

# Certified Arborist's Pre-Construction Subpar Redwood Tree Status Report

Data Date: February 13, 2023

Report Date: February 14, 2023

Prepared for:  
Jenny Kang  
Silicon Valley Custom Homes

APN:  
n/a

Site:  
Residential Rebuild  
333 Franklin St.  
Mountain View, CA 94041

Prepared by:

**Ray Morneau**  
ISA Certified Arborist #WE-0132A  
Tree Risk Assessment Qualified

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**P-1 & P-2 (at right): Subject Redwood viewing from existing interior courtyard & from driveway looking in off of Franklin Street.**





## 1.0 Assignment & Introduction

I have been retained by Jenny Kang [Silicon Valley Custom Homes] to provide a Tree Status Report documenting the condition of a subpar (defective) Redwood tree (*Sequoia sempervirens*) at 333 Franklin Street, Mountain View, California.

## 2.0 Observations: MVMC, Tree/Location Photos, Tree Data Spreadsheet

I inspected this *Sequoia sempervirens* (Coastal Redwood tree) most recently on 2/13/2023. As a 37.4" diameter redwood tree, it measures within the Heritage Tree category for the City of Mountain View ... a tree protected by city ordinance (MV Municipal Code section: 32.23-c).

**P-3 at right shows multiple leaders at lowest severe (topping) cut above roof level with all laterals (side branches) also severely truncated/stubbed.**



**P-4, P-5, P-6 (below): Subject Redwood crowds existing building/stairs with root flare (burl) breaking concrete curb and driveway ... prior box form retained, adding to accumulated defects.**





## 2.1 Municipal Code

Applicable rules here include The City of Mountain View’s Protected Trees Ordinance in Municipal Code Section 32.23 digitally available at:

[https://library.municode.com/ca/mountain\\_view/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances?nodeId=PTIITHCO\\_CH32TRSHPL](https://library.municode.com/ca/mountain_view/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTIITHCO_CH32TRSHPL)

## 2.2 Tree Data Spreadsheet

TREE INVENTORY (partial): 333 Franlin Street, Mountain View, California.											Data date: February 13, 2023	
T #	Genus species / Name, Common	DBH = Standard Diameter at Breast Height (inches)	Circumference (inches)	Av. Crown Radius (ft)	Height (ft)	% Condition: Vigor, Health, Vitality	% Condition: Form, Structure	% Overall Condition	Species' Aptitude (ability to overcome disruptions)	Age / Longevity	Keep? Remove?	Comments
1	<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i> / Redwood, Coastal	37.4" @ 4.5'	118" @ 4.5'	8'	~48'	45%	15%	25% Very Poor	Mod.	Over-mature	R	Driveway asphalt at 3'; current building stairway at 2'; History of multiple severe pruning events make this redwood's structural regrowth a standing imminent hazard!. Root damage must be expected by new construction project.

## 3.0 Discussion

The above photographs combine to tell a story of this subject redwood tree as a large-scale forest-species shoehorned into a too-small urban space ... but was genetically destined to grow as big as its Santa Cruz Mountains comrades

The already hazardous condition of this tree would only be aggravated by new construction on these Franklin Street parcels ... the risk of failure of the v-crotches with narrow-angled trunk attachments and breakage of limbs due to foliage endweight accumulation will continue to overhang new homes and residents.

## 4.0 Conclusion & Recommendations:

Two factors drive the requirement to remove this 37" Coastal Redwood ... current structural defects ... and stability and health after construction

To remove it before the project would allow replanting with a better-structured specimen which would benefit these properties, the neighborhood, and the whole community.

Conclusion: A removal permit for this redwood should be granted by the City with no further delay.



## 5.0 Certification & Use Statement

The instant report is applicable to this redwood tree at 333 Franklin St. and may not be adopted elsewhere without site-specific updates/revisions/adaptations by this Project Arborist.

I certify that all the statements of fact in this report are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge, ability, and belief, and are made in good faith.

This report is valid for submittal and use upon my receipt of valid payment.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond J. Morneau

ISA Certified Arborist #WE-0132A

ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualified Professional

< APPENDIX >

Tree No. 2

Re: **31" diameter (97" circumference) Acer saccharinum (Silver maple)** in rear yard

There is a large glowing mushroom mass where the trunk meets the soil ... [https://ipm.ucanr.edu/legacy\\_assets/pdf/pestnotes/pnarmillariarootrot.pdf](https://ipm.ucanr.edu/legacy_assets/pdf/pestnotes/pnarmillariarootrot.pdf)

This tree is irrecoverably dead ... those mushrooms are the fruiting bodies of oak root fungus.

