

Tree Appeal 650 Gibson



Why are we here?

- We aren't here for anything other than safety.
 - It's not a question of impeding our view, or limiting construction
- The tree is dangerous, and the neighborhood agrees. Our neighborhood lives in fear of the tree falling. It's not a question of if, it's when. Per the City Arborist, the tree has 1-5 years of life left.
- In Frank Ono's report dated February 13, 2017, he states "*Tree #995 is a 41" diameter Monterey pine ... The tree has a lean of over 17 degrees to the west.*" (page 1 of the report). Note that according to FEMA, a tree leaning more than 15 degrees from vertical may represent a hazard if the direction of the lean is toward a potential target. Generally, trees that lean more than 15 degrees vertical in this instance should be removed (FEMA).

Quotes from neighbors

- “My property is adjacent to the tree in question. I have lived in my house for 40 years and many times this tree has dropped pinecones and branches that have damaged our property and the vehicles of friends and family. I live in fear that this tree will fail when one of our grandchildren is under it.” Linda Pagnella
- “I live in fear of this tree falling, damaging property, causing personal injury or death; especially when it is windy, raining or both. This tree is no less a hazard than the tree that killed a visitor in the Butterfly Grove in 2004.” Jim Pagnella
- My home at 618 19th Street is directly across the street from the arc of possible impact from any partial or complete collapse of this giant damaged tree. By denying this removal the City has stepped in front of the liability risk from any damage or injuries resulting from the inevitable partial or complete collapse of this tree.” Gary Trimble
- “The anxiety of this tree falling is real and the wellbeing of our neighborhood is at stake.” Bill & Kirsten Janes
- “This tree needs to be removed to relieve the neighborhood of the stress and fear of it falling as well as relieving the owner of the property the liability it causes. We do not believe this is an outrageous, baseless or even selfish request. It is simply a matter of safety. This city does a fantastic job of protecting trees; we also need to protect the residents.” Mario & Michaila Bertolucci

“Memorial for woman killed after tree falls on car”





The tree is threatening

- The tree is clearly threatening several houses and property in the area.
- Per USDA and BLM *“The failure zone is an area at least 1-1/2 times the tree height beginning at the tree base then extending towards the direction of the lean and out 90 degrees on either side of the tree from the lean direction. “*

USDA “Field Guide for Danger Tree Identification and Response”

Based on this information, I calculated the impact zone of the tree falling



622 19th Street

Tree impact zone for approximately 70 ft. tree.



622 19th Street

Per OSHA guidelines, tree impact zone = 1.5 x height of tree.; $70 + 35 = 105$ ft.

Google



622 19th Street

Tree impact zone 80 ft tree

Google



622 19th Street

Per OSHA guidelines, tree impact zone = 1.5 x height of tree: 80+ 40 = 120ft.

Google

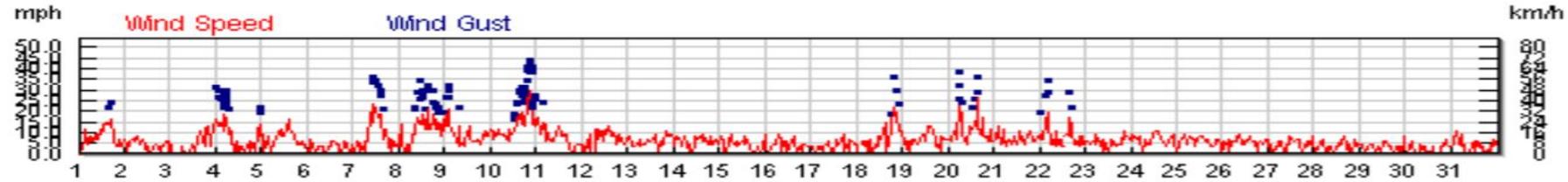
Questions about the appeal

- Appeal by non-home owner
 - There was a question about why we submitted the appeal instead of the homeowner, Tess Dawber. As you know, this process can get to be quite expensive and time consuming. When we began in January 2017, we offered to help share the cost burden as well as time commitment. Tess agreed to pay for and schedule the crane inspection, the certified arborist fees, as well as submit all applications to the City. We agreed that if the permit to remove was denied, we would cover the burden of the appeal expense and accompanying paperwork. Tess is in full support of our appeal, as you can see in her letter to the Beautification and Natural Resources Commission, dated April 5, 2017.

