

Urban Forestry Council Landmark Tree Committee Report

Submitted by Landmark Tree Committee Chair Dan Kida on October 17, 2016

Committee members present at the October 6, 2016 Landmark Tree Ad Hoc Committee meeting:

Dan Kida, Carla Short, Rose Hillson (Note: Members Jon Swae and Malcolm Hillan were excused but did provide evaluations for ad hoc meeting.)

Street address: 4 Montclair Terrace; Assessor's block #0068, lot 011.

Common name: Coast Redwood

Scientific name: *Sequoia sempervirens*

Summary:

The Committee recommends that the Urban Forestry Council support this nomination for Landmark Tree Status. The nomination was supported by a Committee vote of 3-0.

Note: Landmark trees are not required to meet all criteria. The Committee supported this nomination based on the tree's rarity, physical attributes, and environmental benefits. The report below provides information on the criteria that the Landmark Tree Committee finds that the tree fulfills.

Rarity

Member evaluations stated 3 members found this criterion is partially met, 1 member found this criterion is met, and 1 found it is not met. Upon discussion, the Committee found the tree to be uncommon but not rare. Members noted that Coast Redwoods can be found in Bay Area but are unique to West Coast of California, Southern Oregon. Tree has uncommon size for its species in SF city limits.

Physical Attributes

Member evaluations stated 3 members found this criterion is met and 2 members found the criterion is partially met. Upon discussion, the Committee found that the tree is not significantly aged or advanced for species. Members noted distinguished form and good health of tree. Member Short mentioned that tree does not appear to be showing any negative impact from drought.

Tree was planted in 1962 or 1963, making it about 54 years old. Mr. Leggett's report lists trees as 96' height and DBH of 64". Council members generally agree with these measurements.

Historical

Member evaluations stated 2 members found that this criterion is partially met, 2 found it is not met, and 1 found it is met. Upon discussion, the Committee consensus is that tree has weak historical attributes, though members present at ad hoc meeting were moved by the personal history associated with tree. There is a NY Times article of note featuring Ms Jaye and her company, *Meri Jaye and Associates*, who specialized in maritime design.

Environmental

Member evaluations stated 3 members found that this criterion is met and 2 found it is not met. Tree is adjacent to highly visible, heavy traffic area. This section of Lombard Street is one of most popular tourist destinations in San Francisco. Members did not identify a significant wildlife presence, though birds could be heard in area. Likely that tree supports some level of wildlife. Tree provides wind and sound barrier within property but little to adjacent properties or neighborhood in general.

Cultural

Member evaluations stated 3 members found that this criterion is partially met and 2 found that the criterion is met. Tree has received modest support from neighbors, some present at ad hoc meeting.

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Limited opposition during council meeting, though opposition has started to grow and become more aggressive.

Council members cited trees' attributes as a native species and contribution to neighborhood character. Tree is a prominent landmark on one of the most iconic locations of San Francisco. Tree can be seen in many commercial photographs of Lombard Street.