



BOARD OF APPEALS

Date Filed: July 24, 2020

City & County of San Francisco

REHEARING REQUEST

Zach Karnazes, Appellant(s) seeks a rehearing of **Appeal No. 19-099** which was decided on **July 15 2020**. This request for rehearing will be considered by the Board of Appeals on Wednesday, **August 12, 2020**, at 5:00 p.m. **via Zoom Meeting**.

Pursuant to Article V, § 9 of the Rules of the Board of Appeals, the **response** to the written request for rehearing must be submitted by the opposing party and/or Department no later than **10 days from the date of filing, on or before August 3, 2020** and must not exceed six (6) double-spaced pages in length, with unlimited exhibits. The brief shall be double-spaced with a minimum 12-point font size. An electronic copy should be emailed to: boardofappeals@sfgov.org, julie.rosenberg@sfgov.org and zkarnazes@gmail.com.

You or your representative **MUST** be present at the hearing. It is the general practice of the Board that only up to three minutes of testimony from each side will be allowed. Except in extraordinary cases, and to prevent manifest injustice, the Board may grant a Rehearing Request only upon a showing that new or different material facts or circumstances have arisen, where such facts or circumstances, if known at the time, could have affected the outcome of the original hearing.

Based on the evidence and testimony submitted, the Board will make a decision to either grant or deny your request. Four votes are necessary to grant a rehearing. If your request is denied, a rehearing will not be scheduled and the decision of the Board will become final. If your request is granted, a rehearing will be scheduled, the original decision of the Board will be set aside, and after the rehearing, a second decision will be made. Only one request for rehearing and one rehearing are permitted under the Rules of the Board.

Requestor or Agent (Circle One)

Signature: _____

Print Name: Filed Electronically by Zach Karnazes

Appeal No. 19-099

Appellant: Zachary Karnazes

Respondent: San Francisco Public Works Bureau Of Urban Forestry

Date Rehearing Filed: 07-24-20

Original Appeals Hearing Date: 07-15-20

Dear SF Board of Appeals, SF City Attorney, Mayor's Office on Disability, Neighbors, and Local Media:

Please see my request for a rehearing below (and attached).

I respectfully request a rehearing for the 07-15-2020 decision regarding the 24th Street Mission Ficus Tree destruction as proposed by the Department of Public Works (my Appeal number is 19-099).

I request a rehearing due to the following notes, some of which are related to the COVID-19 emergency health pandemic and should be taken very seriously.

Please review the internet links to articles, scientific studies, and video evidence that I have attached in the footnotes.

1. Accessibility issues for 7-15-20 meeting:

The myriad of technical and access difficulties for public attendance to the [7-15-20 meeting](#) (link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7QfykKVnxss>)

Many members of the public were not able to share what they desired, and there was an overall chaotic feeling of access issues during the hearing, with numerous questions and comments and technical difficulties expressing barriers to access.

Ms. Boler's public comment: (link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uy4UIUGs6UQ>)

was especially poignant, stating, *"remote hearings lack the attendance of people who would like to attend but cant do it technologically...people who don't have access to a computer, especially now with public buildings closed where they do use the computers."*^[1]

The technology has been helpful for me personally, but it still poses many barriers for others since the city has not yet figured out how to properly serve the public in this regard. I did my best to help answer questions since BOA staff were clearly overwhelmed and unable to meet the demand for accessibility info (see attached image of all the questions and access problems during the meeting).[2]

While I know Julie Rosenberg has done an excellent job for access overall, it is clear that a large scale public hearing like this was not fully accessible for the public to participate.

2. Accessibility issues for pre-appeals process:

The original community meeting and tree notifications posted were [completely inaccessible to me](#) (link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EZ7UnKwX1IA&list=PLEelAqZVuqxyt_IgW9v6pD5AlZ_BI3LL6&index=9) within the posting period as a person with disabilities.[3]

This is in clear violation of section 8.2000 of Title II of the American with Disabilities Act.[4] Seniors and people with disabilities such as myself did not have equal access to the full appeals process as outlined by the ADA. This is discrimination and these trees should be re-noticed in a fully accessible way, with a fully accessible public meeting prior to a BOA appeals process.

While DPW [finally provided an accessible page\[5\]](#), many months after legal letters and protests, it was not made available until long after the decision by DPW to cut down these trees. The appeals process should have begun anew when that page was made available to the disabled and seniors, but it did not. As such, we have been excluded from the full process made available to the non-disabled community.

