

Project No. TS - 7509

Memorandum

То:	Brandt Design Group c/o Bree Medley						
Site:	8163 W Mercer Way, Mercer Island, 98040						
Re:	Tree Inventory and Assessment						
Date:	March 11, 2021; revised May 5, 2021						
Project Arborist:	Connor McDermott, ISA Certified Arborist #PN- 8704A ISA Qualified Tree Risk Assessor						
Reviewed By:	Haley Galbraith, ISA Board Certified Master Arborist #PN-7512BM ISA Qualified Tree Risk Assessor						
Referenced Documents:	Topographic Survey Seaspect Short Plat (Core Design Engineers, 4/20/2015) Site Plan: Kahn Spec Home (Brandt Design Group, 11/30/2020)						
Attached:	Tree Table (Tree Solutions Inc., April 30, 2021)						

This memo documents my site visit to the above referenced site on February 25, 2021. I was asked by Bree Medley, of Brandt Design Group, to document the species, size, health, and structural condition of each tree on site to see if any were regulated as exceptional. I documented the diameter at standard height (DSH), health, and structural ratings of the trees to update the tree inventory for the site, based on the topographic survey I received from Bree Medley (Topographic Survey Seaspect Short Plat, Core Design Engineers, 4/20/2015).

This inventory was requested by John Kenney, City Arborist for Mercer Island. He requested the size and species of the trees on site to be verified in accordance to city regulations, and to verify if any of the trees were considered exceptional.

The species on site included European pear (*Pyrus communis*), apple (*Malus* sp.) and red alder (*Alnus rubra*). I confirmed that the three trees on site were of significant size, but not exceptional trees. I followed the standard in Mercer Island Municipal Code (MIMC) that defines an exceptional tree as a tree with a diameter greater than or equal to the threshold listed in the exceptional tree table (MIMC 19.16.010) as well as all trees 36 inches diameter or greater.

I have included an annotated site plan and survey to serve as the site map and attached a table of trees that has detailed information about each tree I assessed.

Based on the plans sent by Bree Medley ("Site Plan: Kahn Spec Home", Brandt Design Group, 11/30/2021), I do not believe the trees can safely be retained during construction. There is a direct conflict between the trees and the footprint of the house, including required excavation for the foundation.

Mercer Island Municipal Code (MIMC 19.10.010.C2) requires that development plans retain 30 percent of viable trees on site. Trees 1 and 2 are viable. I determined that tree 3 is not.

Tree 3 (7.9-inch and 9-inch apple tree) is in fair to poor condition. At the time of my site visit, the tree appeared to be in poor structural condition. There was excessive dead wood and a broken top. However, it was enveloped in ivy and blackberry which limited my visual assessment and blocked my access to the trunk. I could not determine if live buds were present or not. Apple trees grown in western Washington are prone to foliar diseases and insect infestations. They grow aggressively and require regular pruning if grown for apples which causes decay. The combination of these factors contributed to my determination that the tree is not viable for long term retention.

If these trees are removed, they will require replacement planting. I recommend you replant with the following species, which will maintain the character of the property and be suitable for the available space. These species include:

- Shore pine (*Pinus contorta* var. *contorta*)
- Japanese snowbell (*Styrax japonicus*)
- 'Eddie's White Wonder' dogwood (*Cornus nuttallii* x *florida* 'Eddies White Wonder')

Respectfully submitted,

Connor McDermott, ISA Certified Arborist, Qualified Tree Risk Assessor

Appendix A Site Maps

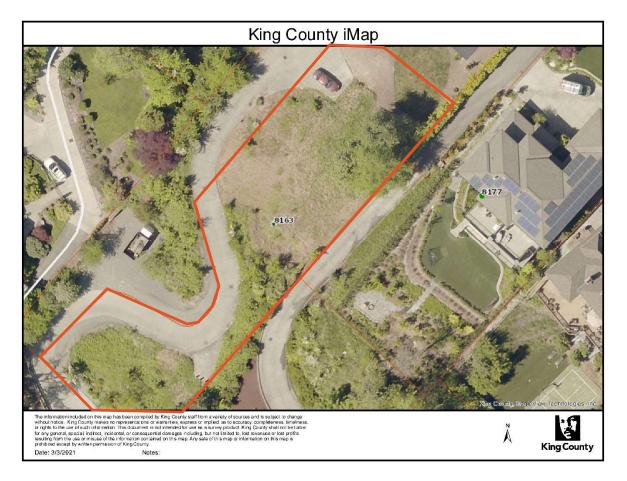


Figure 1. Aerial photograph from King County iMap GIS shows the subject site outlined in red (Accessed 3/3/2021).

