County of Santa Clara

Department of Planning and Development

County Government Center, East Wing, 7th Floor 70 West Hedding Street San Jose, CA 95110 Phone: (408) 299-5700 www.sccplandev.org



December 4, 2024

Sent via email

16231 Matilija, LLC c/o Mark Smith 16359 Belmont Court Monte Sereno, CA 95030 <u>hit.the.mark.smith@gmail.com</u>

FILE NUMBER:	PLN24-211
SUBJECT:	Tree Removal Permit for the Removal of One Oak Tree
SITE LOCATION:	16231 Matilija Dr, Los Gatos (APN 510-30-009)
DATE RECEIVED:	November 5, 2024

Dear Mark,

The comments below are not incomplete items and are not required to deem the application complete for processing. However, the information highlights concerns Planning Staff have regarding the project meeting County requirements and standards. The information in this section is informational only and can be discussed further if desired with County Staff.

Arborist Recommendation for Replacement Trees

The submitted application included an arborist report by Miguel Ulloa, Certified Arborist (WE-15353A) that recommended the one, 20-inch oak tree-in-question to be removed and replaced by one or more trees. Pursuant to the *Santa Clara County Guidelines for Tree Protection and Preservation for Land Use Application*, the required replacement of the one 20-inch tree is four 15-gallon oak trees or three 24-inch oak box trees. Prior to the resubmittal, submit the tree replacement plan to the project arborist to evaluate whether the proposed planting location(s) will support the life and longevity of the trees. This evaluation may be provided in an addendum to the arborist report.

If the existing conditions of the property are not adequate for the replanting of four 15-gallon oak trees or three 24-inch oak box trees, then the arborist report addendum should additionally evaluate why the property cannot retain the required number of replacement trees, and propose a number of replacement trees that the site can reasonably accommodate for the continued health of the trees.

Any of the above comments may be discussed with staff by contacting David Horwitz at (408) 299-5795 or <u>david.horwitz@pln.sccgov.org</u>.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by: Drawin Horwitz 7066FCE5977A4A3... David Horwitz Assistant Planner

cc: Samuel Gutierrez, Principal Planner Joanna Wilk, Principal Planner Parya Seif, Associate Planner