

ATTACHMENT B



California Tree and Landscape Consulting, Inc.

December 19, 2022

K.C. Farrell, Director of Landscape Design
Thomas James Homes
1255 Treat Blvd, Suite 800
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

Phone: 650-249-1625
Via Email: kcfarrell@tjhusa.com

RE: Evaluation of Root Exploration at 749 University Ave, Los Altos, California Project Site

Dear KC Farrell:

You asked California Tree and Landscape Consulting, Inc. to have a certified arborist evaluate root exploration trenching performed at the project site referenced above. On December 19, 2022, Thomas M. Stein (ISA Certified Arborist # WE-12854A) visited the site and performed the evaluation.

A root trench was hand dug by two crew members of Golden State Co. along the north east side of the existing home. Refer to the attached exhibit for the approximate location of the trench relative to tree #'s 4, 5, 6 and 7 (Tag #'s 1242, 1243, 1244, 1245). This trench was dug to expose roots which may be growing in the top 2 feet of soil to the west of these trees. The trench was approximately 12" wide by 24" deep. The only significant root (2" diameter or greater) observed was one 4" diameter root from tree #6. This root grew west at a depth of about 1 foot until it reached the raised floor foundation, then it grew northeast adjacent to foundation past the point of excavation. Refer to the attached photographs.

In the arborist report written by California Tree and Landscape Consulting, Inc, dated August 11, 2022 removal of tree #6 was recommended due to noted defects. The tree has been inappropriately pruned and has multiple points of decay. It is likely that the 4" root will need to be pruned to excavate for the new slab foundation proposed by the developer. This may de-stabilize the tree or begin a long-term decline in health of the tree. It is still my recommendation that the tree be removed for development. If the tree is retained, the tree will have a limited area for canopy growth due to encroachment by the proposed home. The canopy will need frequent pruning to maintain clearance from the proposed home. This will also be true for tree #'s 4, 5 and 7, but they are not expected to suffer the same root impacts. The new proposed home will have an approximate 6' setback from the east property line. The over-excavation for the foundation will still have a significant impact to the critical root zones of all four trees. The lack of tree roots observed for Tree #'s 4, 5 and 7 indicates that de-stabilization of these tree is not expected. It should be noted, however, that there may be deeper roots for these trees under the raised floor foundation, not seen during this evaluation. If roots (>2" in diameter) are encountered during slab foundation excavation, they should be properly root pruned under the

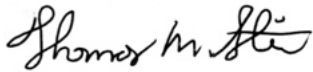


direction of the project arborist, following current ISA best practices. It was noted in the evaluation that the area to the northeast of all four trees, on the adjacent parcel, is primarily lawn, which is a favorable environment for root growth.

Please refer to the attached photographs.

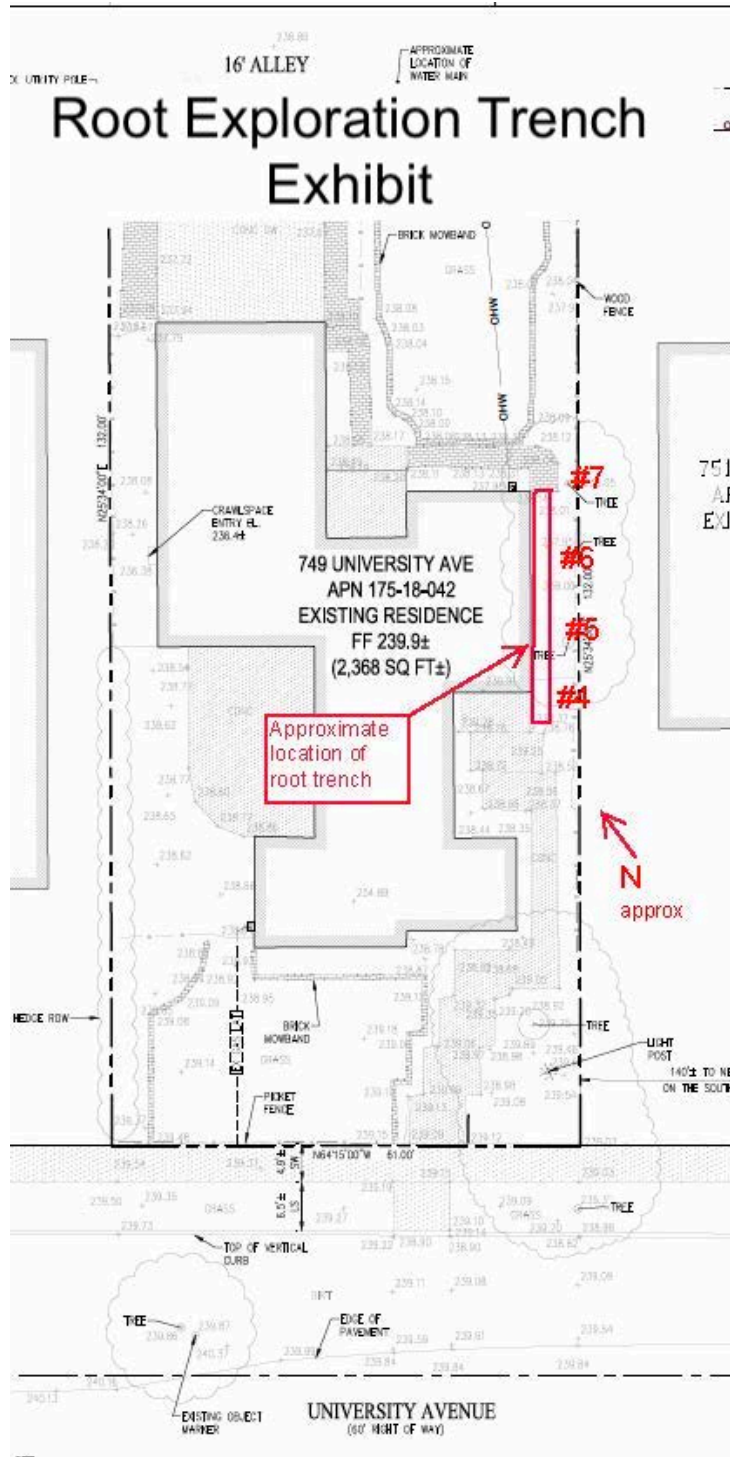
Please feel free to give us a call if you have any questions or require additional information.

