

From: [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)
To: [BOS-Supervisors](#)
Cc: [Calvillo, Angela \(BOS\)](#); [Somera, Alisa \(BOS\)](#); [Ng, Wilson \(BOS\)](#); [Laxamana, Junko \(BOS\)](#); [Mchugh, Eileen \(BOS\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: FW: SFMTA: Tree removal hearing 12-2-2021
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 12:56:50 PM

From: San Francisco Tree Campaign <sftreecampaign@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 2, 2021 1:46 PM
To: Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>
Subject: SFMTA: Tree removal hearing 12-2-2021

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Attention Supervisors and tree-watchers:

Here we go again with SFMTA! This proposal is to remove 18 trees along 16th St., from Bryant to Guerrero streets that manage to be in the way of SFMTA's plans to fix up the street for the Muni buses. (Let me guess: to make them a minute faster -- well, at least sometimes, depending.) Our experience with SFMTA is that objections to their proposals are heard by their own hearing "officers" and any appeal of this decision is also heard by one of their Department heads. Slam-dunk! End of subject.

Something needs to be done about the excessive concentration of control in this one agency, this one authority: SFMTA.

John Nulty
District 8
<https://sanfranciscotreecampaign.blogspot.com>

From: [Kathleen Courtney](#)
To: [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [PrestonStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Short, Carla \(DPW\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#); [Jamie Cherry](#); [Paul Burke](#); [Michele Sudduth](#); [Chris Bigelow](#); [John Borruso](#); [Dawn Mucha](#); [Robyn Tucker](#)
Subject: BOS Land Use Committee: 12-6-21 Item #2 - 210836 Public Works Code - Tree Removal on Private Property
Date: Monday, December 6, 2021 1:09:04 PM
Importance: High

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Greetings Supervisors.

The Russian Hill Community Association (RHCA) has had the great good fortune to work with DPW Interim Director Carla Short when she was the City's Urban Forester. She worked with us on the trimming, planting and replacing trees on the Hyde Street Corridor.

Therefore it was with dismay that we discovered the proposed expansion of the DPW's jurisdiction to remove trees on private property. We agree that hazardous street trees should be removed, after the public's right to object. But the language dealing with "tree on private property" needs to either be removed or modified.

Thank you for your consideration. Kathleen

Kathleen Courtney
Chair, Housing & Zoning Committee
Russian Hill Community Association
kcourtney@rhcasf.com and kcourtney@xdm.com
(c) 510-928-8243

From: [Paul Burke](#)
To: [Kathleen Courtney](#)
Cc: [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [PrestonStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#); [Short, Carla \(DPW\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#); [Jamie Cherry](#); [Michele Sudduth](#); [Chris Bigelow](#); [John Borruso](#); [Dawn Mucha](#); [Robyn Tucker](#)
Subject: Re: BOS Land Use Committee: 12-6-21 Item #2 - 210836 Public Works Code - Tree Removal on Private Property
Date: Tuesday, December 7, 2021 5:16:46 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hi Kathleen -

Thank you for the news about DPW.

This city's government is hopelessly broken.

The DPW can't even maintain the jurisdiction they have; yet they want to expand their control and further inflict their corruption and incompetence on private property owners. Absolutely incredible.

As I was walking down Van Ness the other day; I was thinking that the people in city government are not stupid, but rather like hyenas and vultures. Stripping the last bits of meat from the putrified corpse of a once vibrant city.

Hope you have a happy and healthy holiday.

Paul Burke

On Monday, December 6, 2021, Kathleen Courtney <kcourtney@xdm.com> wrote:

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Kathleen Courtney

Chair, Housing & Zoning Committee

Russian Hill Community Association

kcourtney@rhcasf.com and kcourtney@xdm.com

(c) 510-928-8243

LUTC Hearing — Trees

Dec 6, 2021 1:30pm



Lance Carnes
SaveSFtrees.org

Trees posted “24-hour” Emergency Removal in District 2 Still in place 15--17 months later

1621 Vallejo - posted
9/23/20



dead fuf tree. too small to post.

2200 Franklin - posted 7/27/20



dead



Emergency Tree Removal Notice

Aviso de Corte de Árbol de Emergencia
緊急樹木移除通知

The Director of Public Works has determined that this tree is an immediate public safety hazard and has approved it for EMERGENCY REMOVAL.

Location: 150 SANTA PAULA AVE (HCC &) # of trees: one (1)

Reason(s) for removal:

- Dead, dangerous, or likely to fall (immediate structural hazard)
- Obstructing or damaging a street, sidewalk, or other existing infrastructure
- Tree has serious disease that threatens the health of other trees
- Interfering with vehicular or pedestrian traffic

Poses other significant hazard: **STRUCTURALLY WEAKENED, repeated branch failures. Structure remaining unbalanced. Failure at main UNION.**

Will tree be replaced?

- Yes, meets all planting guidelines
- Yes, unless conflicting underground utilities found
- No because:
 - Inadequate spacing between adjacent trees
 - Conflict with underground utilities identified
 - Other: **too close to intersection**

This is a 24-Hour Emergency Removal Notification. This notice cannot be protested.

For more information / Para más información / 想要查詢更多信息

Bureau of Urban Forestry

49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1000, San Francisco, CA 94103

(628) 652-TREE (8733), urbanforestry@sfdpw.org, sfpublishworks.org/tree-removal-notification




In accordance with Public Works Code, Article 16, Section 806, providing for the care and maintenance of San Francisco's street trees, the Department shall post a notice on the affected tree(s) for Emergency Removal. Each tree that is removed will be replaced barring conflicts with any existing infrastructure (street lights, traffic lights, stop signs, bus stops, etc.), conflicts with any underground utilities or lack of compliance with Public Works Director's Planting Order 187,246, as well as with the Minimum Guidelines for Planting Street Trees.

Emergency Tree Removal Notice

- No date on the notice
- 2 / 3 of all removal notices are “24-hour Emergency” notices
- “This is a 24-Hour Emergency Removal Notification”
“This notice cannot be protested.”

In other words **BUF doesn't want to have a removal hearing for the tree.**

The public is disenfranchised from protesting 24hr tree removals.



Supervisors, please halt the posting of these 24-hour Emergency Removal Notices, which serve as a backdoor way of removing 15- and 30-day protest periods and avoid removal hearings.