3. COVID-19 related health concerns:

Given the scientific evidence[6] of [air pollution being linked closely with COVID-19 fatalities](#), and the extremely high statistics of COVID-19 infection in this neighborhood[7], it is extremely negligent of the public health to be deforesting this area of the city during an emergency health pandemic.

4. Untimely Nature of the Order and Decision:

DPW already has the authority to cut down trees that pose a risk for emergency limb failures without an appeals process. It is extremely unnecessary, dangerous, and negligent to the public health to be pushing this permit forward, against massive public opposition[8], during an emergency health pandemic. This permit (and DPW) could easily wait.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this rehearing request.

Additional statement on some of these issues can be viewed here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7QfykKVnxss>

Please note that I have drafted this using voice dictation software because of my disabilities, and there may be typos.

Sincerely,

– Zach Karnazes

24th St. Tree Appellant

Disability Advocate | Journalist | Artist

<https://zkarnazes.wixsite.com/access/save-sf-s-trees/>

[1] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uy4UIUGs6UQ&feature=youtu.be>

[2] <https://imgur.com/ikRgt4g>

[3] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EZ7UnKwX11A>

[4] <https://www.ada.gov/taman2.html>

[5] <http://sfpublicworks.org/tree-removal-notifications>

[6] *How Air Pollution Exacerbates COVID-19:*

<https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20200427-how-air-pollution-exacerbates-covid-19>

[6] <https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.04.15.20065995v2>

[6] "We conclude that the high level of pollution in Northern Italy should be considered an additional co-factor of the high level of lethality recorded in that area."

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0269749120320601?>

[7] <https://sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2020/07/02/coronavirus-covid-19-san-francisco-latino-risk/>

[8] <https://missionlocal.org/2019/06/mission-residents-oppose-figus-tree-removal/>

<https://sf.curbed.com/2020/1/6/21052096/sf-mission-24th-figus-trees-dpw-removal-appeals>

<https://missionlocal.org/2019/04/city-makes-its-case-for-axing-51-figus-trees-along-24th-street-corridor/>

<https://missionlocal.org/2020/01/final-figus-battle-decision-looming-to-axe-or-spare-24th-street-trees/>

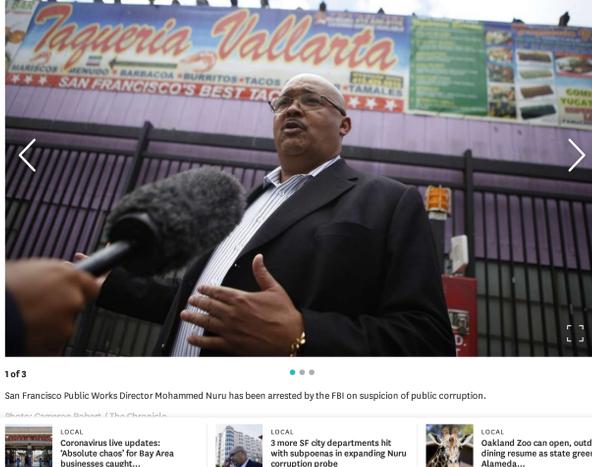
<https://sfist.com/2020/01/09/24th-streets-figus-trees-get-two-month-reprieve-as-neighbors-continue-a-battle-to-save-them/>

<https://savesftrees.org/3-tree-removal-cases-at-weds-june-2-5pm-board-of-appeals-meeting-remote/>

<https://blog.sfgate.com/inthemission/2020/01/09/figus-saga-continues-breakout-session-on-imperiled-24th-street-trees-ensues/>

Feds charge SF Public Works Director Mohammed Nuru with fraud

Evan Sernoffsky and Dominic Fracassa | Jan. 29, 2020 | Updated: Feb. 5, 2020 10:47 a.m.



San Francisco Public Works Director Mohammed Nuru has been arrested by the FBI on suspicion of public corruption.

f t e in p d

Bay Briefing

JULY 15, 2020

BART and Caltrain say they're on the brink, dangerous methane levels in the atmosphere, and S.F.'s big mail-ballot problem.

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Trends

- Tax Day
- Methane
- Giants
- SF Crime
- Wineries

California's Reopening

Gov. Gavin Newsom has outlined a four-phase process for opening the state from shelter-in-place orders. See what's open and what's still shut down, by county.

