

**FRONT YARD SET BACK TREE REMOVAL
REQUEST**

March 2024

Date: 2/22/2024.

Requested by: Karen Christman with Arbor Services, Inc. karen@arborservices.net

Address: PO Box 1201, Santa Barbara, CA 93116

Location of Tree: 335 Rosario Drive, Santa Barbara, CA 93110

Tree Species: *Ulmus parvifolia*, *Common Name:* Chinese Elm

Zoning/Setback: R-2 15'

Reason for Removal: Tree has poor structural condition due to a series of large limb failures within the past year and elevated failure risk potential in high wind events. It is in close proximity to the house and overhangs the public sidewalk, roadway, and roof.

Proposed Replacement: Yes ☒ w/ a designated street tree in parkway. No ☐

Advisory Committee Recommendation: Approve Removal: ☐ Deny Removal: ☒ N/A ☐

Staff Recommendation: Approve Removal: ☐ Deny Removal: ☐ N/A ☒

Date Posted: 3/12/24.

Comments: The Committee recommends (5/0) that the Commission deny the removal.

PHOTO INVENTORY



Tree Removal Application

APPLICANT/OWNER DETAILS

<input type="text" value="Arbor Services, Inc"/>		<input type="text" value="Karen Christman @"/>	
YOUR LAST NAME		YOUR FIRST NAME	
<input type="text" value="Susie and Bob Nelson"/>			
OWNER'S FULL NAME (IF YOU ARE NOT THE OWNER)			
<input type="text" value="PO BOX 1201"/>			
YOUR MAILING ADDRESS			
<input type="text" value="Goleta"/>	<input type="text" value="CA"/>	<input type="text" value="93116"/>	
CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	
<input type="text" value="805.331.9661"/>	<input type="text" value="Karen@arborservices.net"/>		
DAYTIME PHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS		

TREE INFORMATION

TYPE OF TREE: **SETBACK TREE(S)** ☒ **STREET TREE(S)** ☐

<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="text" value="335 Rosario Drive, Santa Barbara"/>
NUMBER OF TREES	LOCATION OF TREE(S) – please be sure to indicate the property address where the trees are located

<input type="text" value="Ulmus parvifolia (Chinese Elm)"/>
SPECIES OF TREE(S), IF KNOWN

REASONS FOR REMOVAL (TELL US WHY YOU WANT TO REMOVE THE TREE[S]). PLEASE INCLUDE:

- Whether or not 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
- Whether or not the tree is a designated Specimen or Historic Tree or located on a property with a designated Historic Landmark

If you feel you need more space to outline the goals of your request, please feel free to attach a supplemental letter when you submit this form.

see attached arborist letter

WILL YOU REPLACE THE TREE(S)? YES ☒ NO ☐

IF YES, WHAT WILL YOU REPLACE THE TREE(S) WITH?

<input type="text" value="Designated street tree in parkway"/>
--





February 22, 2024

Street Tree Advisory Committee
Attn: Nathan Slack
Parks & Recreation Division
City of Santa Barbara

RE: 335 Rosario Drive—Set Back Tree Removal Request

Dear STAC members,

On behalf of my clients, Susie and Bob Nelson, I would like to request the removal of one Chinese Elm (*Ulmus parvifolia*) located within the setback of 335 Rosario Drive, Santa Barbara. The subject tree has poor structural condition due to a series of large limb failures within the past year and an elevated failure risk potential in high wind events. It is in close proximity to the house and overhangs the public sidewalk, roadway and roof.

The subject tree has received regular maintenance by Arbor Services, Inc. since 2012. Despite proactive pruning measures according to ISA recommended standards and City of Santa Barbara setback tree pruning ordinances, limb failure has been a consistent safety issue. Documented failure events for this tree occurred in 2021, 2013, 2019, and three times in 2023 (September October and November) during elevated wind events.

Extensive cankering from Anthracnose in the trunks and limbs contributed to these failures. Chinese Elm Anthracnose is considered one of the most serious of Anthracnose diseases and is difficult to control, according to UC Extension and my 25 plus years of experience. Moisture and rainfall spread the fungal spores, thus it is common within our coastal community.

A similar pattern can be seen with the 50 plus mature Chinese Elm street tree inventory within the Rhoads Avenue neighborhood which are maintained by the County of Santa Barbara. Limb loss is frequent especially in high wind events. Several have been removed and replaced.

In summary, the subject Chinese Elm is in poor condition due to major structural limb loss and Antracnose infection. A “heavy topping” may lower future failure potential, but would be unsightly and detrimental to tree health. Removal and replacement with a new tree in the parkway (designated species) is recommended for public and occupant safety. This removal would also meet the growing demand from the homeowner insurance industry to create 8 to 10 feet of clearance from structures.

If you have any additional questions or needs regarding this permit application, please contact me. I appreciate your review of this request.

Sincerely,

Karen Christman
Certified Arborist

Attachments: photos, application, \$125 application fee