Arborist Memorandum Brandt Design Group: 8163 W Mercer Way

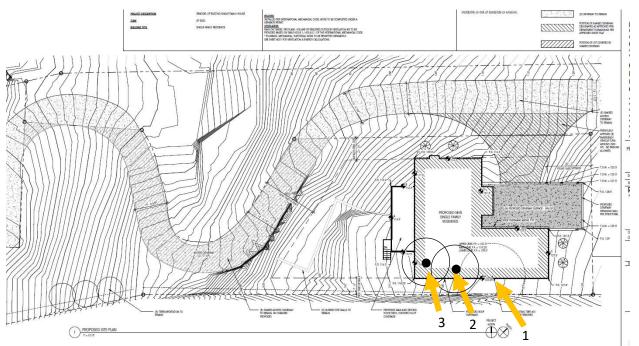


Figure 2. Site Plan: Kahn Spec Home (Brandt Design Group, 11/30/2020) with tree locations overlayed on the current development plans.

Appendix B Photographs



Photograph 1. Site Trees in order Trees 1-3 from left to right.



Photograph 2. Looking south at the site from the private drive off of W Mercer Way.

Appendix C Assumptions & Limiting Conditions

- 1 Consultant assumes that the site and its use do not violate, and is in compliance with, all applicable codes, ordinances, statutes or regulations.
- 2 The consultant may provide a report or recommendation based on published municipal regulations. The consultant assumes that the municipal regulations published on the date of the report are current municipal regulations and assumes no obligation related to unpublished city regulation information.
- 3 Any report by the consultant and any values expressed therein represent the opinion of the consultant, and the consultant's fee is in no way contingent upon the reporting of a specific value, a stipulated result, the occurrence of a subsequent event, or upon any finding to be reported.
- 4 All photographs included in this report were taken by Tree Solutions, Inc. during the documented site visit, unless otherwise noted. Sketches, drawings and photographs (included in, and attached to, this report) are intended as visual aids and are not necessarily to scale. They should not be construed as engineering drawings, architectural reports or surveys. The reproduction of any information generated by architects, engineers or other consultants and any sketches, drawings or photographs is for the express purpose of coordination and ease of reference only. Inclusion of such information on any drawings or other documents does not constitute a representation by the consultant as to the sufficiency or accuracy of the information.
- 5 Unless otherwise agreed, (1) information contained in any report by consultant covers only the items examined and reflects the condition of those items at the time of inspection; and (2) the inspection is limited to visual examination of accessible items without dissection, excavation, probing, climbing, or coring.
- 6 These findings are based on the observations and opinions of the authoring arborist, and do not provide guarantees regarding the future performance, health, vigor, structural stability or safety of the plants described and assessed.
- 7 Measurements are subject to typical margins of error, considering the oval or asymmetrical cross-section of most trunks and canopies.
- 8 Tree Solutions did not review any reports or perform any tests related to the soil located on the subject property unless outlined in the scope of services. Tree Solutions staff are not and do not claim to be soils experts. An independent inventory and evaluation of the site's soil should be obtained by a qualified professional if an additional understanding of the site's characteristics is needed to make an informed decision.
- 9 Our assessments are made in conformity with acceptable evaluation/diagnostic reporting techniques and procedures, as recommended by the International Society of Arboriculture.



DSH (Diameter at Standard Height) is measured 4.5 feet above grade, or as specified in the Guide for Plant Appraisal, 10th Edition, published by the Council of Tree and Landscape Appraisers. DSH for multi-stem trees are noted as a single stem equivalent, which is calculated using the method defined in the Guide for Plant Appraisal, 10th Edition. Letters are used to identify trees on neighboring property with overhanging canopies.

Dripline is measured from the center of the tree to the outermost extent of the canopy.

<u></u>									Dripline Radius (feet)							
Tree			DSH	DSH	Health	Structural					Exceptional		Proposed			
ID	Scientific Name	Common Name	(inches)	Multistem	Condition	Condition	Ν	E	S	w	Threshold	Exceptional	Action	Notes		
1	Pyrus communis	European pear	18.1		Good	Fair	12.8	10.8	8.8	10.8	36.0	-	Remove	Multiple tear outs in canopy;		
														maintained in natural form		
2	Alnus rubra	Red alder	16.7		Good	Good	15.7	11.7	10.7	12.7	36.0	-	Remove	Blackberry, holly, and cherry laurel		
														crowd base; ivy up trunk; vertical		
														crack in trunk on east side		
3	Malus sp.	Apple	11.7	7.5, 9	Fair	Poor	8.5	3.5	8.0	9.5	20.0	-	Remove	Ivy limits assessment; heavy ivy up in		
														canopy; blackberry at base, estimated		
														DSH due to ivy; ivy weighs down		
														canopy to northwest		