LOCAL Coronavirus live updates: 'Absolute chaos' for Bay Area businesses caught...

LOCAL 3 more SF city departments hit with subpoenas in expanding Nuru corruption probe

LOCAL Oakland Zoo can open, outdoor dining resumes as state greenlights Alameda...

LOCAL Oakland Zoo gets OK to reopen: 'This gives us a chance to survive'



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Bay Briefing: BART, Caltrain say they're on the brink

Mohammed Nuru and high-profile restaurateur Nick Bovis with fraud Tuesday following a public corruption probe. The schemes involved an envelope of cash, fraudulent city contracts, improper gifts from a Chinese developer and a \$2,000 bottle of wine, according to authorities.

FBI agents on Monday arrested Nuru, 57, and Bovis, 56, at their Bay Area homes before unsealing a federal complaint Tuesday for one charge of wire fraud. Nuru is separately charged with lying to the FBI after initially being arrested on Jan. 21 and being told to keep quiet about the investigation.

"The complaint alleges corruption pouring into San Francisco from around the world," said David Anderson, U.S. attorney for the Northern District of California, at a news conference Tuesday.

Anderson accused Nuru of "corruption, bribery kickbacks and side deals by one of San Francisco's highest-ranking public employees."

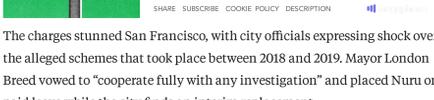


David Anderson, U.S. attorney for the Northern District of California, discusses the charges against S.F. Public Works chief Mohammed Nuru and restaurateur Nick Bovis.

Both men face up to 20 years in prison on the fraud charge. They were arraigned Tuesday in federal court in San Francisco.

"Mohammed Nuru ... has been a dedicated public servant in San Francisco for decades. Mr. Nuru welcomes and looks forward to addressing these charges in court," Nuru's attorney, Ismail Ramsey, said in an email.

Bovis' attorney did not return phone calls.



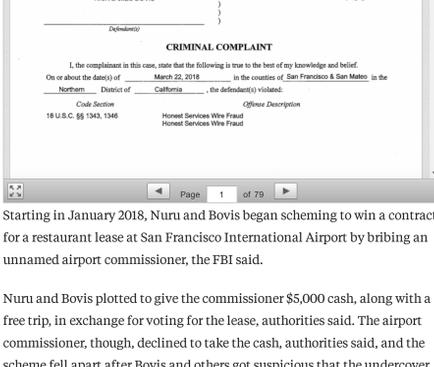
The charges stunned San Francisco, with city officials expressing shock over the alleged schemes that took place between 2018 and 2019. Mayor London Breed vowed to "cooperate fully with any investigation" and placed Nuru on paid leave while the city finds an interim replacement.

Nuru is a visible department head who's been at the post for nearly two decades and is deeply intertwined in San Francisco's so-called city family, which includes former Mayors Willie Brown, Gavin Newsom and Ed Lee and current Mayor Breed. As head of the DPW, Nuru, known in City Hall as Mr. Clean, was continually struggling with the city's quality-of-life challenges like sprawling homeless encampments and filthy streets.

Bovis — who was sentenced to five years in state prison for robbery in the 1990s — is owner of famed bar and restaurant Lefty O'Doul's and was the public face of its annual Christmas toy drive.

But while Nuru and Bovis projected one image to the public, the FBI alleges the two were quietly involved in a number of fraud schemes involving city resources.

FBI Special Agent James Folger outlined the allegations in a federal complaint unsealed Tuesday following the arraignments.



Starting in January 2018, Nuru and Bovis began scheming to win a contract for a restaurant lease at San Francisco International Airport by bribing an unnamed airport commissioner, the FBI said.

Nuru and Bovis plotted to give the commissioner \$5,000 cash, along with a free trip, in exchange for voting for the lease, authorities said. The airport commissioner, though, declined to take the cash, authorities said, and the scheme fell apart after Bovis and others got suspicious that the undercover agent was working for the FBI.

Nick Bovis, owner of Lefty's Ballpark Buffet and Cafe, on November 16, 2018 in San Francisco.

Nuru was separately using his position in city government to work with an unnamed billionaire developer in China who was putting together a multimillion-dollar project in San Francisco, authorities said. In exchange for travel, lodging, high-end booze — including a \$2,070 bottle of French wine — and other gifts, Nuru pledged to manipulate the building and inspection process for the developer, authorities said.

