

RESOLUTION NO. 26_____

**OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CUPERTINO
APPROVING A TREE REMOVAL PERMIT TO REMOVE AND REPLACE THIRTY-
FIVE (35) DEVELOPMENT TREES TO ACCOMMODATE A PROPOSED
RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT WITH 32 TOWNHOME STYLE CONDOMINIUM
UNITS LOCATED AT 20045 & 20065 STEVENS CREEK BLVD. (A.P.N.: 316-23-095, -
096)**

SECTION I: PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Application No.: TR-2025-002
Applicant: Dividend Homes
Property Owner: Arbor Group Investment LLC
Location: 20045 & 20065 Stevens Creek Blvd. (A.P.N.: 316-23-095, -096)

SECTION II: FINDINGS FOR A TREE REMOVAL PERMIT:

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission of the City of Cupertino received an application for a Tree Removal Permit as described in Section I of this resolution; and

WHEREAS, the project is determined to be statutorily exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15061(b)(1) of the CEQA Guidelines; and

WHEREAS, on December 9, 2025, the Planning Commission held a duly noticed public hearing to receive staff's presentation and public testimony, and to consider the information contained in the Infill Exemption Memorandum along with all staff reports, other pertinent documents, and all written and oral statements received prior to and at the public hearing; and

WHEREAS, on December 9, 2025 the Planning Commission recommended on a 5-0 vote that the City Council approve the Development Permit (DP-2025-002) in substantially similar form to the Resolution presented (Resolution No. 2025-25), approve the Architectural and Use Permit (U-2025-007) in substantially similar form to the Resolution presented (Resolution No. 2025-29), approve the Architectural and Site Approval Permit (ASA-2025-004) in substantially similar form to the Resolution presented (Resolution No. 2025-26), approve the Vesting Tentative Map (TM-2025-002), in substantially similar form to the Resolution presented (Resolution No. 2025-27), approve the Tree Removal Permit (TR-2025-002), in substantially similar form to the Resolution presented (Resolution No. 2025-28); and

WHEREAS, all necessary public notices having been given as required by the City of Cupertino Municipal Code and the Government Code, and the Planning Commission held at least one public hearing in regard to this application; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Cupertino is the decision-making body for this Resolution; and

WHEREAS, the applicant has met the burden of proof required to support the application for a Tree Removal Permit; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds as follows with regard to this application:

- a) That the location of the trees restricts the economic enjoyment of the property by severely limiting the use of property in a manner not typically experienced by owners of similarly zoned and situated property, and the applicant has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the approval authority that there are no reasonable alternatives to preserve the tree(s).

To accommodate for the new development's structures, walkways and internal street network to public open spaces, the existing trees cannot be preserved in their locations. The applicant proposes 46 replacement trees throughout the site in conformance with the Municipal Code Ordinance requirements and proposes to locate the replacements where tree coverage is needed, while preserving virtually all the trees that are not within the development area of the project site.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That after careful consideration of maps, facts, exhibits, testimony and other evidence submitted in this matter, subject to the conditions which are enumerated in this Resolution, beginning on PAGE 2 herein, and subject to the conditions contained in all other Resolutions approved for this Project

The application for a Tree Removal Permit, Application No. TR-2025-002, is hereby approved, and that the sub-conclusions upon which the findings and conditions specified in this Resolution are based are contained in the Public Hearing record concerning Application no. TR-2025-002 as set forth in the Minutes of the City Council Meeting of January 21, 2026 Meeting, and are incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.

SECTION III: CONDITIONS ADMINISTERED BY THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPT.

1. APPROVED EXHIBITS

Approval is based on the plan set entitled "20045 & 20065 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino, CA, Dividend Homes" dated August 15, 2025 consisting of 65 sheets labeled as, A.1– A.33, TM1.0, C2.0 – C7.3, T-1.0 – T-1.2, L-1.0 – L-3.2, INT1.0-INT3.0, PM1.0, and PrSL1.0-PrSL3.0, drawn by Dahlin, BKF, and Michael Arnone & Associates., except as may be amended by conditions in this resolution.

2. ACCURACY OF PROJECT PLANS

The applicant/property owner is responsible for verifying all pertinent property data including but not limited to property boundary locations, building setbacks, property size, building square footage, any relevant easements and/or construction records. Any misrepresentation of any property data may invalidate this approval and may require additional review.

3. CONCURRENT APPROVAL CONDITIONS

The conditions of approval contained in file nos. U-2025-007, TM-2025-002, DP-2025-002, and ASA-2025-004, shall be applicable to this approval.

4. ANNOTATION OF THE CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

The conditions of approval set forth shall be incorporated into and annotated on the first page of the building plans.

5. TREE REPLACEMENT SIZE

The applicant shall provide adequate tree replacements for trees proposed to be removed in conformance with the replacement guidelines per Cupertino Municipal Code Section 14.18.160. The size of the proposed replacement trees shall be modified as follows to be consistent with the City's Protected Tree Ordinance unless deemed infeasible by the City's Consulting Arborist:

- a. Diameter of trunk size of removed tree up to 12 inches shall be replaced with one 24-inch box tree;
- b. Over 12 inches and up to 36 inches shall be replaced by two 24-inch box tree or one 36-inch box tree; and
- c. Over 36 inches shall be replaced with one 36-inch box tree.

