

TOWN OF WESTWOOD
COMMONWEALTH of MASSACHUSETTS

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Trevor W. Laubenstein, Secretary
Bruce H. Montgomery
John J. Wiggan
Steven Rafsky, Associate Member
Todd Sullivan, Associate Member



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PLANNING BOARD

**DECISION OF THE PLANNING BOARD
SCENIC ROAD APPROVAL**

APPLICANT: Brendan Ryan, Tree Warden / Highway and Grounds Superintendent
Westwood Department of Public Works
50 Carby Street
Westwood, MA 02090

PROPERTY OWNERS: Town of Westwood
580 High Street
Westwood, MA 02090

PROPERTY LOCUS: Canton Street Right-of-Way, 492 Canton Street
Sandy Valley Road Right-of-Way, 401 Sandy Valley Road
Woodland Road Right-of-Way, 155 Woodland Road

TOWN CLERK
TOWN OF WESTWOOD
2015 DEC 21 P 4: 16

BACKGROUND AND PROJECT SUMMARY

The Applicant requested the removal of one dead or dying tree within the Canton Street public right-of-way in front of 492 Canton Street, six trees in the gravel road section in front of 401 Sandy Valley Road, and one tree in front of 155 Woodland Road.

APPLICATION AND PLANS

At the Planning Board's meeting on December 15, the Board evaluated the requested tree removal and public hearing notice filed with the office of the Planning Board on October 30, 2015 with the following related submissions:

1. Three separate applications for Scenic Road public hearings for tree removal at 401 Sandy Valley Road, 155 Woodland Road, and 492 Canton Street, prepared by Brendan Ryan, Westwood Tree Warden, dated October 30, 2015.
2. Photographs of subject trees to be removed within the right-of-way near 401 Sandy Valley Road, 155 Woodland Road, and 492 Canton Street.

STATEMENT OF FINDINGS

After having reviewed all the materials filed by the Applicant and their representatives, and having considered all correspondence, testimony, and materials submitted, the Westwood Planning Board makes the following findings:

1. The Applicant requested permission to remove one (1) dead tree in front of 492 Canton Street, which are within the public right-of-way to Canton Street, six (6) dead or dying trees in the gravel road section of Sandy Valley Road near 401 Sandy Valley Road, and one (1) dead tree in front of 155 Woodland Road within the Woodland Road public right-of-way, pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 40, §15C (the "Scenic Road Act"), and M.G.L. Chapter 87, §3 (the "Public Shade Tree Act"), and the Rules and Regulations of the Town of Westwood Planning Board as Permit

Granting Authority Pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 15C ("Scenic Roads Rules and Regulations").

2. Planning Board approval, pursuant to the Scenic Road Act, and the Scenic Road Rules and Regulations, is required for the removal of any tree within the public right-of-way on a designated scenic road.
3. Canton Street, Sandy Valley Road and Woodland Road are each designated Scenic Roads in the Town of Westwood. A permit for project tree removal is required pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 15C and the Planning Board's Scenic Roads Rules and Regulations.
4. Pursuant to the Scenic Road Act and the applicable provisions of the Scenic Roads Rules and regulations, the Planning Board gave notice of the public hearing published in the *Westwood Press* on November 27, 2015 and December 4, 2015. Notice of the public hearing was posted in the Westwood Town Hall and the Carby Street Municipal Building on November 23, 2015. Said notice of the public hearing was mailed to all Parties in Interest as defined in the Scenic Road Act and the Scenic Road Rules and Regulations on November 24, 2015.
5. After notice as provided as described above, the public hearing on the Application was held on Tuesday, December 15, 2015 in the Champagne Meeting Room at the Carby Street Municipal Office Building, 50 Carby Street, Westwood, Massachusetts.
6. Westwood Planning Board members John J. Wiggin, Steven H. Olanoff, Christopher A. Pfaff, Todd Sullivan, and Bruce H. Montgomery were present for the public hearing and deliberated on the matter in the course of that public hearing.
7. No property owners, members or the public, or other interested parties expressed opposition to the removal of the trees at the public hearing.
8. The Planning Board considered the application in accordance with Section 10 of the Scenic Roads Rules and Regulations, and determined that the eight (8) trees should be removed in the interest of public safety, and that the removal of the trees will not have an adverse impact on the Scenic Road or surrounding area.


DECISION

The Planning Board evaluated the Applications in relation to the above Findings, and by a vote of five (5) in favor and none (0) opposed, hereby **grants approval** for the removal of eight (8) trees within the Canton Street, Sandy Valley Road, and Woodland Road public right-of-way near 492 Canton Street, 155 Woodland Road, in accordance with the Scenic Road Act and the Scenic Road Rules and Regulations without any conditions.

RECORD OF THE VOTE

The following members of the Planning Board voted to grant a Scenic Road Approval for the abovementioned project: John J. Wiggin, Steven H. Olanoff, Christopher A. Pfaff, Todd Sullivan, and Bruce H. Montgomery.

The following members of the Planning Board voted in opposition to a Scenic Road Approval for the above mentioned project: None.


Abigail McCabe, Town Planner

12/21/15
DATE