Prepared by:

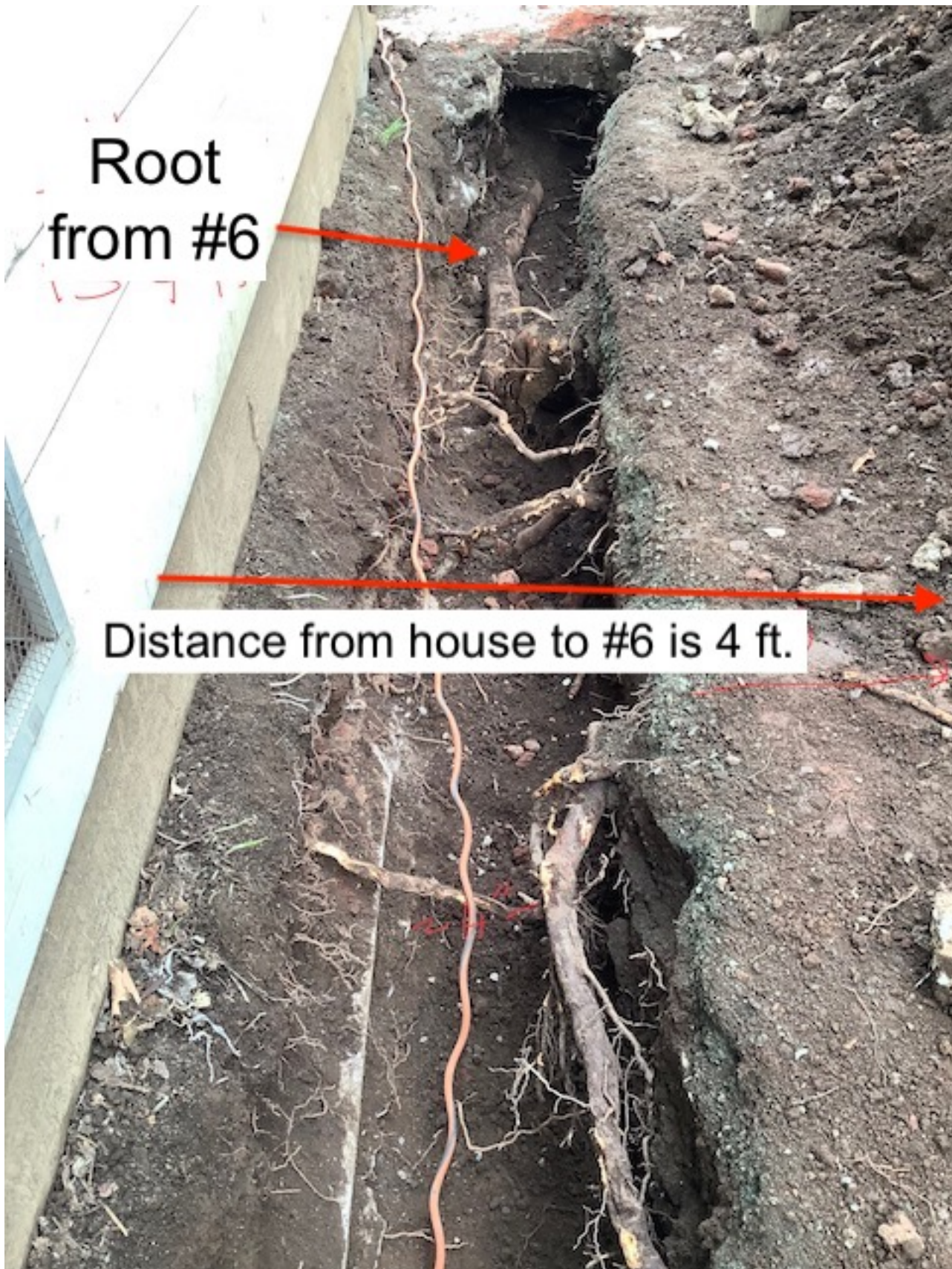


Thomas M. Stein, Arborist
International Society of Arboriculture
ISA Certified Arborist WE-12854A
ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualified

CC: Andy Cost (Thomas James Homes)
Ed Stirtz (California Tree and Landscape Consulting, Inc.)













