

# ARBORIST REPORT

**Date:**

July 25, 2022

**Prepared for:**

Kevin Leung

**Site Address:**

9102 SE 78<sup>th</sup> PL  
Mercer Island, WA

**Prepared by:**

Tom Quigley  
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## NARRATIVE

### Scope of Work

You have asked me to assess the current condition of the existing trees located at the above referenced site and to prepare an assessment of the likely impacts to those trees as a result of planned site demolition and construction. Your design team has provided site plan sheets L1.01 and L2.01 dated 7/26/2022.

### Methodology

The methods and techniques used for this assessment are as outlined in *Tree Risk Assessment* by Julian Dunster and as adopted by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA). Additional standards, practices and specifications are as detailed in *ANSI Standard A300 (Part 9)-2017 Tree Risk Assessment a. Tree Failure*. The end goal of most assessments is to provide the owner or manager of the tree(s) with factual information, enabling them to make decisions about the management of the tree(s). For this particular assessment, I used a Level II Assessment that includes inspection of the root collar, lower trunk, and canopy of the tree as can be seen from the ground. Basic assessment does not include climbing the tree or excavation of soils to inspect root structure or condition. While this assignment does not include tree risk assessment specifically, the methods of assessment are the same.

Reference is made to the ISA's Best Management Practices manual, '*Managing Trees During Construction*', *Second Edition*; as well as *ANSI Standard A300 (Part B)-2013 Root Management*.

I measured each tree for its Diameter at Breast Height (DBH), an industry standard of measuring trees at 4.5' above grade. Trees that have more than one stem at 4.5' above grade were measured for DBH by calculating diameter by using the following formulas, as adopted by the ISA; DBH equals the square root of the total of each stem diameter squared.

I completed a Tree Inventory and Assessment spreadsheet that details each tree by Reference Number, Species, Common Name, Size (DBH), Dripline, Condition, with Comments. Condition is rated on a scale of Poor, Fair, Good, Excellent and considers overall vigor and structure.

The trees were not tagged with a physical tag but their actual locations are easy to locate onsite using site plan reference points.

### Findings and Observations

I visited the site on November 9, 2021 and again on February 26, 2022.

There are eight (8) trees under consideration. They are detailed in the aforementioned spreadsheet and are further discussed below.

Tree #1, #2 and #3 are all Douglas fir trees growing in a tight clump above the rock retaining wall located near the NW corner of the residence. Two of these Douglas fir are less than 10"

DBH and thereby are not regulated. Tree #3 is a Douglas fir that measured 11.5" DBH. All three trees will be removed.

Tree #4 is a *Prunus Lusitanica*, commonly called Portuguese laurel. Laurels are considered to be invasive and locally, many municipalities do not consider them to be 'trees'. Therefore this 'tree' is unregulated and will be removed.

Tree #5 is a Big leaf maple measuring 22.8" DBH. This tree will be retained. Tree protection fencing will be installed at the dripline radius of 12'.

Tree #6 is a 5.6" DBH Vine Maple growing near the house deck and will be retained and protected.

Tree #7 is a 12.3" DBH Big leaf maple growing at the crest of the slope at the SE corner of the property. Tree protection fencing will be installed around this tree. It is my understanding that there will be no soil disruption near this tree.

Tree #8 is a 5.6" DBH Cedar tree growing just off of the driveway near the residence. This tree is smaller than the threshold for regulation and will be removed.

### **Considerations**

There are three (3) trees located onsite that are greater than 10.0" DBH. Two will be retained, thus 66% will be retained, meeting the threshold of a 30% minimum retainage.

The following preservation and mitigation measures should be included on all plan sheets that detail clearing, demolition, grading, tree removal, or tree planting.

- Tree Protection Fencing (TPF) shall consist of 4' tall orange poly fencing staked into place with stakes no more than 6' apart. The location of the TPF shall be detailed on the site plan as a measurement from a reference point, but in no case shall the TPF be located inside the drip line radius of the tree.
- Signage shall be placed on the fence at intervals not to exceed 20'. The signage shall state, "TREE PROTECTION ZONE. NO TOOLS, MATERIALS OR DEBRIS TO BE STORED IN THIS AREA".
- TPF shall be installed prior to any site soil disruption and shall stay in place until all other phases of the project are complete.
- If any tree roots larger than 1.5" in diameter are exposed during any excavation near the Tree Protection Fencing, said root impacts should be assessed via a site visit from a tree professional or via photo documentation and assessment. Encountered roots that need to be severed should be properly pruned using professional tools and should be undertaken with consideration of *ANSI Standard A300 (Part B)-2013 Root Management*.

### **Conclusions**

I have visited this site twice. I have reviewed site plan pages L1.01 and L2.01, as revised 7/26/2022 and believe them to be accurate with regard to tree locations and tree protection

measures. As detailed, the plan to retain and protect certain trees should be successful. You are required to plant two (2) trees as mitigation for the removal of Tree #3. Your Tree Plan L2.01 details the five (5) trees scheduled to be planted onsite. Two of the replacement trees are native species and three replacement trees are ornamental trees that are well adapted to Mercer Island conditions.

This report was prepared by Thomas Quigley, ISA certified arborist PN0655A. Tree Risk Assessment Qualified (TRAQ) by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA).