

**877 W. Fremont Ave**  
Sunnyvale, CA 94087



## Inspection Summary

### INSPECTION

Date of inspection: November 7, 2022

Inspector: Amber Graves Alvares

Also present: Sandeep Vangari, Wood Rodgers  
Katia Kamangar, Kamangar Consulting  
Joseph Gonsalves, City of Sunnyvale  
Aastha Vashist, City of Sunnyvale

### DEVELOPMENT STAGE

- Pre-construction
- Tree care
- Trenching
- Demolition/stripping
- Rough grading
- Streets/utility/drainage
- Building construction
- Fine grading/landscaping
- Pad grading

The project team met to re-evaluate retention of select trees at the subject site. City of Sunnyvale staff requested that disposition of the mature Monterey pines (*Pinus radiata*) and Canary Island pines (*Pinus canariensis*) be re-evaluated with the intent of retaining the trees. This memo responds to the City's request.

### Background

Four mature Canary Island pines and three mature Monterey pines were present throughout the property. The Canary Island pines were in good (#64) to fair (#13, 99, 108) condition. Tree crowns had been reduced in size. The Canary Island pines were located in planters of varying size.

The Monterey pines were in fair (#89, 96) and poor (#93) condition. The Monterey pines were located in planters close to buildings and in parking lots. The crown of Monterey pines #93 and 96 had been reduced, and both had some degree of dieback. Monterey pine #87 had been removed between the submission of the Preliminary Arborist Report in 2021 and the time of my inspection.

During the site walk, representatives from the City of Sunnyvale verbally approved the removal of Canary Island pines #13 and 99. A tree removal permit was recently approved for Monterey pine #89. Disposition of Canary Island pines #64 and 108 and Monterey pines #93 and 96 remains unresolved.



**Photo 1.** (left) Monterey pine #93 had some dieback and a reduced crown. Asphalt was present within 1 foot of the base of the tree.



**Photo 2.** (right) Monterey pine #96 was in the same condition as #93 and was immediately adjacent to the parking lot.

#### **Assessment of Retention Potential**

I reviewed the Proposed Site Plan Overlay and Typical Cross Sections Plans (Wood Rodgers, October 19, 2022).

Canary Island pines #64 and 108 are located inside the footprint of a roadway and building, respectively. These trees cannot be preserved without substantial revision of the project plans.

Monterey pines #93 and 96 will also experience significant impacts from construction. Grade near the pines will be raised approximately 2.5 feet at the base of the pines and up to 4.5 feet within 10 feet of the base of the pines. Pavement demolition and retaining wall and fence installation will take place approximately 3 to 4 feet from the base of each tree. The crown of Monterey pine #93 would need to be significantly reduced to accommodate the construction of the planned three-story building. The result of proposed plans will have the Monterey pines in a well, 2.5 to 4.5 feet below planned finish grade. This is not a tenable situation. Monterey pine is intolerant of construction activity. The population of this species throughout the San Francisco Bay Area has been decimated by several insect pests and a severe disease. There is no reason to expect the trees will survive construction, let alone be assets to the new project.

Based on my review of the trees and proposed plans, I recommend that all four pines be removed.

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