California Tree and Landscape Consulting, Inc.

August 11, 2022

Cynthia Thiebaut, Director of Development
 Thomas James Homes
 255 Shoreline Drive, Suite 428
 Redwood City, California 94065
 Via Email: cthiebaut@tjhusa.com

FINAL ARBORIST REPORT, TREE INVENTORY, CONSTRUCTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND TREE PROTECTION PLAN

RE: 749 University Avenue, City of Los Altos, California [APN 175-18-042]

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Thomas James Homes contacted California Tree and Landscape Consulting, Inc. to document the trees on the property for a better understanding of the existing resource and any potential improvement obstacles that may arise. In addition, trees located off the parcel are included if they would be impacted by development of the property. Thomas James Homes requested an Arborist Report, Tree Inventory, Construction Impact Assessment and Tree Protection Plan suitable for submittal to the City of Los Altos. This is a Final Arborist Report, Tree Inventory, Construction Impact Assessment and Tree Protection Plan for the filing of plans to develop the property.

Thomas M. Stein, ISA Certified Arborist #WE-12854A, visited the property on February 9, 2022, to provide species identification, measurements of DBH and canopy, field condition notes, recommended actions, ratings, and approximate locations. A total of 10 trees were evaluated on this property, 4 of which are protected according to the City of Los Altos Tree Ordinance, Section 11.08.040. Three trees are located off the parcel, but were included in the inventory because they may be impacted by development. **See Appendices for specific information on each tree.**

Tree Species	Total Trees Inventoried	Trees on this Site ¹	Protected Tree	Trees Proposed for Removal	Trees Proposed for Retention ²
Bay laurel, <i>Umbellularia californica</i>	1	0	1	0	1
Chinese elm, <i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>	1	0	0	0	1
Chinese pistache, <i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	1	0	0	0	1
Coast live oak, <i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	1	1	0	0	1
Deodar cedar, <i>Cedrus deodara</i>	1	1	1	0	1
London plane, <i>Platanus hybrida</i>	3	3	1	0	3
Silver maple, <i>Acer saccharinum</i>	1	1	1	1	0
Sweetgum, <i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	1	1	0	0	1
TOTAL	10	7	4	1	9

¹ CalTLC, Inc. is not a licensed land surveyor. Tree locations are approximate and we do not determine tree ownership. Trees which appear to be on another parcel are listed as off-site and treated as the property of that parcel.

² Trees in close proximity to development may require special protection measures. See Appendix/Recommendations for specific details.

ASSIGNMENT

Perform an examination of the site to document the presence and condition of trees protected by the City of Los Altos. The study area for this effort includes the deeded parcel as delineated in the field by the property fences and any significant or protected trees overhanging from adjacent parcels.

Prepare a report of findings. All trees protected by the City of Los Altos are included in the inventory.

METHODS

Appendix 2 in this report are the detailed inventory and recommendations for the trees. The following terms and Table A – Ratings Descriptions will further explain our findings.

The protected trees evaluated as part of this report have a numbered tag that was placed on each one that is 1-1/8" x 1-3/8", green anodized aluminum, "acorn" shaped, and labeled: CalTLC, Auburn, CA with 1/4" pre-stamped tree number and Tree Tag. They are attached with a natural-colored aluminum 10d nail, installed at approximately 6 feet above ground level on the approximate north side of the tree. The tag should last ~10-20+ years depending on the species, before it is enveloped by the trees' normal growth cycle.

TERMS

Species of trees is listed by our local common name and botanical name by genus and species.

DBH (diameter breast high) is normally measured at 4'6" (54" above the average ground, height but if that varies then the location where it is measured is noted here. A steel diameter tape was used to measure the trees.

Canopy radius is measured in feet. It is the farthest extent of the crown composed of leaves and small twigs measured by a steel tape. This measurement often defines the Critical Root Zone (CRZ) or Protection Zone (PZ), which is a circular area around a tree with a radius equal to this measurement.

Actions listed are recommendations to improve health or structure of the tree. Trees in public spaces require maintenance. If a tree is to remain and be preserved, then the tree may need some form of work to reduce the likelihood of failure and increase the longevity of the tree. Preservation requirements and actions based on a proposed development plan are not included here.

