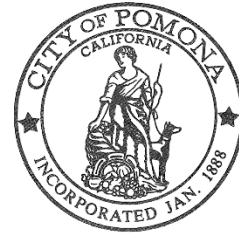


THE CITY OF POMONA

Development Services Department



November 14, 2023

Public Works Department
City of Pomona
505 South Garey Avenue
Pomona, CA 91766

Subject: Notice of Decision for File No. MINCOA-022832-2023

The Planning Division has reviewed your Minor Certificate of Appropriateness application to remove nine (9) American Sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*) trees. Upon review of the City's historic preservation ordinance and design guidelines, the project has been **approved**. The attached decision letter provides the analysis and basis for the decision. There is a 20-day appeal period from the date of approval.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (909) 620-2445 or email me at geoffrey.starns@pomonaca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G. Starns", is written over the typed name and title.

Geoffrey Starns, AICP, LEED AP
Historic Preservation Supervisor

Attachment: Decision letter



City of Pomona

MINOR CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS DECISION LETTER

FILE NO: MINCOA-022832-2023
A request for a Minor Certificate of Appropriateness to remove nine (9) American Sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*) trees

ADDRESS: **400 Block West Columbia Avenue**

APPLICANT: City of Pomona

PROJECT PLANNER: Geoffrey Starns, AICP, LEED AP, Historic Preservation Supervisor

DECISION: Approve File No. MINCOA-022832-2023.

BASIS FOR DECISION

Staff reviewed Pomona's Historic Preservation Ordinance (Section .5809-13), and the applicable design standards in Preserving Pomona – The Pomona Guide to Historic Preservation. In order to approve a Minor Certificate of Appropriateness Staff must determine that the findings contained in the City's Historic Preservation Ordinance can be made.

Staff met with the residents of the 400 block of West Columbia. During that meeting the residents expressed their concern regarding the health of three (3) American Sweetgum trees. Staff noticed potential issues at the base of the three (3) trees. Staff request the City arborist inspect all nine (9) remaining American Sweetgum trees on the block. The inspection by the City arborist found dieback in the canopy and structural problems and rot in the base of the trees. The conclusion by the City arborist was that these nine (9) trees were in serious danger of falling and that they should be removed as soon as possible. In discussion with the owners on the block, it was agreed that the trees should be removed prior to the decorating of the street for the annual Christmas on Columbia in order to reduce the hazard for the decorators and the large amount of people that will be visiting the block over the coming month. The trees were removed on Thursday, November 9, 2023.

Due to the imminent damage to the tree's roots to address hazardous conditions and the fact that they appear to be dying, removal of these trees meets the requirements of the tree preservation program to allow for the removal and replacement of these trees.

 X Tree(s) Dead, Diseased, or a hazard

Existing Tree(s)

Species: Nine (9) American Sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*)
Diameter: 15-24 Inches



City of Pomona

MINOR CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS DECISION LETTER

Replacement Tree(s)

Species: Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*)

Size: Minimum 15 Gallon tree

Replacement Methodology Tree(s)

Tree Type: 1:1

Heritage Tree: 1:1

Retroactive Permit: 1:1

Total Replacement Ratio: 1:1

The City will plant nine (9) Red Oak (*Quercus Rubra*) trees to replace the removed trees. The City will also plant additional trees to replace the trees previously removed from this block. Staff will work with the owners on the block to create a replanting schedule.



City of Pomona

MINOR CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS DECISION LETTER

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL:

The Planning Division has completed its review of MINCOA-022832-2023. The request has been **approved**. The approval is subject to the following conditions:

1. The approval shall be used in the manner requested and shall be in substantial conformity with the plans approved by the Planning Division on the date listed on this letter, in accordance with the revision and/or additional conditions specifically required in this approval.
2. The approval shall be valid for not more than one year from the date of Permit approval. The Planning Division may grant a time extension for one (1) year provided that a written request by the applicant is submitted to the Planning Division within thirty (30) days prior to the expiration date without a fee. If plans are submitted to the Building and Safety division within one year from the date of approval, the proposed action shall be considered active.
3. The applicant shall obtain any required permits from the Building & Safety Division and/or Department of Public Works.
4. In the event that the approved plans under this Minor Certificate of Appropriateness are inconsistent with the provisions of the California Code of Regulations, Title 24 and/or any other applicable uniform building codes, the applicable building codes shall prevail.
5. Any deviation from the approved plans, shall require modification to the Certificate of Appropriateness and require approval of the Planning Division and, if necessary, the Historic Preservation Commission.
6. All project conditions shall be imprinted on the title sheet of the construction drawings (if required). The approved set of plans shall be retained on-site for review by Building Inspectors during the course of construction.
7. Prior to Occupancy the Planning Division shall inspect the premises to ensure the Conditions of Approval have been met and that the project has been constructed per the approved plans.
8. Construction Activities:

Hours of construction activity shall be limited to:

7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday
(There shall be no construction allowed on Sunday or on any Federal or State Holiday)
9. Violation of any of the conditions of this permit shall be cause for revocation and termination of all rights thereunder.
10. The applicant shall obtain a building permit prior to any demolition or construction.



City of Pomona

MINOR CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS DECISION LETTER

11. All ground and roof-mounted equipment is required to be fully screened from view. Upon final inspection, Planning Division staff may require additional screening if warranted, through either landscaping, walls or a combination thereof.

12. The City shall replace the trees with nine (9) new Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*) trees. The replacement trees will be a minimum 15 Gallon in size. The City will also plant additional trees to replace the trees previously removed from this block and work with the owners on the block to create a replanting schedule.

APPEALS

This decision will become final on December 5, 2023, unless an appeal is filed with the Planning Division prior to this date. The applicant or any member of the public may file an appeal. There is no cost to file an appeal for a Minor Certificate of Appropriateness. Appeals may be filed with the contact listed in this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "George Starns".

George Starns, AICP, LEED AP BD+C
Historic Preservation Supervisor

November 14, 2023

Date