

# ARBORIST REPORT

## **Immediate Action Required**

**Report Date:**

June 7, 2023

**Prepared for:**

Jamie Buchan  
Buchan Homes

**Site Address:**

3036 67<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE  
Mercer Island, WA

**Prepared by:**

Tom Quigley  
Tree Risk Assessment Qualified (TRAQ)

Olympic Nursery, Inc.  
P.O. Box 2013  
Woodinville, WA 98072  
tom@olympicnursery.com

OLYMPIC  
NURSERY, INC. 

Please reference the initial arborist report for the above referenced property, said report dated October 11, 2022.

I visited the site July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 11:00 AM.

Tree #1 has had significant root impact from excavation inside the dripline radius of the tree, significantly close to the tree trunk. The exact extent of root damage is not completely known as the excavation was backfilled prior to my site visit. As shown in the photo included in the report dated October 11, 2022, significant roots were located in an exploratory trench that was opened 14' from the tree trunk, as detailed in said report. As shown in the photo below, much of the southern half of the tree's dripline radius has been impacted by site work. There is a marker placed in the ground by the excavation contractor that indicates an excavation cut of five feet (5').

In my professional experience, it would not be possible to undertake the extent of apparent excavation work without significantly impacting structural roots. If anyone had any doubt about the exact extent of damage, a pneumatic spade could be used to excavate a new exploratory trench along the existing excavation edge closest to the tree trunk in order to reveal any roots that were encountered. I am quite confident that significant roots were impacted and that the sum total of all roots impacted would far exceed any reasonable level of tolerance for such impacts. While the tree may have sufficient remaining roots to keep it standing, the seemingly apparent level of soil disruption and associated root system impacts would indicate the opposite.

I have completed an ISA Tree Risk Assessment Form for this tree. I considered the 'Likelihood of Failure' to be Imminent. The damage is hidden below grade; if we were to see an equal level of structural damage above ground, an assessment of Imminent failure is understandable. Tree that have their roots severed, often fail in the opposite direction from the severed roots. The Likelihood of this tree striking the residential structure located just a few feet from the tree is High. The consequences of a failure and strike could be severe as the home is occupied full-time.

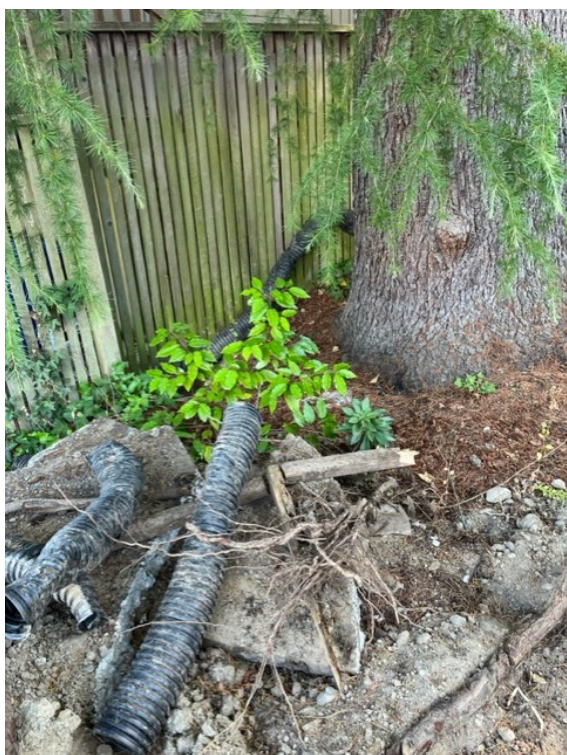
I believe there is an obligation to notify the homeowner of the target residence. The tree should be removed as soon as possible and should be considered priority one.

Two (2) photos below.

This report was prepared by Thomas Quigley, International Society of Arboriculture, TRAQ certified, expiration July 2024.



Wood marker to right of photo indicates 5' deep excavation, about 10' from tree.



Debris piled next to tree. Edge of excavation shown in bottom right of photo.