Arborist Rating is subjective to condition and is based on both the health and structure of the tree. All of the trees were rated for condition, per the recognized national standard as set up by the Council of Tree and Landscape Appraisers and the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) on a numeric scale of 5 (being the highest) to 0 (the worst condition, dead). The rating was done in the field at the time of the measuring and inspection.

Table A – Ratings Descriptions

No problem(s)	5	excellent
No apparent problem(s)	4	good
<u>Minor problem(s)</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>fair</u>
Major problem(s)	2	poor
Extreme problem(s)	1	hazardous, non-correctable
Dead	0	dead

Rating #0: This indicates a tree that has no significant sign of life.

Rating #1: The problems are extreme. This rating is assigned to a tree that has structural and/or health problems that no amount of work or effort can change. The issues may or may not be considered a dangerous situation.

Rating #2: The tree has major problems. If the option is taken to preserve the tree, its condition could be improved with correct arboricultural work including, but not limited to: pruning, cabling, bracing, bolting, guying, spraying, mistletoe removal, vertical mulching, fertilization, etc. If the recommended actions are completed correctly, hazard can be reduced and the rating can be elevated to a 3. If no action is taken the tree is considered a liability and should be removed.

Rating #3: The tree is in fair condition. There are some minor structural or health problems that pose no immediate danger. When the recommended actions in an arborist report are completed correctly the defect(s) can be minimized or eliminated.

Rating #4: The tree is in good condition and there are no apparent problems that a Certified Arborist can see from a visual ground inspection. If potential structural or health problems are tended to at this stage future hazard can be reduced and more serious health problems can be averted.

Rating #5: No problems found from a visual ground inspection. Structurally, these trees have properly spaced branches and near perfect characteristics for the species. Highly rated trees are not common in natural or developed landscapes. No tree is ever perfect especially with the unpredictability of nature, but with this highest rating, the condition should be considered excellent.

Notes indicate the health, structure and environment of the tree and explain why the tree should be removed or preserved. Additional notes may indicate if problems are minor, extreme or correctible.

Remove is the recommendation that the tree be removed. The recommendation will normally be based either on poor structure or poor health and is indicated as follows:

Yes H – Tree is unhealthy

Yes S – Tree is structurally unsound

OBSERVATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

The site is located in an existing subdivision with single-family residences, and the vegetation is comprised of ornamental landscape plants. The project site has an existing one-story house with a reported area of 1,181 sq. ft. on a parcel with a reported area of 8,437 sq. ft. The home is connected to electrical, communication, gas, water and sanitary sewer infrastructure. There is an alley at the rear of the parcel, and the garage is accessed from the alley. The development plans include demolition of the existing home and construction of a new 2-story home with a reported area of 2,812 sq. ft, new hardscape and landscape. Refer to Appendix 2 – Tree Data for details.

RECOMMENDED REMOVALS OF HAZARDOUS, DEFECTIVE OR UNHEALTHY TREES

At this time, no trees have been recommended for removal from the proposed project area due to the nature and extent of defects, compromised health, and/or structural instability noted at the time of field inventory efforts.

CONSTRUCTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT

This Arborist Report, Tree Inventory, Construction Impact Assessment and Tree Protection Plan is intended to provide Thomas James Homes, the City of Los Altos, and other members of the development team a detailed *pre-development review* of the species, size, and current structure and vigor of the trees within and/or overhanging the proposed project area. At this time, we have reviewed the 48" Wide Plan prepared by BSB Design dated May 18, 2022; the Landscape Improvement Plans prepared by Roach & Campbell dated July 22, 2022, and the Preliminary Civil Review Notes prepared by CBG date June 6, 2022. The perceived impacts are summarized below. **Refer to Appendix 2 – Tree Data for protective measures to be taken for trees that will remain.**

Tree # 1 (Tag # 1239): No impact is expected to this off-site tree.

Tree # 2 (Tag # 1240): No impact is expected to this off-site tree.

Tree # 3 (Tag # 1241): Slight impact to the tree's CRZ is expected due to hardscape and foundation excavation. Slight impact to the tree's canopy is expected due to building encroachment. Less than 5% of the tree's canopy is expected to be impacted by the required clearance pruning.

Tree # 4 (Tag # 1242): Significant impact to the tree's CRZ is expected due to foundation excavation. Perform root excavation to determine extent of root impacts prior to demolition. Perform foundation excavation by hand/hydro-vac or pneumatic techniques. Perform any root pruning under the direction of the Project Arborist. Slight impact to the tree's canopy is expected due to building encroachment. Less than 5% of the tree's canopy is expected to be impacted by the required clearance pruning.

Tree # 5 (Tag # 1243): Significant impact to the tree's CRZ is expected due to foundation excavation. Perform root excavation to determine extent of root impacts prior to demolition. Perform foundation excavation by hand/hydro-vac or pneumatic techniques. Perform any root pruning under the direction of the Project Arborist. Slight impact to the tree's canopy is expected due to building encroachment. Less than 5% of the tree's canopy is expected to be impacted by the required clearance pruning.

