



## CITY OF PLEASANT HILL

PHONE (925) 671-5209  
FAX (925) 682-9327

[www.ci.pleasant-hill.ca.us](http://www.ci.pleasant-hill.ca.us)

100 Gregory Lane  
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

### **ARBORIST REPORT INFORMATION** **FOR PROJECTS OTHER THAN SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL**

The purpose of an arborist report is to provide an assessment of the existing condition of trees on a project site, identify construction and project impacts to trees on a proposed site, identify mitigation measures for impacts in conformance with City requirements and address protective measures to ensure the health and protection of trees in a construction environment. This report must be prepared by a certified arborist, licensed landscape architect, or other licensed professional approved by the city. The report may be subject to peer review at the applicant's expense. The submittal information is described in detail below.

#### **1. ARBORIST REPORT SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS**

**Contact Information:** In order to correspond efficiently, please provide company name, address, telephone and fax number, and e-mail if applicable

**Size:** All trees over 4 inches diameter (measure at 24 inches above grade) shall be included in the report.

**In the Field Tree Identification:** Trees included in the survey shall be tagged in the field with metal tree tags and shown on the plan with the corresponding number, including trees located offsite within 20 feet of property lines and trees on or off-site affected by road improvements and/or off-site utilities. Indicate that trees proposed for removal must be marked in the field with red paint or flags and inspected by the City prior to removal.

**Location:**

- a. If trees are to be preserved, show the best locations for the installation of protective fencing.
- b. If trees are to be relocated, show the proposed location for such trees, along with a statement addressing the protection and storage of trees prior to replanting and how they will be maintained after construction.

**Existing Tree Specifications:** Include a table indicating:

- a. Total number of trees on site
- b. Total number of trees to be removed/relocated/preserved
- c. Species of trees
- d. Size of tree (diameter at 24 inches above grade and height)
- e. Highlight protected trees.
- f. Health, condition, and suitability for retention (rated individually and/or as a stand)

**Tree Impact:** Provide an analysis of development impacts on those trees designated for retention and include comments on suitable protection measures.

**Tree Replacement Information:** Species, number, and proposed siting of replacement trees required to be planted.

**Site Plan Presentation:**

- a. Tree survey shall be superimposed over the project site plan (or grading plan if applicable) and completed in the same scale as the submitted site plan.
- b. Accurately show the drip line of all existing trees.
- c. Show existing and proposed structures and improvements on the plan.
- d. Show existing grades with contour lines at two (2) foot intervals or spot grade at the base of each tree.
- e. Use symbols on the plan to indicate trees to be removed, preserved, and relocated.
- f. Include a north arrow, the scale and a bar scale on all plans.

**Submittal Requirements:** All plans shall be folded into packets with each packet containing one copy of each plan. The packets should be no larger than 9" x 11" in size.

**2. ADDITIONAL ARBORIST REPORT SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS - (MAJOR PROJECTS)**

In addition to the previous requirements, major projects shall include the following on the submittal plans:

**Construction Activity:** Staging, material storage, and parking areas away from trees.

**Utility Location:** Location of utilities..

**Stormwater and Runoff Management:** Location of area for storm drain inlets and lines. Show any drainage alterations, such as interruption of historic seasonal drainage to a tree, or creation of irrigation runoff drainage to trees that were formerly dry.

**Grading:** Temporary grades during construction (keyways, or slope layback for wall construction) and finished grades with contour lines at two foot (2') intervals.

**Construction Features:**

- Location and height of any retaining walls required to control grades near trees.
- Construction details, such as pavement sections, footing details for the retaining walls, building foundation/supports under trees.

**Landscape Plans:** Full review of planting plans, lighting, and irrigation from landscape architect.

**Tree Protection:** Provide protection details for trees to be retained.

**Location:** Provide precise location of temporary protective fencing around Tree Protection Zones (TPZ),

which should be a 5 foot minimum height chain link??? No plastic? fence, on driven posts or otherwise secured to the ground to discourage casual movement. As an alternative on some projects, the location for such fencing may be determined with contractor on site, at the preconstruction meeting.

