# ArboristsNW, uc 

www.arboristsnw.com

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## RE: 8247 E Mercer Way, Mercer Island, WA.

A crew from ArboristsNW LLC inspected the trees affected by your project on your lot and the neighboring properties. Each tree now sports a numbered metal tag that corresponds to the attached site map and drawing. We will address the condition of one exceptional tree (32) that is hazardous and needs to be removed for your project. In addition, there will be discussions on the location of the tree protection fences and why they will protect the remaining trees while being located within the driplines of the several trees. Irrigation for the replacement trees will be part of the discussions.

First off is tree 32, a 31.8" DBH Big Leaf Maple. This tree has had one-half of its top break off. Two main scaffolding branches formed the top; one has broken off at the division of the main trunk into the two scaffolds. The tear/wound ( $3^{\prime}$ long and $10^{\prime \prime}$ wide) has not compartmentalized, and a cavity is observable. The two scaffolds had an east-west orientation, and the western scaffold failed. This situation gives the tree a lean towards the existing home with all the weight pulling to the east. There are two more critical factors: the stump is undermined, with voids under the root crown, and decay was observed under the root crown. The second issue is that the soil on the west side uphill side of the tree is saturated. One sinks 4-5" into the ground when walking in this area. It is our professional opinion that this tree though exceptional tree, be removed and replaced with an appropriate species for the location and number of trees as required by the city. The replacement numbers and species are incorporated in the site drawing and within the Tree inventory form.

It will be noticed that several trees have tree protection fencing well within their driplines/CRZs. The reason for this and why the fencing should be allowed is because of existing structures that will protect the trees from damage. One, the existing asphalt driveways will not be touched. Then all along the edges of the driveway are raised rock walls. The trees are in elevated beds. These same structures surround the ROW trees, and roots and trunks are already buffered from possible damage and or soil compaction.

Irrigation for the replacement trees will be using two methods; drip irrigation connected to the home's water supply and Tree Gaters for the more isolated trees.

Drip irrigation, connected to the home's water supply, will have timer and moisture controls-timers for regular automatic watering. Moisture controls to stop watering when levels are already sufficient.

Tree-Gaters, are ten to fifteen-gallon bladders that are placed around the new tree. It slowly releases water over the course of two weeks. These are to be monitored by the project arborist until the trees are established to ensure the survival of the replacements.

Finally, to address the removal of two ROW trees (3-4). Both trees have a Bark Beetle infestation and pitch with frass weeping for the lower trunks. The current condition of the tree's canopy has good color. Still, there is no cure presently once a tree has been infested, so these trees can be removed and replaced now rather than waiting for them to deteriorate to become increasingly hazardous, getting a jump on the eventual replacement of the canopies. They both have deformed canopies due to the damage from the south-westerly winds that wrap around the island's southeast end.

Respectfully Submitted

Neal Baker


12/22/22
ArboristsNW.com
ISA Cert. PN1075A
TRAQ ISA (Tree Risk Assessment Qualified)
Member AREA \& SOCA

## CITY OF MERCER ISLAND

# TREE INVENTORY \& REPLACEMENT SUBMITTAL INFORMATION 

## EXCEPTIONAL TREES

Exceptional Trees- means a tree or group of trees that because of its unique historical, ecological or aesthetic value constitutes an important community resource. A tree that is rare or exceptional by virtue of its size, species, condition, cultural/historical importance, age, and/or contribution as part of a tree grove. Trees with a diameter of more than 36 inches, or with a diameter that is equal to or greater than the diameter listed in the Exceptional Tree Table shown in MICC 19.16 under Tree, Exceptional.

List the total number of trees for each category and the tree identification numbers from the arborist report.
Number of trees $36^{\prime \prime}$ or greater 0
List tree numbers:
Number of trees $24^{\prime \prime}$ or greater (including $36^{\prime \prime}$ or greater) 1
List tree numbers: 32
Number of trees from Exceptional Tree Table (MICC
2
19.16) List tree numbers 11, 32

## LARGE REGULATED TREES

Large Regulated Trees- means any tree with a diameter of 10 inches or more, and any tree that meets the definition of an Exceptional Tree.

Number of Large Regulated Trees on site
List tree numbers: $\quad 6,7,9-12,14-19,20-2,25,32$

| Number of Large Regulated Trees on site proposed for removal | 6 | (B) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| List tree numbers: | $12,19,20-1,28,32$ | 57.14 |
| Percentage of trees to be retained ((A-B)/Ax100) note: must be at least 30\% |  |  |
| RIGHT OF WAY TREES |  |  |

Right of Way Trees- means a tree that is located in the street right of way adjacent to the project property.

| Number of Large Regulated Trees in right of way | 3 |
| :--- | :--- |
| List tree numbers: $\quad 03-05$ | 2 |
| Number of Large Regulated Trees in right of way proposed for removal |  |

List tree numbers:
Reason for removal: Bark Beetle infestation

## TREE REPLACEMENT

Tree replacement- removed trees must be replaced based on the ratio in the table below. Replacement trees shall be conifers at least six feet tall and or deciduous at least one and one-half inches in diameter at base.

| Diameter of Removed Tree (measured 4.5' <br> above ground) | Tree <br> replacement <br> Ratio | Number of <br> Trees Proposed <br> for Removal | Number of Tree <br> Required for <br> Replacement Based <br> on Size/Type |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Less than 10" | 1 |  |  |
| $10^{\prime \prime}$ up to 24" | 2 | 7 | 14 |
| Greater than $24^{\prime \prime}$ up to 36" | 3 |  |  |
| Greater than $36^{\prime \prime}$ and any Exceptional Tree | 6 | 1 | 6 |
| TOTAL TREE REPLACEMENTS |  |  |  |



