



Urban Forestry Council Landmark Tree Committee Report

Submitted by Landmark Tree Committee Chair, Mike Sullivan on December 10, 2021

Committee members present at the November 04, 2021, Landmark Tree Ad Hoc Committee meeting: Damon Spigelman, Pam Nagle, Morgan Vaisset-Fauvel and Michael Sullivan

Address of nominated tree: 20th Street at Noe Street along the staircase in the public ROW.

Common name: Cork oak

Scientific name: *Quercus suber*

Summary

The Landmark Tree Committee recommends that the Urban Forestry Council approve this nomination and make the determination that this tree qualifies for landmark tree status. The nomination was supported by a vote of 4-0. The Committee supported this nomination based on the tree's physical attributes, environmental benefits and cultural and neighborhood value. The report below summarizes the Committee's discussion and criteria used in its decision.

Rarity

The tree is not particularly rare in San Francisco, but the size combined with the superior form and health is rare.

Physical Attributes

The characteristics that committee members stressed were the large size of the cork oak (its spreading crown), that it could be the largest in the city, its age, its aesthetically and structurally sound form, and its overall vigor and health.

Historical

The community reports that "the cork oak tree has been integral to the 20th Street/Hartford Street neighborhood and was witness to nearby community events for nearly 75 years."

Environmental

The community has identified numerous birds including ruby throated hummingbird, white crown sparrow, chestnut-backed chickadee, dark-eyed junco, barn owl, American robin, as well as blue belly lizard (western fence lizard).

Cultural

The local community submitted a petition with 50 signatures in support of recommending the tree for Landmark status. The tree anchors a well-established ornamental garden that is tended by the neighborhood.