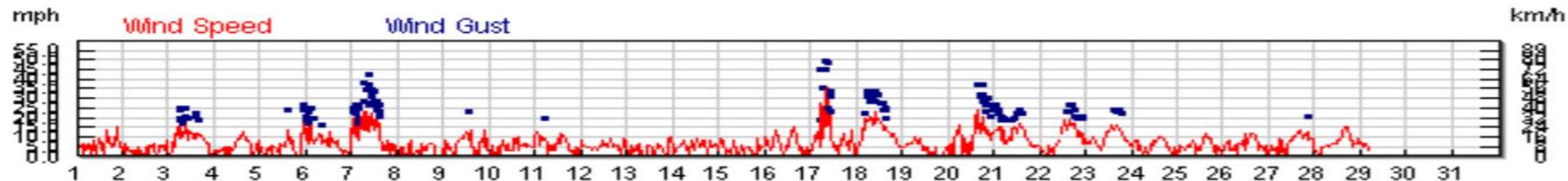
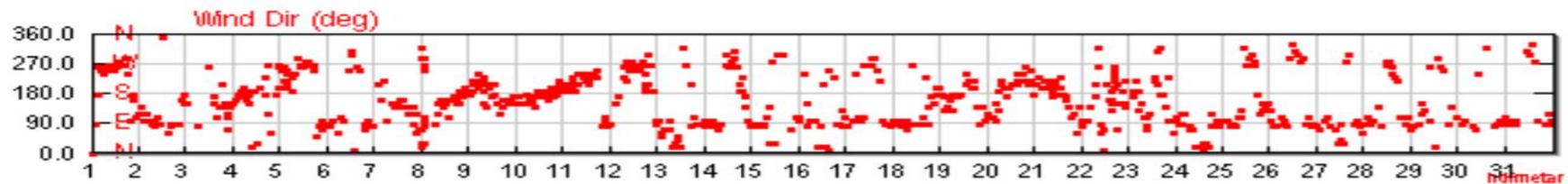
Questions about the appeal (cont)

- There were four certified arborists that inspected the tree, not 3 as stated in the meeting. Two were paid for or under an employment contract with the City and two were hired by the homeowner.
- The tree was incorrectly marked

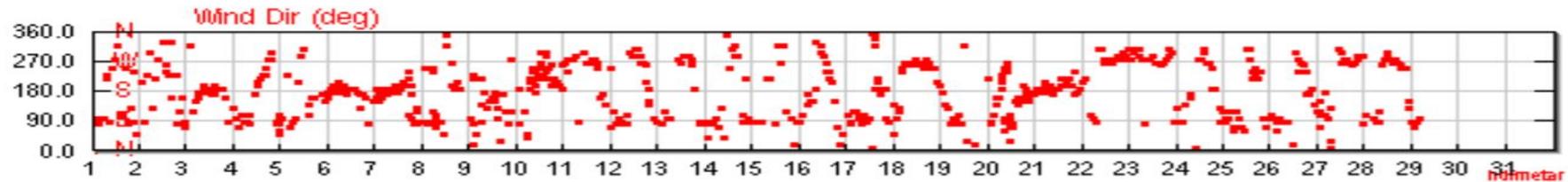
Weather in Pacific Grove



Jan
2017



Feb
2017



Why does this matter?

- See article from American Journal of Botany “Mechanical Stability of Trees under Dynamic Load”
- Essentially, the taller the tree, the higher the moment of inertia. The more concentrated the branches are at the top of the tree, the higher the moment of inertia.
- “Trees, especially large ones, need careful management in urban areas where failure can result in loss of life or damage to property”
- “Current methods of managing urban trees... based on visual assessments are insufficient”