

Dear City of Pomona,

I am writing to formally notify the City of Pomona regarding the removal of the oak tree that previously stood in front of my home. I respectfully wish to explain the circumstances surrounding this action and to offer my sincere apologies for any misunderstanding or unintentional noncompliance.

When I first moved into the neighborhood, I visited the City of Pomona offices on two separate occasions to inquire whether I was permitted to remove the tree located on my front lawn. On both visits, I was informed that, because the tree appeared to be on my property, I was allowed to remove it if necessary. Relying on that guidance, I believed I was following the correct procedure.

Unfortunately, the tree had been causing ongoing and significant issues for my home and family, including:

1. Root intrusion into my sewer lines, resulting in repeated clogs and substantial plumbing expenses.
2. Two bee infestations in the second story of my home, requiring the services of a professional beekeeper, structural drilling, and costly repairs.
3. Falling branches, which created safety concerns and required constant cleanup.
4. My children being stung by bees, causing understandable fear and concern for their safety.

For years, I attempted to manage these issues responsibly by trimming the tree and removing fallen branches. At no point did anyone notify me that such maintenance was prohibited. Combined with the information I was previously given by City staff, I believed in good faith that I was acting appropriately.

I want to express clearly that I never intended to remove a protected tree or violate any City regulations. I relied on the guidance I received, and I regret deeply that this misunderstanding has resulted in this situation. If I had been aware of any additional requirements or restrictions, I would have followed them without hesitation.

With sincere respect, I kindly request that the City of Pomona consider reducing or waiving any penalties associated with this matter. I acted based on the information provided to me at the time and did not purposefully disregard any City policies. I respectfully ask for understanding given the documented issues the tree caused and the good-faith efforts I made to seek guidance before taking any action.

Thank you for your time, your consideration, and your understanding. I am fully committed to cooperating with any steps the City requires going forward.

Sincerely,

Jose Guerra