

Re: Removal of Landmark Tree – HDC - 1429 Hill Street

Dear Planners:

I have concerns for the tree currently abiding at 1429 Hill Street. The application for its removal states that there will be mitigation performed on site with new trees. There is no indication on the plans for new trees nor any description of the new trees.

The application states that the tree is leaning. It has been leaning like that for 200 years. Leaning does not imply illness.

The application states that the tree is sickly. There is no indication of illness in the photos and the application does not contain any third party assessment of the tree's health. Does the city arborist agree that the tree is sick? What is the trees affliction?

The critical root zone has already been compromised by the brick patio installed below grade. Seems like this may harm the tree.

The installation of a 1,415 square foot kitchen underground is a bit hard to believe. More unbelievable is the fact that the brick pavers would be reinstalled on top of the really big and expensive underground kitchen. Most likely this is a construction project that sets the stage for a larger above ground addition in the future—just as soon as the tree gets cut down.

Andrew Comai