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APPEAL OF PROPOSED TREE REMOVAL
SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

IN THE MATTER OF)
)
THE PROPOSED REMOVAL OF STREET)
TREES AT CLARENDON AVENUE AND) **HEARING OFFICER’S DECISION**
DELLBROOK AVENUE)
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The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (“SFPUC”) proposed removal of 11 street trees at Clarendon Avenue and Dellbrook Avenue under Section 806 of the Public Works Code in connection with the SFPUC’s Emergency Firefighting Water System Clarendon Supply Project. Joshua Klipp filed objections to the proposed removal. Ken Salmon, the Assistant General Manager, Business Services and Chief Financial Officer at SFPUC, held a hearing pursuant to Section 806 to consider Mr. Klipp’s objections. Following the hearing, Hearing Officer Salmon issued a decision on June 10, 2021, approving the proposed removal of the trees. Mr. Klipp filed a timely appeal of that decision. SFPUC Acting General Manager Michael Carlin designated the undersigned to handle the appeal.

On July 23, 2021, I notified the parties of a briefing schedule and set an appeal hearing to be held on August 10, 2021. Mr. Klipp requested to waive the hearing and submit the appeal on the parties’ briefs and exhibits, and the SFPUC agreed to this proposal. The parties timely submitted appeal briefs and exhibits, which I have thoroughly reviewed.

Mr. Klipp appeals on only one issue: he contends that SFPUC unlawfully removed one street tree at the site prior to the hearing on his objections. SFPUC contends that the tree at issue was removed by the Recreation and Parks Department (“RPD”), and that it was on RPD property and