Tree # 6 (Tag # 1244): This tree is proposed to be removed by the developer due to poor condition.

Tree # 7 (Tag # 1245): Significant impact to the tree's CRZ is expected due to foundation excavation. Perform root excavation to determine extent of root impacts prior to demolition. Perform foundation excavation by hand/hydro-vac or pneumatic techniques. Perform any root pruning under the direction of the Project Arborist. Slight impact to the tree's canopy is expected due to building encroachment. Less than 5% of the tree's canopy is expected to be impacted by the required clearance pruning.

Tree # 8 (Tag # 1246): No impact is expected to this off-site tree due to development.

Tree # 9 (Tag # 1247): No impact is expected to this tree due to development.

Tree # 10 (Tag # 1248): No impact is expected to the CRZ of this off-site tree due to development. Slight impact to the canopy may occur due to clearance requirements. Less than 5% of the tree's canopy is expected to be impacted by the required clearance pruning.

DISCUSSION

Trees need to be protected from normal construction practices if they are to remain healthy and viable on the site. Our recommendations are based on experience, and City ordinance requirements, so as to enhance tree longevity. This requires their root zones remain intact and viable, despite heavy equipment being on site, and the need to install foundations, driveways, underground utilities, and landscape irrigation systems. Simply walking and driving on soil has serious consequences for tree health.

Following is a summary of Impacts to trees during construction and Tree Protection measures that should be incorporated into the site plans in order to protect the trees. Once the plans are approved, they become the document that all contractors will follow. ***The plans become the contract between the owner and the contractor, so that only items spelled out in the plans can be expected to be followed. Hence, all protection measures, such as fence locations, mulch requirements and root pruning specifications must be shown on the plans.***

RECOMMENDATIONS: SUMMARY OF TREE PROTECTION MEASURES

Hire a Project Arborist to help ensure protection measures are incorporated into the site plans and followed. The Project Arborist should, in cooperation with the Engineers and/or Architects:

- Identify the Root Protection Zones on the final construction drawings, prior to bidding the project.
- Show the placement of tree protection fences, as well as areas to be irrigated, fertilized and mulched on the final construction drawings.
- Clearly show trees for removal on the plans and mark them clearly on site. A Contractor who is a Certified Arborist should perform tree and stump removal. All stumps within the root zone of trees to be preserved shall be ground out using a stump router or left in place. **No trunk within the root zone of other trees shall be removed using a backhoe or other piece of grading equipment.**
- Prior to any grading, or other work on the site that will come within 50' of any tree to be preserved:
 1. Irrigate (if needed) and place a 3" layer of chip mulch over the protected root zone of all trees that will be impacted.
 2. Erect Tree Protection Fences. Place boards against trees located within 3' of construction zones, even if fenced off.
 3. Remove lower foliage that may interfere with equipment PRIOR to having grading or other equipment on site. The Project Arborist should approve the extent of foliage elevation, and oversee the pruning, performed by a contractor who is an ISA Certified Arborist.
- For grade cuts, expose roots by hand digging, potholing or using an air spade and then cut roots cleanly prior to further grading outside the tree protection zones.
- For fills, if a cut is required first, follow as for cuts.
- Where possible, specify geotextile fabric and/or thickened paving, re-enforced paving, and structural soil in lieu of compacting, and avoid root cutting as much as possible, prior to placing fills on the soil surface. Any proposed retaining wall or fill soil shall be discussed with the engineer and arborist in order to reduce impacts to trees to be preserved.
- Clearly designate an area on the site outside the drip line of all trees where construction materials may be stored, and parking can take place. No materials or parking shall take place within the root zones of protected trees.
- Design utility and irrigation trenches to minimize disturbance to tree roots. Where possible, dig trenches with hydro-vac equipment or air spade, placing pipes underneath the roots, or bore the deeper trenches underneath the roots.
- Include on the plans an Arborist inspection schedule to monitor the site during (and after) construction to ensure protection measures are followed and make recommendations for care of the trees on site, as needed.

General Tree protection measures are included as Appendix 3. These measures need to be included on the Site, Grading, Utility and Landscape Plans. A final report of recommendations specific to the plan can be completed as part of, and in conjunction with, the actual plans. This will require the arborist working directly with the engineer and architect for the project. If the above recommendations are followed, the amount of time required by the arborist for the final report should be minimal.