Nuru and Bovis' relationship involved schemes across multiple government agencies, authorities said. Nuru allegedly tried to get Bovis a lease for retail space at the Transbay transit center, by circumventing the traditional process, authorities said. Nuru chairs the Board of Directors for the Transbay Joint Powers Authority, which operates the center.

Nuru also provided Bovis inside information on specifications for public toilets and homeless shelters so he would have the jump when the contracts went to bid, according to the FBI. In 2017, Bovis' company Tiny Potties provided design and manufacturing work for a DPW portable toilet project that looked like the Painted Ladies Victorian homes near Alamo Square.

Nuru is also accused of receiving free and discounted materials along with a John Deere tractor at his Stonyford (Colusa County) vacation home.

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For years, Nuru has presided over DPW, which is responsible for construction management, maintaining public buildings and caring for street trees. With a \$500 million budget, DPW has a roughly 1,600-person workforce. He drew a \$273,400 salary last year, not including benefits.

Nuru was made the permanent head of DPW by then-Mayor Ed Lee in 2012. Prior to his appointment, Nuru worked for 11 years as the department's deputy director for operations and was long considered a protégé of former Mayor Willie Brown.

Federal officials informed Breed about the arrest at about 3:30 p.m. Monday, shortly before FBI agents executed a search warrant for Nuru's office.

"Nothing matters more than the public trust, and each and every one of us who works for the city must hold ourselves to the highest standard," Breed said in a statement. "I accept nothing less for myself or for those who serve in this administration."

Breed asked City Attorney Dennis Herrera and Controller Ben Rosenfield on Monday to begin reviewing any city contract that might be connected with Nuru's alleged scheme to "ensure that they comply with city law and procedures and meet our highest standard of integrity."

City Administrator Naomi Kelly, who oversees Nuru, said Tuesday that she had named City Purchaser Alaric Degrafinried as acting director of the department.

This is not the first time Nuru has found himself at the heart of a city scandal. In the early 2000s, DPW whistle-blowers alleged Nuru misappropriated public funds and, among other workers with employees from a nonprofit he previously led, replaced city allegations.

Deputy director of San Francisco's Department of Public Works Mohammed Nuru on November 18, 2011.

Following Nuru's appointment, Herrera, who was running for mayor against Lee, slammed the decision as nothing more than "cronyism, politics and bad judgment."

Herrera led a 2004 investigation into reports that he, while working for DPW, improperly directed employees of the nonprofit he had formerly led to campaign for Newsom, who was making his first run for mayor.

Bovis came into the public spotlight during his bitter dispute over Lefty O'Doul's with the building's landlord three years ago.

The famed baseball-themed bar and restaurant, known for its corned beef, cabbage and Bloody Marys, was a Union Square landmark since 1958, but was forced to move to a less-prestigious location at Fisherman's Wharf in 2018.

Bovis — who also owns the once-popular and now closed Gold Dust Lounge in San Francisco and Broadway Grill in Burlingame — welcomed patrons into Lefty O'Doul's during an emotional farewell in February 2017 attended by local news and city dignitaries, including the mayor.

The high-profile business owner, though, had a criminal past that never came to light during the property dispute, The Chronicle has learned.

Bovis was arrested in 1993 in Santa Clara County and charged with second-degree robbery and use of a firearm in a commission of a felony. He ultimately was found guilty of a single count of second-degree robbery in 1996 and sentenced to five years in state prison, records show.

Bovis had enough credits for time served in county jail and was released without serving time in state prison, according to Santa Clara County Superior Court records.

News of Nuru's arrest jolted much of City Hall Tuesday.

"It's a shock. I think that department has been run like a one-person fiefdom for a long time," said Supervisor Matt Haney, who sparred often with DPW over a number of issues.

"There's an understanding that, 'everything goes through Mohammed,' and if you piss him off, there's retribution. I think there needs to be an overhaul of that department."

Evan Sernoffsky and Dominic Fracassa are San Francisco Chronicle staff writers. Email: esernoffsky@sfrchronicle.com, dfracassa@sfrchronicle.com Twitter: [@evansernoffsky](https://twitter.com/evansernoffsky), [@dominicfracassa](https://twitter.com/dominicfracassa)

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IN-DEPTH

- LOCAL BY KELLIE HWANG Which crimes are up, down in SF during shelter-in-place?
- Coronavirus Map: Tracking COVID-19 cases across California

Armando Vasquez 06:19 PM
Part 2:
These trees are iconic elements that are part and parcel of the 24th Street Latino Cultural corridor.
I strongly urge the board to save these culturally significant trees.