If it is determined that it is physically not feasible to plant the required replacement trees, the Applicant may pay in-lieu fees determined to be appropriate by the Community Development Director.

6. TREE PROTECTION

- a. As part of the demolition or building permit drawings, a tree protection plan shall be prepared by a certified arborist for the trees to be retained. In addition, the following measures shall be added, at a minimum, to the protection plan:
 - For trees to be retained, chain link fencing and other root protection shall be installed around the dripline of the tree prior to any project site work.
 - No parking or vehicle traffic shall be allowed under root zones, unless using buffers approved by the Project Arborist.
 - No trenching within the critical root zone area is allowed. If trenching is needed in the vicinity of trees to be retained, the City's consulting arborist shall be consulted before any trenching or root cutting beneath the dripline of the tree.
 - Wood chip mulch shall be evenly spread inside the tree protection fence to a four-inch depth.
 - Tree protection conditions shall be posted on the required tree protection barriers.
 - Retained trees shall be watered to maintain them in good health.
 - A covenant on the property shall be recorded that identifies all the protected trees, prior to final occupancy.
- b. The tree protection measures shall be inspected and approved by the certified arborist prior to issuance of building permits.
- c. The City's consulting arborist, retained at the applicant's expense, shall inspect the trees to be retained and the tree protection measures, and shall provide reviews prior to issuance of demolition, grading or building permits.
- d. A report ascertaining the good health of the trees mentioned above shall be provided by the applicant's arborist, to be peer reviewed by the City's Consulting Arborist, prior to issuance of final occupancy.

7. PROTECTED TREES

The applicant and future property owners understand that the replacement trees and all other trees approved with this development may not be removed without the prior approval by the Community Development Department of a Tree Removal Permit and that they shall be responsible for ensuring the proper maintenance and care of the trees. The applicant shall also disclose the location and species of all replacement and development trees on site upon sale of the property.

8. CONSULTATION WITH OTHER DEPARTMENTS

The applicant is responsible for consulting with other departments and/or agencies with regard to the proposed project for additional conditions and requirements. Any misrepresentation of any submitted data may invalidate an approval by the Community Development Department.

9. INDEMNIFICATION

As part of the application, to the fullest extent permitted by law, the applicant shall agree to indemnify, defend with the attorneys of the City's choice, and hold harmless the City, its City Council, and its officers, employees, and agents (collectively, the "indemnified parties") from and against any liability, claim, action, cause of action, suit, damages, judgment, lien, levy, or proceeding (collectively referred to as "proceeding") brought by a third party against one or more of the indemnified parties or one or more of the indemnified parties and the applicant related to any Ordinance, Resolution, or action approving the project, the related entitlements, environmental review documents, finding or determinations, or any other permit or approval authorized for the project. The indemnification shall include but not be limited to damages, fees, and costs awarded against the City, if any, and cost of suit, attorneys' fees, and other costs, liabilities, and expenses incurred in connection with such proceeding whether incurred by the Applicant, the City, or the parties initiating or bringing such proceeding.

The applicant shall agree to (without limitation) reimburse the City its actual attorneys' fees and costs incurred in defense of the litigation. Such attorneys' fees and costs shall include amounts paid to the City's outside counsel and shall include City Attorney time and overhead costs and other City staff overhead costs and any costs directly related to the litigation reasonably incurred by City. The applicant shall likewise agree to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the indemnified parties from and against any damages, attorneys' fees, or costs awards, including attorneys' fees awarded under Code of Civil Procedure section 1021.5, assessed or awarded against the indemnified parties. The Applicant shall cooperate with the City to enter a Reimbursement Agreement to govern any such reimbursement.

The Applicant shall agree to (without limitation) reimburse the City for all costs incurred in additional investigation or study of, or for supplementing, redrafting, revising, or amending, any document (such as an Environmental Impact Report, negative declaration, specific plan, or general plan amendment) if made necessary by proceedings challenging the project approvals and related environmental review, if the applicant desires to continue to pursue the project.

The Applicant shall agree that the City shall have no liability to the Applicant for business interruption, punitive, speculative, or consequential damages.

10. NOTICE OF FEES, DEDICATIONS, RESERVATIONS, OR OTHER EXACTIONS

The Conditions of Project Approval set forth herein may include certain fees, dedication requirements, reservation requirements, and other exactions. Pursuant

to Government Code Section 66020(d) (1), these Conditions constitute written notice of a statement of the amount of such fees, and a description of the dedications, reservations, and other exactions. You are hereby further notified that the 90-day approval period in which you may protest these fees, dedications, reservations, and other exactions, pursuant to Government Code Section 66020(a), has begun. If you fail to file a protest within this 90-day period complying with all of the requirements of Section 66020, you will be legally barred from later challenging such exactions.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Cupertino this 21st day of January, 2026, by the following vote:

Members of the City Council

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

SIGNED: _____ Liang-Fang Chao, Mayor City of Cupertino	 _____ Date
ATTEST: _____ Lauren Sapudar, Acting City Clerk	 _____ Date