**Arborist Report Memorandum**

**DATE:** February 25, 2026

**TO:** Erin Smith, Public Works Director
City of Alameda

**FROM:** Darya Barar, Managing Consulting Arborist and Urban Forester
Ryan Suttle, Consulting Arborist and Urban Forester
HortScience | Bartlett Consulting

**SUBJECT:** Tree #1571
3026 Gibbons Drive, Alameda

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The City of Alameda enlisted HortScience | Bartlett Consulting, Divisions of the F.A. Bartlett Tree Expert Company, (H|BC) to assess a population of mature sweetgums (*Liquidambar styraciflua*) along Gibbons Drive in Alameda. In December 2025, H|BC delivered a **Tree Inventory Report** which describes our assessment and preliminary recommendations to assist with creating an equitable and community-oriented management plan. Following the December 2025 Report, the City of Alameda requested that H|BC prepare individual reports for trees recommended for removal. This letter responds to that request.

**LOCATION:** 3026 Gibbons Drive, tree #1571
**SPECIES:** Sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*)
**TRUNK DIAMETER:** 43 inches
**CONDITION:** Poor. The root flare filled all available growing space. The base of the trunk was swollen, which can be a symptom of internal decay. The tree leaned to the north over the street, and corrected higher in the crown. The main tension roots on the southeast and southwest were constrained. A large cavity was present on the northeast stem on the compression side and wood was decayed and cracked inside (approximately ~30 – 40% cross-sectional area of piece). See Photos 1 – 4, next page.
**SIDEWALK DAMAGE:** Significant. Significant upward heaving of sidewalk.
**CURB DAMAGE:** Significant. Significant heaving and damage to neighboring storm drain.

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**RECOMMENDATION:** Remove the tree.
**REMOVAL CRITERIA:** See City of Alameda Tree Removal Policy Section D – All Other Tree Removals, Subsection 2C.

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**HortScience | Bartlett Consulting**

Ryan Suttle, Consulting Arborist & Urban Forester
ISA Board Certified Master Arborist, Utility Specialist No. WE-12647BU
ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualified
ASCA Registered Consulting Arborist #813
ASCA Tree and Plant Appraisal Qualified

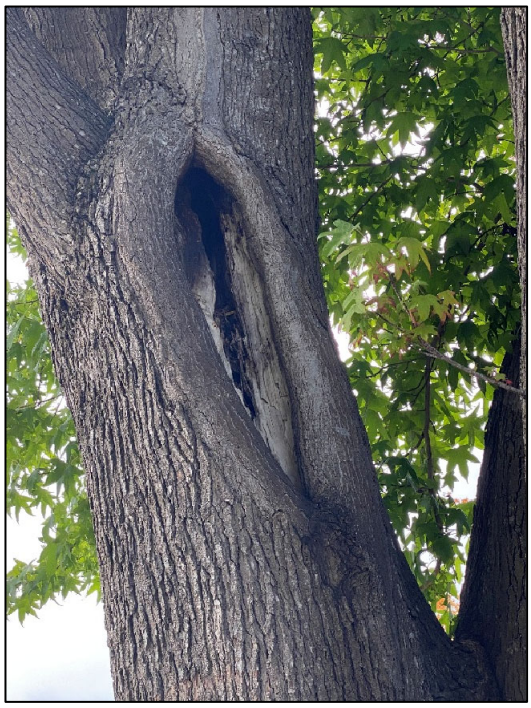

**Photo 1 (top left):** Looking east at tree #1571. Note pronounced lean.
**Photo 2 (top right):** Looking west at tree #1571. Note pronounced lean.
**Photo 3 (bottom left):** Closeup of trunk from east.
**Photo 4 (bottom right):** Closeup of cavity on north stem.