

ARBORIST Memo

Date:

January 31, 2024

Prepared for:

Ross Murray

Site Address:

4803 Forest Ave SE
Mercer Island, WA

Prepared by:

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Memo

This memo is intended to address a SUB3 Review Comment from John Kenney dealing with Tree #746 and #751.

It is my understanding that at some time in the recent past the proposed garage structure and retaining walls were within the dripline of Tree #746. Those plans have been altered to provide dripline protection for Tree #746. The above referenced Review Comment also asks for detail on tree #751. This tree is located on the crest of a steep slope and was surrounded by thick bramble the first time I assessed the trees on that site. Subsequent to that initial assessment, and due to changes in the siting of the proposed garage structure, there was a need to further assess Tree #746. During that site visit we took the time to clear the bramble from around the base of Tree #751, which revealed advanced decay in the buttress and root collar. The attached photos show a 18" pruning saw easily inserted into the decay column. While there is response wood, it is not vigorous and the decay is so advanced as to allow light to be seen from one side of the root collar, through and under the tree. We also measured the two stems and then calculated the DBH to be 25.3". I've included a photo detailing the dieback and loss of limbs in the canopy. As you know, *Kretzchmaria deusta* is prevalent in our Big Leaf Maples. This subject property is vacant currently, so the risk of failure is slightly mitigated by that fact. Once construction begins, the risk of unfavorable consequences from a partial or complete failure will be considered High.

We've updated the attached Tree Inventory to reflect the above changes. The changes are noted with red ink and the file name has been changed to include today's date.

The two photos below show the significant structural defects and limb dieback. The buttress wood and root collar decay is advanced.



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

