From: Gavin W[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2026 9:41 AM
To: sandi maurer <sandimaurer@sonic.net>; Phill Carter <phill.carter@gmail.com>
Cc: Public Comment Received For City Council <citycouncil@cityofsebastopol.gov>
Subject: Quercus Kelloggii

Esteemed council members,

The contracted tree crew are dismembering the black oaks today. Martha had to leave.

The public works team is sympathetic and has allowed some concessions. They will leave ~4 foot stumps for decay in place. Erik said he will expedite some replacements. Public works has been on site and paying attention given the community concern.

They will also allow me to save some of the wood to use in my yard for retaining soil and habitat. And I will help spread some wood chips from these trees or others that the tree company would bring. The tree company has been good and willing to work within their limits.

My son was particularly upset when the trucks pulled up as they were on their way to the school bus. He had big tears for the trees and he and his sisters gathered some leaves and acorns to save and plant.

When the tree ordinance comes to your desks there are some key things to look for:
1) Is the cost high enough to deter unnecessary removal but low enough to not act as a barrier to unpermitted removals
2) Is there an enforcement mechanism - I still think the removal of a native oak at 472 Jewell last year was not permitted and no fine was issued
3) Is the mitigation congruent to the scale? Ie, planting two young trees to replace two ancient trees is a significant reduction in biomass. The replacements should be roughly equivalent to the biomass of the murdered trees
4) Replacements should be native trees - no japanese maples or other trees that have little to no ecological value
5) Invasive or non-native / not local (Sweetgum, Liquid Amber, Tree of Heaven, Red Oak, Eucalyptus) should not require a permit and should be allowed in favor of replanting native trees

I am happy to testify when the update comes before the council.

Gavin