

August 20th, 2024

Attn: Sally Bentz
Town of Atherton
91 Ashfield Rd.
Atherton, Ca

Re: Request for Tree Protection Zone Exception
New Residence
64 Winchester Dr
Atherton, Ca

Dear Sally,

We are requesting an exception to the tree protection zone for two trees, tree #5 Coast Live Oak tree due to the location of the new driveway and tree #43 Redwood Tree due to the location of new garage.

COASTA LIVE OAK #5- A new driveway is shown within the tree protection zone of the neighboring coast live oak tree #5. The driveway is shown at 3.33x the tree's diameter or at 10' from the tree. In order to construct the driveway with minimal impacts to the tree, It is recommended to construct the driveway using Biaxial Geogrid (Tensar BX-1100 or equivalent). Biaxial Geogrid can be used as a subgrade layer below aggregate for reinforcing the driveway. The Geogrid allows for pinning down of the surrounding soil and can be constructed over tree root zones. Using the Geogrid material will improve filtration, reduce the base thickness needed allow for compaction of underlying parent soil to be no greater than 85-90%, reduce incidents of tire ruts and soil migration, and relieve the roots from strain/compaction caused by vehicles. No more than 4" of excavation (mostly for rough grading and scarifying the soil) shall be allowed for the driveway construction when working within 30 feet (10x diameter) from tree #5. The existing grade and proposed driveway grade will need to be nearly identical to allow for this work to take place with minimal impacts to the tree. The civil engineer has placed the driveway slightly above the existing grade by 4" so that the driveway allows for a slightly thicker base section. After minor grading and scarifying of the soil has been completed (4"), the Geogrid material shall be laid directly on top of the soil, and the driveway shall be constructed entirely on top of the root zone.

Edging for the driveway construction is recommended to be supported by individual pins, as excavating for a continuous edge would nullify the use of Geogrid. By building the driveway using the techniques described above, the impact to tree #5 would be minor. Because the driveway work is to take place within the tree's tree protection zone, the work will require the direct supervision of the Project Arborist. Grading and scarifying the soil will need to be done by hand under the Project Arborist's supervision when working within 30 feet of tree #5. Any exposed roots during the driveway work will need to be kept moist by covering roots in layers of wetted-down burlap to help avoid root desiccation. Exposed roots will be required to be documented by the Project Arborist. Before the driveway work is to start, the tree protection zone is recommended to be deep water fertilized with 300 gallons of water mixed with Nutriroot. The top foot of the soil within the tree protection zone is recommended to be saturated.

A decomposed granite pathway is proposed to follow the edge of the driveway near oak tree #5. The pathway is recommended to be built with a minimal 4" cut into grade. This work will need to be done by hand under the project arborist supervision when working within 30' from the tree. No roots shall be cut for the pathway work. Any root encountered must be retained within the granite itself or base rock layer.

Coast live oak tree #5 is in fair condition. 24% of the tree's root zone will be impacted by the proposed work. Coast live oak trees have a good tolerance to construction impacts, as seen in the Matheny and Clark relative tree tolerance chart. The tree is expected to continue to thrive in the landscape. Impacts will be mitigated through deep water fertilizing the tree with Nutriroot. See arborist report page #12,13 and 14for more information

REDWOOD TREE #43- The proposed garage is located at 7x the diameter of redwood tree #43 or at 14'8" from the tree. The tree in is in fair condition. Redwood trees have a good tolerance to construction impacts. The percentage of the tree's root zone impacted is very low. The entire proposed foundation, when within 10x the diameter of the tree (20.8'), is recommended/required to be excavated by hand in combination with hand tools such as an air knife, rotary hammer with clay spade attachment, or shovels, while under the direct supervision of the Project Arborist. See arborist report page #14 for more information

We thank the Commission for your consideration of our request.

Jon Jang, Architect

Jon Jang

September 25, 2024

Dr. Darren Phelan
60 Winchester Drive
Atherton, CA 94027

Re: 64 Winchester Drive

Dear Darren,

Thank you for taking the time to meet with me yesterday and walk the property at 64 Winchester Drive.

As discussed, our driveway and garage will be on the North (right side) of our property.

The oak tree that I identified which borders both our properties is proximate to the driveway. And the redwood tree that I identified on your property is proximate to the corner of the garage.

I appreciate your approval of the location of the driveway and the location of the garage as it relates to the two trees.

Can you please sign and date below so that I can submit this letter to the Town of Atherton.

Sincerely,

Mark & Liz Daschbach

cc: City of Atherton Planning Department

Acknowledged & Approved:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Darren Phelan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. Below the signature is a horizontal line.

Dr. Darren Phelan

Date: 9/25/24