

**FRONT YARD SET BACK TREE REMOVAL
REQUEST**

January 2017

Date: 12/12/16

Requested by: Peterson's Tree Care Inc.

Address: sbtree@hotmail.com

Location of Tree: Po Box 6092, Santa Barbara, CA 93160

Tree Species: *Pinus pinea* *Common Name:* Italian Stone Pine

Zoning/Setback: E – 2 SD/1/SD/2 25'/10' Setback

Reason for Removal: Fire and vehicle access is a concern (clearance).

Proposed Replacement: Yes No

Advisory Committee Recommendation: Conditionally Approve Removal: Deny Removal:

Staff Recommendation: Conditionally Approve Removal: Deny Removal:

Date Posted: 1/17/17

Comments: The Committee (4/1) recommends that the Commission approve removal on the condition the applicant plant a replacement tree with the potential to reach a minimum height of 25 feet in stature.

PHOTO INVENTORY





CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

City of Santa Barbara
Parks and Recreation Department
SETBACK TREE REMOVAL APPLICATION

DEC 12 2016
PARK & RECREATION
PARKS DIVISION

Mailing Address:
PO Box 1990
Santa Barbara, CA 93102
(805) 564-5433

Physical Address:
402 E. Ortega St.
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
FAX (805) 897-2524

PAID

Application Fee: \$50 (effective July 1, 2010)

DATE OF REQUEST:	12.7.2016
APPLICANT:	Peterson's Tree Care Inc.
OWNER NAME (IF DIFFERENT THAN APPLICANT):	Kathy McColm
MAILING/EMAIL ADDRESS:	P.O. Box 6092, SB CA 93160 sbtree@hotmail.com
DAYTIME PHONE:	805-683-4806
LOCATION OF TREE (ADDRESS):	379 Canon Dr, SB CA 93105
TREE SPECIES (IF KNOWN):	Italian Stone Pine
REASON(S) FOR REMOVAL:	Fire and Vehicle access is a concern (clearance)
TREES WILL BE REPLACED?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES WITH: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

- Property owner letter, indicating reasons for removal. Also include whether:
 - The removal application is associated with new development or redevelopment of property;
 - Status of development application, including whether the project is scheduled for review by the Single Family Design Board, Architectural Board of Review, or Historic Landmarks Commission;
 - The tree is a designated Specimen or Historic Tree or located on a property with a designated Historic Landmark;
- Photo of tree(s) proposed for removal
- Development plan/Landscape plan

December 20, 2017

Kathy McColm
Resident of Santa Barbara, 34 years
Owner of 379 Canon Drive, September, 2016
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Tree Removal Request

To Whom It May Concern,

I purchased the property at 379 Canon Drive in September, 2016. The house and the land had long been neglected, as the original owners were not present in at least the last decade, and renters were left to tend the property.

Upon taking ownership, my first priority was to focus on the landscape, much of it overgrown and ignored. Peterson Tree was hired to prune and care for the mature oak trees, and clear years of overgrowth.

Due to the drought, I chose to plant Japanese privet around the property; a slower growing, maximum 10 foot height, fire resistant hedge, that will not overcrowd the existing trees on the property.

My concern is a juvenile Italian Stone Pine that is planted in the center-front of the property. I have researched this species and have talked to several knowledgeable experts who recommend the removal of this tree due to its impact on the property as it matures.

In consideration of my request to remove this pine, I have noted the Municipal Code 15.4, section .080 perimeters for Tree Removal. This tree is not considered an historic or specimen tree (point A). The potential size of this pine is a height of 82 feet, with an expected umbrella spread reaching up to 30 feet, ultimately hovering high and heavy over both the street and my modest 1400 square foot, one level house (point B). Landscape experts I have talked to suggest this will directly threaten and sun starve the oak tree that lives in close proximity (point E). There are two other mature oak trees, as well as 6 fruit trees now existing on the property (point C). I speculate this pine, a species commonly sold as a living Christmas tree, was planted by renters, not the previous owner (point F).