Armando Vasquez
Avarchcm@gmail.com

Zoom Webinar Chat

Hi Zach. Great comments! Would love to connect with you outside of this. Can you share your LinkedIn or email?

From Me to Tanya Macedo (Privately):
zkarnazes@gmail.com would love to work with you! :)

From Me to All panelists:
can someone from BOA answer the question from Sara K?

To: All panelists

Anonymous Attendee 06:38 PM
When they talk about box size of the new trees as being 24inch. Will the red maple and ginkgo trees be the same height and provide the same shade as the ficus

laria pedroncelli (she/her) 07:13 PM
I would like to share my screen to show the video that wasn't working earlier.

laria pedroncelli (she/her) 07:14 PM
i have it ready

laria pedroncelli (she/her) 07:15 PM
nevermind thank you!

Zoom Webinar Chat

also thanks for your work - i disagree with your suggestion for removals but appreciate you documenting the neglect of these trees

From Sara Ellefson to All panelists:
when she shares there is a check box to share sound as well

From Me to All panelists:
please post the link to the video in the chat

From Lesley Freeman to All panelists:
Here's the video:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8F2dGS8fZy8>

From Shalaco to All panelists:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8F2dGS8fZy8>

From Me to Sara K (Privately):
im gonna try to save the Q&A. i doubt BOA will do it
feel free to reach me at zkarnazes@gmail.com
thanks for speaking!

To: Sara K (Privately)

From Alec Longway to Me (Privately):
I don't see this person on the list

From Me to Christopher Campbell (Privately):
also thanks for your work - i disagree with your suggestion for removals but appreciate you documenting the neglect of these trees

From Sara Ellefson to All panelists:
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From Me to All panelists:
the video cut off

To: All panelists

Caitlin 06:37 PM
Hi, my name is Caitlin D'Aprano. I have to go now but I wanted to express my desire to keep these trees. They are what makes 24th St beautiful. Please save the trees that are not a hazard and see to the appropriate care of those trees as they have already been neglected which has led us to this point. If you do get rid of the hazardous trees and re-plant them, I hope they are already fully grown. Our tree needs more trees to counteract global warming.

Vinicio Penate 06:39 PM
Thanks Alec Longway

Vinicio Penate 06:40 PM
i have a comment
This question has been answered live

Zoom Webinar Chat

From Me to All panelists:
please post the link to the video in the chat

From Lesley Freeman to All panelists:
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From Shalaco to All panelists:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8F2dGS8fZy8>

From Me to Sara K (Privately):
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thanks for speaking!

From Me to Alec Longway (Privately):
someone names Caitlin left a comment in the chat as well

From Susan Creato to All panelists:
Maybe remind people that they need to raise their hand AND unmute

To: Alec Longway (Privately)

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To: Alec Longway (Privately)

Tanya Macedo 04:54 PM
*there

Detje Boler 05:04 PM
You can't seem to hear me when I speak

Detje Boler 05:05 PM
I would like to make gel public comment but you don't seem to hear me. My microphone tests our

Michael Fasman 05:14 PM
Save the trees on 24th Street. These trees are a very important part of the neighborhood, not just iconically, but culturally and environmentally.

Zoom Webinar Chat

also thanks for your work - i disagree with your suggestion for removals but appreciate you documenting the neglect of these trees

From Sara Ellefson to All panelists:
when she shares there is a check box to share sound as well

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To: Sara K (Privately)

Detje Boler 05:08 PM
I want to make general public comment

freddy coronado 05:31 PM
how do we leave a public comment?

Katy Sullivan 05:34 PM
There will be a time devoted to public comment after the appellants and the department make their presentations. Thank you.

