up solar for many houses in the vicinity, by casting it's long shadow in the winter months for about 3 months of the year.

CENTER OF REDWOOD WINTER SHADOW AT 1145 CARVER PLACE



In the picture above, I take the solar and azimuth data from a NOAA online calculator for December 21, 2025. Other data was taken for earlier and later 1.5 months and they are not much different than the shortest day. The lines imagine a pole in place of the redwood tree going 123' high, which is my estimate of the height using trigonometry **from the corner view at Carver/Morton of the tree. at 36 degrees up.** The tree itself has fairly long branches casting wider shadows. PV panels output power drops quickly when shadows land on the surface, because the cells are in series, like old fashioned **Xmas tree lights**.

In the picture above, I take the solar azimuth and elevation data from a NOAA online calculator for Dec 21, 2025. Other data was taken +/- 1.5 months from December 21, and is not much different. The orange lines are where a shadow from a vertical pole located at the base of the redwood would be. The actual shadows of the tree would be wider near the tree, coming to a point at the far end.

The height of the tree is estimated using the tangent function following the blue line to the top of the tree. The tree has fairly long branches at the bottom, and decrease in length going up the tree. So the shadows would be more like triangles, wide at the base. The lines start where the sun's rays hit an imaginary plane 10' above the ground but stop where they hit the ground.

What we see is that the 1145 Carver house has a huge loss of winter solar exposure due to the redwood. In addition, other houses nearby are subject to the shadow of the tree sweeping over their roof during the day. In the winter the noon rays are 28.8 degrees due south. In the summer, the sun is about 47 degrees higher at about 75.5 degrees above the horizon. The shadows are much shorter.

IN CONCLUSION:

The redwood tree is a growing giant, out of place in the environment, pushing concrete up and over. Although it stores carbon it makes solar PV useless in the winter and reduced in the spring and fall, greatly reducing the incentive to reduce CO2 emissions at the 1145 address. It also puts a dampener on using solar PV for several neighbors houses. The policy of preserving trees over reducing CO2 emissions seems flawed given the magnitude of the climate change problem.



City of Mountain View

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

Miscellaneous Fee Collection Schedule

Name: TED REES

Date: DEC 5, 2025

Address: [REDACTED]

ACCOUNT

020012-42715	Sales of maps, pamphlets, codes, ordinances, charters, publications, Precise Plans, agendas, minutes, Council reports, copies, faxes (DOCFEE)	_____
020012-42799	Heritage Tree Appeal (TREEAP)	<u>325.00</u>
020012-42715	Sales of City Code and Code Supplements Subscription (CTYSUB)	_____
710100-22150	Elections—Deposit for Printing of Candidate's Statement (CANDST)	_____
020038-42715	Elections—Precinct Maps (ELCMAP)	_____
020012-43643	Sales of City Souvenirs (SOUVEN)	_____
211215-42799	Zoning Appeal to Council—CDD (ZONEPP)	_____
020012-42799	Other Appeal to Council (_____)	_____
020012-43623	Building Attendant and Rental Fee (CCATTN)	_____
710100-22171	Security Deposit	_____
020012-43643	Sale of Souvenirs (Clerk Store)	_____
	SUBTOTAL	<u>325.00</u>
	TAX	_____

PAID

NOTE: After payment of the above charges at the Finance and Administrative Services Department, please return this form and validated receipt to the City Clerk's Office.

Issued by: Dolores Colin

Receipt No: 579715

CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW
FINANCE & ADMIN SERVICES DEPT

CC-02(A) (Rev. 08-10-23)

City Of Mountain View

Date: 12/05/25 DCO /DD05/CD2
Time: 10:46:14 Receipt No: 579715

Account No: THEODORE D REES

Beginning Balance 0.00
HERITAGE TREE APPEAL -325.00
Ending Balance -325.00

CREDIT CARD Amount -325.00

Payment 325.00
Change 0.00

1145 CARVER PL

Thank You And Have A Nice Day