Additionally, in 15.4, section .090, Findings for Removal, Canon Drive has many oak trees and other native trees, as well, but will not be overtly effected by the removal of this very young pine (point C). As noted in the previous paragraph, the future health of the adjacent mature oak tree, and nearby house are threatened by the fast, expansive growth of this pine, and potential for disease due to drought (point D).

Furthermore, City Fire Bureau Wildlife Specialist, Ann Marx, was on sight at the time Peterson Tree was tending to the oak trees, and confirmed that the pine had potential concern as it pertains to fire and suggested petitioning for its removal for the safety of the community (Section E). Ms. Marx offered to write a letter to confirm the Fire Bureau's support.

It is also notable that in 2014, the City of Santa Barbara had to remove 4 mature Italian Stone Pine trees planted along Anapamu Street due to bark beetles, which prey on these trees, especially in drought conditions. In 2016, one of the remaining Stone Pines on Anapamu the City was hoping to save, had a large, heavy limb fall due to disease, which fortunately did not damage parked cars or threaten pedestrians, but certainly had the potential to.

With the removal of this pine, it is my intention to plant two slow-grow small trees (Section 15.4, section .090, point C). Based on recommendations in the 2010 Santa Barbara Community Tree Planting Guide, I've found that the white flowering Chinese Fringe Tree and the Crepe Myrtle are both favorable choices in that the size will better suit the house, the neighborhood and the existing landscape on the property. Both are considered small trees, reaching maximum height of 20 to 25 feet, will not threaten the oak tree that lives toward the left side of the house, and bring ornamental enhancement to the neighborhood.

The Chinese Fringe Tree and Crepe Myrtle are tolerant of drought, once established, have few serious disease or pest problems, and have been noted as desirable choices by the City of Santa Barbara.

Thank you for your consideration of my request, and I welcome further dialogue, if desired.

Sincerely,

Kathy McColm





City of Santa Barbara

Fire Department

www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov

City of Santa Barbara
Street Tree Advisory Committee
620 Laguna Street
Santa Barbara Ca. 93101

Subject: Stone Pine located at 379 Canon Drive

Administration

Tel 805 965 5254

Fax 805 564 5730

Fire Prevention/ Public Education

Tel 805 564 5702

Fax 805 564 5715

121 W Carillo St
Santa Barbara, CA
93101

Dear Street Tree Advisory Committee,

The Fire Department recently inspected Canon Drive for road clearance issues related to fire access concerns along Canon Drive. During inspection of Canon Drive the property owner of 379 Canon Drive requested the Fire Department look at a medium size Stone Pine located within the front yard of the property. The owner is requesting to remove the Stone Pine.

The Fire Department recommends removal of the Stone Pine. The property is located just outside the City High Fire Hazard area and is not required to be removed at this time.

However, there is a considerable amount of vegetation throughout the neighborhood and quite a few oak trees located on the 379 Canon Drive property. A wind driven fire burning in this area has the potential to push down Canon Drive and threaten all homes along Canon Drive. The Stone Pine is medium in size and branches are currently within 8 feet of the structure. As this tree grows branches will grow into the roof and eaves, pine needle debris will accumulate on the roof and flammable pine needle debris will accumulate of the ground surrounding the structure. In addition, the tree is currently leaning towards the street area.

As the tree grows towards the street and the structure it has the potential to be in violation of Fire Department access requirements and general fire safety requirements per the Municipal Code in non-high fire hazard areas based on the 2013 California Fire Code as adopted by City Ordinance #5638.

Due to the potential fire hazard this trees poses in its current location we support the removal of the Stone Pine.

Sincerely,

Ann Marx, Wildland Fire Specialist

Santa Barbara City Fire Department
925 Chapala St
Santa Barbara, Ca. 93101
(805) 564-5702 Fax (805) 564 5715

amarx@santabarbaraca.gov