Report Prepared by:



Edwin E. Stirtz, Consulting Arborist
International Society of Arboriculture
Certified Arborist WE-0510A
ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualified
Member, American Society of Consulting Arborists

Enc.: Appendix 1 – Tree Protection Plan
Appendix 2 – Tree Data
Appendix 3 – General Practices for Tree Protection
Appendix 4 – Photographs

APPENDIX 2 – TREE DATA

Tree #	Tag #	Protected Tree 48"+ Circ.	Street Tree	Offsite	Common Name	Botanical Name	DBH	Circ.	Measured At (ft)	Canopy Radius	Arborist Rating	Dvlpmt Status	Field Notes	Recommendations	Construction Impact	Protective Measures to be Taken
1	1239	No	Yes	Yes	Chinese pistache	<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	11	35	4	15	Fair-3	Retain & Protect	Street tree. Possibly shared or offsite tree. Growing in 5'-wide park strip, 3' back of curb and 17' from edge of pavement. 2' from sidewalk. One-sided SW. Previously covered with heavy vines. Dead vines attached to mid-canopy stems. N side suppressed by adjacent Deodar Cedar. Cracked bark upper limbs.	None at this time.	No impact is expected from development.	Install PTF as shown in App. 1. Perform clearance pruning (if needed) prior to demo. Monitor irrigation needs 2x/mo; irrigate as needed.
2	1240	No	No	No	Coast live oak	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	10	31	3	15	Good-4	Retain & Protect	Located between curb and pavement in parking strip, 15' from front of curb, 7' from edge of pavement. Slight lean N. Branches at 4' above grade. Codominant branching at ~7' above grade. Clearance pruned on street side.	None at this time.	No impact is expected from development.	Install PTF as shown in App. 1. Perform clearance pruning (if needed) prior to demo. Monitor irrigation needs 2x/mo; irrigate as needed. Do not irrigate in summer months.
3	1241	Yes	No	No	Deodar cedar	<i>Cedrus deodara</i>	25	79	4	25	Fair-3	Retain & Protect	DLR measured toward house. Centerline of tree 12' from house. Face of trunk 5' from property line. Lowest limb 15' above grade. Pruned to 20' over house. Reduction pruning throughout. Topped at 61'.	None at this time.	Slight impact to CRZ due to hardscape and foundation excavation. Slight impact to canopy due to building encroachment.	Install PTF as shown in App. 1. Perform clearance pruning (if needed) prior to demo. Monitor irrigation needs 2x/mo; irrigate as needed.
4	1242	Yes	No	No	London plane	<i>Platanus hybrida</i>	15	47	4	10	Fair-3	Retain & Protect	Growing adjacent to property line and ~5' from existing house. Pollarded at ~15' above grade. Re-sprouts are ~4-7' in length. Protected tree due to diameter. DLR estimated.	None at this time.	Significant impact to CRZ due to foundation excavation. Slight impact to canopy due to building encroachment.	Install PTF as shown in App. 1. Perform clearance pruning (if needed) prior to demo. Perform foundation excavation by hand/hydro-vac/pneumatic techniques. Perform any root pruning required under the direction of the project arborist. Monitor irrigation needs 2x/mo; irrigate as needed.

Tree #	Tag #	Protected Tree 48" + Circ.	Street Tree	Offsite	Common Name	Botanical Name	DBH	Circ.	Measured At (ft)	Canopy Radius	Arborist Rating	Dvlpmt Status	Field Notes	Recommendations	Construction Impact	Protective Measures to be Taken
5	1243	No	No	No	London plane	<i>Platanus hybrida</i>	15	47	4	20	Fair-3	Retain & Protect	Growing adjacent to property line and ~4' from existing house. Enlarged root crown flare. Pollarded at ~18' above grade. Re-sprout length ranges from 3-7'. W side is only 1' from eave of existing house. Codominant branching 8' above grade.	None at this time.	Significant impact to CRZ due to foundation excavation. Slight impact to canopy due to building encroachment.	Install PTF as shown in App. 1. Perform clearance pruning (if needed) prior to demo. Perform foundation excavation by hand/hydro-vac/pneumatic techniques. Perform any root pruning required under the direction of the project arborist. Monitor irrigation needs 2x/mo; irrigate as needed.
6	1244	Yes	No	No	Silver maple	<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	19	60	3	15	Poor-2	Remove	Growing adjacent to property line and ~4' from existing house. Codominant branching with included bark at 9' above grade. Topped at 12' & 14' of grade with weakly attached re-sprouting. Re-sprout length ranges from 2'-7' in length. Pruned branches at ~4' above grade with resprouting. DLR estimated.	None at this time.	The developer proposes removal due to poor condition.	N/A
7	1245	No	No	No	London plane	<i>Platanus hybrida</i>	10	31	4	9	Fair-3	Retain & Protect	Growing adjacent to property line. Located ~4' from corner of existing house. Codominant branching at 7' above grade. Tree has been pollarded at ~11' above grade. Re-sprout length ranges from 2-5'. W stem is growing into electrical service entrance of house.	None at this time.	Significant impact to CRZ due to foundation/hardscape excavation. Slight impact to canopy due to building encroachment.	Install PTF as shown in App. 1. Perform clearance pruning (if needed) prior to demo. Perform foundation excavation by hand/hydro-vac/pneumatic techniques. Perform any root pruning required under the direction of the project arborist. Monitor irrigation needs 2x/mo; irrigate as needed.
8	1246	Yes	No	Yes	Bay laurel	<i>Umbellularia californica</i>	23	72	4	20	Fair-3	Retain & Protect	Offsite tree growing ~20' E of property line. No overhang. Enlarged root crown flare. Codominant branching with included bark at ~7'. All dimensions estimated. Tag on fence.	None at this time.	No impact is expected from development.	N/A; off-site tree with no overhang.

