



## **Arborist Report**

**November 5th, 2021**

**Prepared for:**

Ken Kolbe  
7001 82nd Ave SE  
Mercer Island, WA

**Prepared by:**

Seattle Tree Consulting  
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## Discussion

Arborist report for Ken Kolbe. 7001 82nd Ave. SE., Mercer Island Washington. October 28, 2021. 10 AM.

Thank you for having us out to assess the condition of the trees on the site. It is my understanding that the clients are intending to make some improvements to this lot. They are proposing adding on to the existing primary residence on the site. The addition will be on the northern end of the existing residence; as it was described to me, the project will not have an adverse effect on any significant tree systems.

Trees that are larger than 6 inches of diameter at standard height are considered significant. At the time of the site visit, there were almost no significant tree systems on my client's portion of the lot that need to be considered as part of the inventory. The client did inform me during the site visit that there was a significant conifer removed approximately two years ago from the eastern portion of the site because it was suffering from a pathogen, but there was very little evidence left available for me to draw a conclusion about what caused its decline. I have estimated the DSH of this specimen to be 15".

During the site visit, the client told me that there is an intention to redo the existing driveway that accesses the site. This is the only portion of the project that will take place within the root zone of a significant tree. The West neighbor has a Western Hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*) that is just over the fence line. This tree has a diameter at standard height reading of 20 inches and a drip line radius of 20 foot that was measured with a laser rangefinder. It is appropriate to assign a critical root zone radius of 20 foot for this specimen. All work that takes place within the critical root zone of this tree should be undertaken with hand tools. The existing driveway should be removed with a jack hammer rather than a piece of large excavating equipment when working in the critical root zone of the hemlock. Once the driveway is removed, the critical root zone of the hemlock should be protected with tree protection fencing so that unnecessary compaction does not occur under the tree.

Tree#1. This is the only tree in the inventory. North of the hemlock, just inside my client's property boundary, and very close to the cable communications box, is a Pacific Madrona (*Arbutus menziesii*) that is in excellent condition. This tree has a diameter at standard height reading of 6.25 inches and a drip line radius of 10 foot that was measured with a laser rangefinder. This is a significant tree and I suggest that you protect the entire drip line of the system with tree protection fencing prior to construction activities commencing. The proposed developments will not have an adverse effect on the health of the specimen.

To the northeast of the aforementioned Madrona is a young specimen of Cutleaf European White Birch (*Betula pendula* 'Cutleaf'). This tree is too small to be considered as part of this inventory.

In the northern portion of my client's yard, there are two fairly young Sweetgum trees (*Liquidmabar styraciflua*). The larger of these few trees has a diameter at standard height reading of 4.5 inches. Neither of them is large enough to be included in this tree inventory.

There are some significant conifer systems on the South neighbor's lot, but they are far from the proposed developments to my client's site and they are not located anywhere near the proposed ingress or egress.

### **Summary**

There are no significant tree systems on my client's site that will be adversely affected by this project. The only significant tree is the Madrona in the northwest corner of the lot and its drip line and root zone can be easily protected.

The most significant tree system that is located close to the proposed developments is a Western Hemlock on the West neighbor's lot. This tree's drip line does extend over my client's property, but the proposed developments, as they were described to me, will not have an adverse effect on the health of this system, so long as the work within the critical root zone is done with hand tools and the root zone is protected with fencing.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

**Photos of the Site**



**Red Arrow-Hemlock**  
**Blue Arrow-Madrona**  
**Green Arrow-Sweetgum**



**Existing driveway, photo taken looking north. The area near the garbage cans should be pulled up by hand and protected with fencing.**



**Picture of the stump of the removed conifer. I have seen several pictures of this tree and it appears to have been a Blue Noble Fir (*Abies procera* 'Glauca'). Diameter of the root flare is 17" and because of the lack of taper in the pedestal region of this species, I am estimating the DSH prior to removal as 15".**

## **Assumptions and Limiting Conditions**

Any legal description provided to the consultant/appraiser is assumed to be correct. Any titles and ownership to any property are assumed to be good and marketable. No responsibility is assumed for matters of legal character. Any and all property is appraised or evaluated as though free and clear, under responsible ownership and competent management.

It is assumed that any property is not in violation of any applicable codes, ordinances, statutes, or other government regulations.

Care has been taken to obtain all information from reliable sources. All data has been verified so far as possible, however, the consultant/appraiser can neither guarantee nor be responsible for accuracy of information provided by others.

The consultant/appraiser shall not be required to give testimony or attend court by reason of this report unless subsequent contractual arrangements are made, including payments of additional fees for such services as described in the fee schedule and contract engagement.

Loss or alteration of any of this report invalidates the entire report.

Possession of this report or a copy thereof does not imply right of publication or use for any purpose by any person other than to whom it is addressed, without prior written consent of the consultant/appraiser.

Neither all nor any part of the content in this report, nor copy thereof, shall be conveyed by anyone, including the client, to the public through advertising, public relations, news, sales or other media, without the prior expressed written consent of the consultant/appraiser--particularly as to value conclusions, identity of the consultant/appraiser, or any reference to any professional society or institute or to any initialed designation conferred upon the consultant/appraiser as stated in his qualification.