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Certified Arborist's Redwood Tree Status Report

Data Date: January 16, 2025

Report Date: January 30, 2025

Prepared for:
Jose Marquez
2420 Villa Nueva
Mountain View, CA

Contact:
Gary Ortega

Site:
Residence
2420 Villa Nueva
Mountain View, CA 94040

Prepared by:
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Tree Risk Assessment Qualified

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P-1 (right):
location of
subject *Sequoia*
sempervirens
(Coast
Redwood) ...
captured on
Google Maps
image in
magenta oval.





1.0 Assignment & Introduction

I have been retained by Jose Marquez (tree owner) and Gary Ortega [Valley Tree Care] to provide a Tree Status Report documenting the condition of a mature Coastal Redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*) at 2420 Villa Nueva Way, Mountain View, California.

P-2 below, left: shot from back corner of house for perspective, shows lop-sided foliage crown.

P-3 below, right: shot from base of tree with clipboard leaning against fence for perspective, shows root flare intact (no decay found).





P-4 below: Mr. Marquez shot of the property damage on his neighbor's side of the fence. Mr. Marquez has stated that he will arrange with his neighbor to provide inspection access for the City inspector/arborist "to view the effect of the roots to the nearby pool pump/ retaining wall surface area".



2.0 Observations: MVMC, Tree Data Spreadsheet [see Photos above]

Note I inspected this *Sequoia sempervirens* ("Coastal Redwood" tree) on 1/16/2025. As a 26.4" diameter (123" circumference) 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).

2.1 Basic Species Information

The Cal Poly Selectree website provides basic species information for this specimen at: <https://selectree.calpoly.edu/tree-detail/1325> – it recommends a planting area greater than 7' – not crowded against this fence and the neighbor's hardscape.

Although this species historically had its beginnings nearer the ocean and it prefers the coastal climate, many redwoods perform okay here – until drought stressed ... as seen in recent years ... and are predicted to face as climate change mounts.



That University of California site provides a search engine to supply information on most of our local trees (easily accessed from the top of its homepage). It could also be helpful in deciding on a potential replant.

2.2 Municipal Code cite

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

2.3 Coastal Redwood Tree Data Spreadsheet

Tree details – Coast Redwood – *Sequoia sempervirens*, against the back fence in owner's backyard:

26.4" trunk diameter (dbh) (123" circumf.)	~65' tall
~22' canopy radius	Location: against back fence
Condition: vigor=60%; structure=75%	Condition: overall=30% (Poor)
Root flare intact? = Yes – see photo above	Central leader intact? = Yes.
No decay encountered.	21' BOC; ~13' to sidewalk.
History of annual line clearance pruning	
Owner & neighbor report property damage	
Protected tree? = Yes, per MVMC 32.23-c	Age: ~35 years old (mature)

3.0 Discussion

We have already shown here above some of the myriad challenges that point in favor of removal – besides the fact that it's a large mature tree! Property damage has been reported.

Mr. Ortega is contacting Mr. Marquez for access to observe/photograph the damage. Mr. Marquez has suggested that if the City Arborist/Inspector wishes to observe the damage, then he can/will make arrangements with the neighbor. Note caption for P-4 above.

The property damage sounds to be irreversible on its own.

Although not an imminent hazard, there are no solutions to reverse this property damage and decline trajectory.... no pruning modification can turn back the clock for the unmitigated root growth which has set up the structural defects. Nor can root pruning bring hope for improvements in the root zone.

4.0 Conclusion & Recommendations:

It is just a matter of time before removal will be necessary for this specimen. If not addressed now, then it will become a more difficult future task and delay getting a replant started to grow.



All these factors have come together to embrace the decision to remove this Coastal Redwood. without further delay.

Conclusion: A removal permit for this Coastal Redwood tree may be granted by the City.

5.0 Certification & Use Statement

The instant report is applicable to this Coastal Redwood tree at 2420 Villa Nueva Way and may not be adopted elsewhere without site-specific updates/revisions/adaptations by this Consulting 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 [already received].

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Raymond J. Morneau".

Raymond J. Morneau

ISA Certified Arborist #WE-0132A

ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualified Professional