You 05:41 PM
Private answer
There are a few more speakers about this issue, public comment comes last - maybe in 30min - an hour? best if you can stick around and leave the zoom window in the background

Zoom Webinar Chat

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Vinicio Penate 06:40 PM
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This question has been answered live

Kaiyo 06:45 PM
do you know how many members of the public have attended this meeting?

sheila cahill 06:49 PM
Please record my comments as I have to leave:
My name is Sheila Cahill and I am a Mission resident. I want to question the response given on not landmarking the trees in a landmark neighborhood. Just because it was not done before does not mean it cannot be done now and I would request that the decision be adjourned until this avenue is correctly and fully explored. To kill these trees rather than try to save them is unconscionable. Calle 24 is the heart of the Mission and these trees are such an integral part of it.

Zoom Webinar Chat

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Sara K 05:42 PM
Thank you Zach

Armando Vasquez 06:19 PM
Part 2:
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I strongly urge the board to save these culturally significant trees.

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Avarchcm@gmail.com

Vinicio Penate 06:31 PM
question, once the trees are planted, can they be landmarked so we can make sure the trees' life are safe for the future?

Zoom Webinar Chat

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Sara K 05:37 PM
What time will public comment start?

You 05:39 PM
Private answer
Hi Sara, comment period will be after DPW's presentation and rebuttle - maybe 30min to 1hr? hard to know

Alec Longway 05:44 PM
After DPW's presents there case.

Kaiyo 05:48 PM
Will there be a recording of this meeting posted on sf.gov

Alec Longway 05:47 PM
Yes, you can send an email the Board's office and we will sent you a weblink.

You 06:20 PM

Zoom Webinar Chat

also thanks for your work - i disagree with your suggestion for removals but appreciate you documenting the neglect of these trees

From Sara Ellefson to All panelists:
when she shares there is a check box to share sound as well

From Me to All panelists:
please post the link to the video in the chat

From Lesley Freeman to All panelists:
Here's the video:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8F2dGS8fZy8>

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From Me to Sara K (Privately):
im gonna try to save the Q&A. i doubt BOA will do it
feel free to reach me at zkarnazes@gmail.com
thanks for speaking!

To: Sara K (Privately)

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Kaiyo 06:45 PM
do you know how many members of the public have attended this meeting?

sheila cahill 06:49 PM
Please record my comments as I have to leave:
My name is Sheila Cahill and I am a Mission resident. I want to question the response given on not landmarking the trees in a landmark neighborhood. Just because it was not done before does not mean it cannot be done now and I would request that the decision be adjourned until this avenue is correctly and fully explored. To kill these trees rather than try to save them is unconscionable. Calle 24 is the heart of the Mission and these trees are such an integral part of it.

Alec Longway 06:54 PM
I will sent this to the director of this Board.

Zoom Webinar Chat

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From Susan Creato to All panelists:
Maybe remind people that they need to raise their hand AND unmute

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To: Alec Longway (Privately)

Vinicio Penate 06:31 PM
thanks

Anonymous Attendee 06:38 PM

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To: Sara K (Privately)

Vinicio Penate 06:13 PM
who will fund all this work?

Vinicio Penate 06:17 PM
thinks

Armando Vasquez 06:17 PM
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Alec Longway 06:54 PM
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Roz Abel 06:50 PM
It's ok I'd just rather leave it here rather than risk disconnection (?)

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To: Alec Longway (Privately)

This question has been answered live

Alec Longway 06:49 PM
Yes, or you can call back an get and get 30 sec

Vinicio Penate 06:49 PM
i want to go next!

Sara K 07:11 PM
she should unplug her head phones!

laria pedroncelli (she/her) 07:13 PM
i would like to share my screen to show the video that wasn't working earlier.

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thanks for speaking!

To: Sara K (Privately)

Armando Vasquez 06:17 PM
I want to add my public comment since I have to leave the meeting. Please add this to the record. My name is Armando Vasquez. I'm an architect and long-term Mission District resident. I live and work a half of block from 24th St and experience these trees practically on a daily basis. These trees have been neglected and the response is literally a hatchet job to addressing the neglect. I support the approach to save as many trees and only remove those that are an extreme hazard. Part 1

Armando Vasquez 06:20 PM
Thank you Alec.

Alec Longway 06:20 PM
Welcome.

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To: Sara K (Privately)

Alec Longway 07:05 PM
Hi, I don't know if zoom records Q and A's. Please send an email to our board office and we will look into this. boardofappeals@sfgov.org

Sara K 07:07 PM
As long as community's comments are being recorded somehow. Are you forwarding the messages along?