Tree #	Tag #	Protected Tree 48" + Circ.	Street Tree	Offsite	Common Name	Botanical Name	DBH	Circ.	Measured At (ft)	Canopy Radius	Arborist Rating	Dvlpmt Status	Field Notes	Recommendations	Construction Impact	Protective Measures to be Taken
9	1247	No	No	No	Sweetgum	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	11	35	4	10	Fair-3	Retain & Protect	Growing in NE ~2' from fences. Root crown obscured by vegetation. Codominant branching ~11' above grade. Growing into communication and electrical wires. Suppressed SE side by adjacent offsite Bay Laurel.	None at this time.	No impact is expected from development.	Install PTF as shown in App. 1. Perform clearance pruning (if needed) prior to demo. Monitor irrigation needs 2x/mo; irrigate as needed.
10	1248	No	No	Yes	Chinese elm	<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>	12	38	4	25	Fair-3	Retain & Protect	Offsite tree growing ~1' W of property line. Lower trunk obscured by vegetation and fence. DLR/DBH estimated. Codominant branching ~10' above grade. Clearance pruned on E side. Overhangs existing home (project site) ~15'. Tag on fence.	None at this time.	No impact is expected to CRZ from development. Slight impact to canopy due to clearance pruning needs.	Perform clearance pruning as needed prior to demo. Install PTF as shown in App. 1.

TOTAL INVENTORIED TREES = 10 trees (474 aggregate circumference inches)
TOTAL RECOMMENDED REMOVALS = None
TOTAL REMOVALS FOR DEVELOPMENT = 1 tree (60 aggregate circumference inches)
Rating (0-5, where 0 is dead) = 2=1 tree; 3=8 trees; 4=1 tree
TOTAL PROTECTED TREES = 4 trees (258 aggregate circumference inches)

APPENDIX 3 – GENERAL PRACTICES FOR TREE PROTECTION

Definitions:

Root zone: The roots of trees grow fairly close to the surface of the soil, and spread out in a radial direction from the trunk of tree. A general rule of thumb is that they spread 2 to 3 times the radius of the canopy, or 1 to 1½ times the height of the tree. It is generally accepted that disturbance to root zones should be kept as far as possible from the trunk of a tree.

Inner Bark: The bark on large valley oaks and coast live oaks is quite thick, usually 1” to 2”. If the bark is knocked off a tree, the inner bark, or cambial region, is exposed or removed. The cambial zone is the area of tissue responsible for adding new layers to the tree each year, so by removing it, the tree can only grow new tissue from the edges of the wound. In addition, the wood of the tree is exposed to decay fungi, so the trunk present at the time of the injury becomes susceptible to decay. Tree protection measures require that no activities occur which can knock the bark off the trees.

Methods Used in Tree Protection:

No matter how detailed Tree Protection Measures are in the initial Arborist Report, they will not accomplish their stated purpose unless they are applied to individual trees and a Project Arborist is hired to oversee the construction. The Project Arborist should have the ability to enforce the Protection Measures. The Project Arborist should be hired as soon as possible to assist in design and to become familiar with the project. He must be able to read and understand the project drawings and interpret the specifications. He should also have the ability to cooperate with the contractor, incorporating the contractor’s ideas on how to accomplish the protection measures, wherever possible. It is advisable for the Project Arborist to be present at the Pre-Bid tour of the site, to answer questions the contractors may have about Tree Protection Measures. This also lets the contractors know how important tree preservation is to the developer.

Root Protection Zone (RPZ): Since in most construction projects it is not possible to protect the entire root zone of a tree, a Root Protection Zone is established for each tree to be preserved. The minimum Root Protection Zone is the area underneath the tree’s canopy (out to the dripline, or edge of the canopy), plus 1’. The Project Arborist must approve work within the RPZ.

Irrigate, Fertilize, Mulch: Prior to grading on the site near any tree, the area within the Tree Protection fence should be fertilized with 4 pounds of nitrogen per 1000 square feet, and the fertilizer irrigated in. The irrigation should percolate at least 24 inches into the soil. This should be done no less than 2 weeks prior to grading or other root disturbing activities. After irrigating, cover the RPZ with at least 12” of leaf and twig mulch. Such mulch can be obtained from chipping or grinding the limbs of any trees removed on the site. Acceptable mulches can be obtained from nurseries or other commercial sources. Fibrous or shredded redwood or cedar bark mulch shall not be used anywhere on site.

Fence: Fence around the Root Protection Zone and restrict activity therein to prevent soil compaction by vehicles, foot traffic or material storage. The fenced area shall be off limits to all construction equipment, unless there is express written notification provided by the Project Arborist, and impacts are discussed and mitigated prior to work commencing.

No storage or cleaning of equipment or materials, or parking of any equipment can take place within the fenced off area, known as the RPZ.