***Tree Health Management:*** Potential maintenance requirements could include, but not be limited to:

- a. Mulch over root zones.
- b. Management of soil moisture in soil adjacent to trenches or soil cuts for retaining walls.
- c. Soil protection specification such as plating or other cover to protect root zones if vehicle traffic is unavoidable.
- d. Irrigation if necessary.

### **3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the arborist work with the applicant, as well as the entire design/construction team, to assure all details of the design are consistent, as much as possible, with retention of tree roots, root habitat and branches. It is within the realm of the arborist to identify construction phase oversight; the arborist needs to be available at specified construction phase times to ensure implementation of all recommendations.

# SAMPLE ARBORIST REPORT

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Report Summary (shall include Arborist Stamp of certification)

Table 1 – Summary of Tree Specie

Table 2 – Evaluation Factors for Tree Condition

Table 3 – Tree Condition Chart

Table 4 – Project Impact & Preserved Trees

Table 5 – Tree Preservation & Mitigation Measures

Tree Location Map

(All reports shall consider the Arborist Report Submittal Requirements, as noted in the previous pages)

### Summary of Arborist Report (Sample)

Provide a summary of the arborist recommendations, focusing on trees that are proposed to be removed.



**TABLE 2: EVALUATION FACTORS FOR DETERMINING TREE CONDITION (SAMPLE)**

To be used with TABLE 3.

<b>STRUCTURE</b>	
<b>Score</b>	<b>Description</b>
1 – Very Poor	Trunk has large pockets of decay, is bifurcated or has a severe lean. Limbs or branches are poorly attached or dead. Possible hazard.
2 – Poor	Limbs or branches are poorly attached or developed. Canopy is not symmetrical. Trunk has a lean.
3 – Fair	Trunk, limb and branch development though flawed is typical of this species.
4 – Good	Trunk is well developed with well-attached limbs and branches have some flaws but hardly visible.
5 – Very Good	In addition to attributes of a good rating, the tree exhibits a well-developed root flare and a balanced canopy.

<b>HEALTH</b>	
<b>Score</b>	<b>Description</b>
1 – Very Poor	Tree displays severe dieback of branches, canopy is extremely sparse. May exhibit extensive pathogen infestation. Or tree is dead.
2 – Poor	Tree displays some dieback of branches, foliar canopy is sparse, little to no signs of new growth or vigor. Possible pathogen infestation.
3 – Fair	Tree is developing in a manner typical of others in the area. Canopy is full.
4 – Good	New growth is vigorous as evidenced by stem elongation and color. Canopy is dense.
5 – Very Good	In addition to attribute of a good rating, tree is displaying extremely vigorous growth and trunk displays a pattern of vigor cracks or lines.

<b>OVERALL</b>	
<b>Score</b>	<b>Description</b>
0 – DEAD	Tree has no green foliage and no green in sampled twigs.
1 – Very Poor	Tree is in severe decline or dead.
2 – Poor	Tree is in decline or lacks vigor.
3 – Fair	Tree is typical of species in the area.
4 – Good	Tree is vigorous with few visible flaws.
5 – Very Good	Tree is extremely vigorous.



**TABLE 4: PROJECT IMPACT TO PRESERVED TREES (SAMPLE)**

Tree No.	Project Impact to Preserved Trees (This includes construction impacts)	Survivability Potential (Rank from 1-5 and explain ranking or note likely-hood [percentage] that tree will survive over the long-term)
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		

**TABLE 5: TREE PRESERVATION & MITIGATION MEASURES (SAMPLE)**

Choose Appropriate table to use

	Tree Preservation & Mitigation Measures (Specific Tree)
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	

	Tree Preservation & Mitigation Measures (Generally)
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	