You 07:09 PM
Private answer
forwarding to who? they get recorded on GovTV for public record, but BOA decides tonight so it wont help to have them forwarded long-term. best to speak up now :)

Zoom Webinar Chat

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laria pedroncelli (she/her) 07:13 PM
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laria pedroncelli (she/her) 07:14 PM
i have it ready

laria pedroncelli (she/her) 07:15 PM
nevermind thank you!

Zoom Webinar Chat

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To: Sara K (Privately)

Vinicio Penate 06:20 PM
what is Mr. Buck email?

Alec Longway 06:31 PM
chris.buck@sfdpw.org

You 06:31 PM
Private answer
Chris.Buck@sfdpw.org

Vinicio Penate 06:24 PM
do i need to email Mr Buck?

Caitlin 06:37 PM
Hi, my name is Caitlin D'Aprano. I have to go now but I wanted to express my desire to keep these trees. They are what makes 24th St

Zoom Webinar Chat

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To: Sara K (Privately)

Vinicio Penate 06:30 PM
do i need to email Mr Buck?

Caitlin 06:37 PM
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Document(s) Released

Public

Trees on 24th St- maintenance records info.xlsx

June 29, 2020, 3:05pm



External Message [Hide](#)

Requester + Staff

BUF does not have historical watering documents. Once a tree is off the watering list there is no record of it. In general when a tree is on a PW water list we deliver 20 gallons of water per week for a minimum of 3 years. After 3 years the tree is inspected once a year until it is removed from the PW list.

June 29, 2020, 1:56pm by David A. Steinberg, Custodian of Records (Staff)



External Message [Hide](#)

Requester + Staff

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This text was not made part of the public records request. As you are responding to that request, please make this response public here in this record.

-Zach K.

June 29, 2020, 8:35pm by the requester



Request Published

Public

June 29, 2020, 3:06pm

DEPARTMENT'S BRIEF



London N. Breed
Mayor

Alaric Degrafinried
Acting Director

Carla Short
Superintendent

Urban Forestry
2323 Cesar Chavez St.
San Francisco, CA 94124
tel 415-695-2097

sfpublicworks.org
facebook.com/sfpublicworks
twitter.com/sfpublicworks

Date: August 3, 2020
To: Julie Rosenberg, Executive Director, Board of Appeals
Zachary Karnazes, Appellant
From: Chris Buck, Urban Forester
San Francisco Public Works, Bureau of Urban Forestry
RE: Rehearing request for Appeal No. 19-099 (Public Works Order No. 201124)

Dear Commissioners,

Public Works, Bureau of Urban Forestry respectfully requests that you deny the rehearing request filed by Zachary Karnazes, regarding Appeal No. 19-099, removal and replacement of specific ficus trees along 24th St. in the Mission (Public Works Order No. 201124).

Our Bureau has reviewed the four points (1 – 4) provided by Mr. Karnazes in his rehearing request and we do not believe they meet the criteria set forth by The Board. The hearing was just held on July 15th, and no new information has been provided in the rehearing request. Since Public Works has initiated the removal of the trees on 24th St., we have experienced two ficus tree failures.

Below is an outline of key dates related to this matter:

March 20, 2019 First of two community meetings

April, 2019 2nd community meeting, on site, 24th St.

Extensive media coverage, City-wide and locally

June 5, 2019	Public Works Tree Hearing
August 26, 2019	Resulting decision issued by Public Works, Bureau of Urban Forestry
September 19, 2019	Appeal No. 19-099 filed by appellant Zachary Karnazes (three additional appeals filed by other appellants)
November 6, 2019	Original Board of Appeals date (rescheduled to January 8, 2020)
January 8, 2020	Hearing scheduled, and rescheduled at hearing, to March 11, 2020
March 11, 2020	Hearing rescheduled due to City's state of emergency/COVID-19 (mutually agreed upon, by all parties involved)
(June 24, 2020)	Proposed rescheduled date of June 24, 2020 rejected by appellants. Scheduled for July 15, 2020.
July 15, 2020	Public Works Order No. 201124, issued on August 26, 2019, finally heard before the Board of Appeals

Public Works, Bureau of Urban Forestry, respectfully requests that you deny the request for a rehearing by Zachary Karnazes. While this has been a difficult time for all parties involved, including three other appellants and the community, we do not believe there is new information to consider that would impact the outcome of the Appeal.

Sincerely,

Chris Buck

Chris Buck

Urban Forester

Bureau of Urban Forestry

San Francisco Public Works