



Date: February 24, 2022

To: Barbara Palacios, Senior Engineer
 Stephen Kech, Public Communications Officer
 Nina Negusse, Public Information Officer

From: Nancy L. Hom, Hearing Officer / Deputy Chief Financial Officer

Subject: Decision, Public Hearing of Tree Removal on Clement Street.

On February 10, 2022 at 11:02 a.m., as required by Section 806 of the Public Works Code, SFPUC held a public hearing due to an objection related to a tree removal at 39th Avenue and Clement Street. In attendance from the General Public were Lee Heidhues and Elizabeth Heidhues, Josh Klipp, and John Nulty. SFPUC staff in attendance were myself, Steve Kech, Public Relations Officer; Nina Negusse, Public Information Officer; and Barbara Palacios, Senior Engineer. The meeting was conducted remotely (Zoom) due to COVID-19 public health considerations.

Ms. Palacios presented details on the project at the tree removal site, inclusive of project context and scope of work. She also noted SFPUC would pay an in-lieu fee to the Department of Public Works (DPW) to plant a replacement tree and the location would be determined at a future date.

Mr. and Ms. Heidhues raised concerns that removal of the tree would exacerbate pollution, de-beautify the area, create loss of a natural forest canopy, and asked why that specific location. They also requested collaboration between SFPUC and DPW's Bureau of Urban Forestry. Ms. Palacios noted a work-around solution was not possible due to the existing location of a booster pump station and infrastructure. The Hearing Officer emphasized the SFPUC has committed to replacing the tree in a yet to be determined location, by paying the in-lieu tree replacement fee to DPW. The Heidhues, Mr. Klipp and Mr. Nulty encouraged further discussions to find an alternative solution to the existing project work that required removal of the tree.

Meeting adjourned at 11:48 a.m.

Hearing Officer Decision:

As Hearing Officer, I concur for SFPUC to remove the tree identified at 39th Avenue and Clement Street. This decision is based on the presentations, concerns and rebuttals made by SFPUC and participants from the General Public.

London N. Breed
 Mayor

Anson Moran
 President

Newsha Ajami
 Vice President

Sophie Maxwell
 Commissioner

Tim Paulson
 Commissioner

Dennis J. Herrera
 General Manager