The fence should be highly visible, and stout enough to keep vehicles and other equipment out. I recommend the fence be made of orange plastic protective fencing, kept in place by t-posts set no farther apart than 6’.

In areas of intense impact, a 6’ chain link fence is preferred.

In areas with many trees, the RPZ can be fenced as one unit, rather than separately for each tree.

Where tree trunks are within 3’ of the construction area, place 2” by 4” boards vertically against the tree trunks, even if fenced off. Hold the boards in place with wire. Do not nail them directly to the tree. The purpose of the boards is to protect the trunk, should any equipment stray into the RPZ.

Elevate Foliage: Where indicated, remove lower foliage from a tree to prevent limb breakage by equipment. Low foliage can usually be removed without harming the tree, unless more than 25% of the foliage is removed. Branches need to be removed at the anatomically correct location in order to prevent decay organisms from entering the trunk. For this reason, a contractor who is an ISA Certified Arborist should perform all pruning on protected trees.³

Expose and Cut Roots: Breaking roots with a backhoe, or crushing them with a grader, causes significant injury, which may subject the roots to decay. Ripping roots may cause them to splinter toward the base of the tree, creating much more injury than a clean cut would make. At any location where the root zone of a tree will be impacted by a trench or a cut (including a cut required for a fill and compaction), the roots shall be exposed with either a backhoe digging radially to the trunk, by hand digging, or by a hydraulic air spade, and then cut cleanly with a sharp instrument, such as chainsaw with a carbide chain. Once the roots are severed, the area behind the cut should be moistened and mulched. A root protection fence should also be erected to protect the remaining roots, if it is not already in place. Further grading or backhoe work required outside the established RPZ can then continue without further protection measures.

Protect Roots in Deeper Trenches: The location of utilities on the site can be very detrimental to trees. Design the project to use as few trenches as possible, and to keep them away from the major trees to be protected. Wherever possible, in areas where trenches will be very deep, consider boring under the roots of the trees, rather than digging the trench through the roots. This technique can be quite useful for utility trenches and pipelines.

Protect Roots in Small Trenches: After all construction is complete on a site, it is not unusual for the landscape contractor to come in and sever a large number of “preserved” roots during the installation of irrigation systems. The Project Arborist must therefore approve the landscape and irrigation plans. The irrigation system needs to be designed so the main lines are located outside the root zone of major trees, and the secondary lines are either laid on the surface (drip systems), or carefully dug with a hydraulic or air spade, and the flexible pipe fed underneath the major roots.

Design the irrigation system so it can slowly apply water (no more than ¼” to ½” of water per hour) over a longer period of time. This allows deep soaking of root zones. The system also needs to accommodate infrequent irrigation settings of once or twice a month, rather than several times a week.

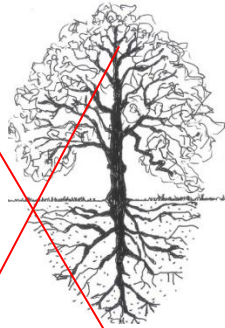
Monitoring Tree Health During and After Construction: The Project Arborist should visit the site at least twice a month during construction to be certain the tree protection measures are being followed, to monitor the health of impacted trees, and make recommendations as to irrigation or other needs. After construction is

³ International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), maintains a program of Certifying individuals. Each Certified Arborist has a number and must maintain continuing education credits to remain Certified.

complete, the arborist should monitor the site monthly for one year and make recommendations for care where needed. If longer term monitoring is required, the arborist should report this to the developer and the planning agency overseeing the project.

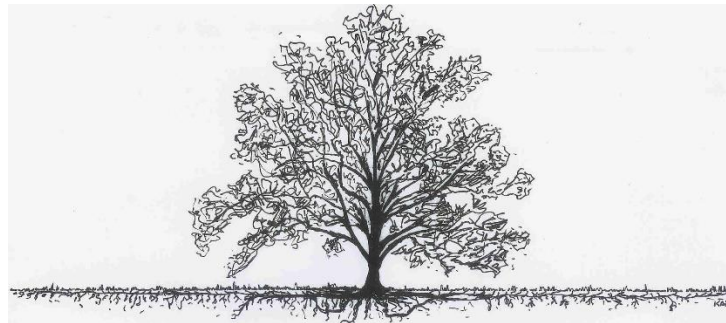
Root Structure

The majority of a tree's roots are contained in a radius from the main trunk outward approximately two to three times the canopy of the tree. These roots are located in the top 6" to 3' of soil. It is a common misconception that a tree underground resembles the canopy (see Drawing A below). The correct root structure of a tree is in Drawing B. All plants' roots need both water and air for survival. Surface roots are a common phenomenon with trees grown in compacted soil. Poor canopy development or canopy decline in mature trees is often the result of inadequate root space and/or soil compaction.



Drawing A

Common misconception of where tree roots are assumed to be located



Drawing B

The reality of where roots are generally located

Structural Issues

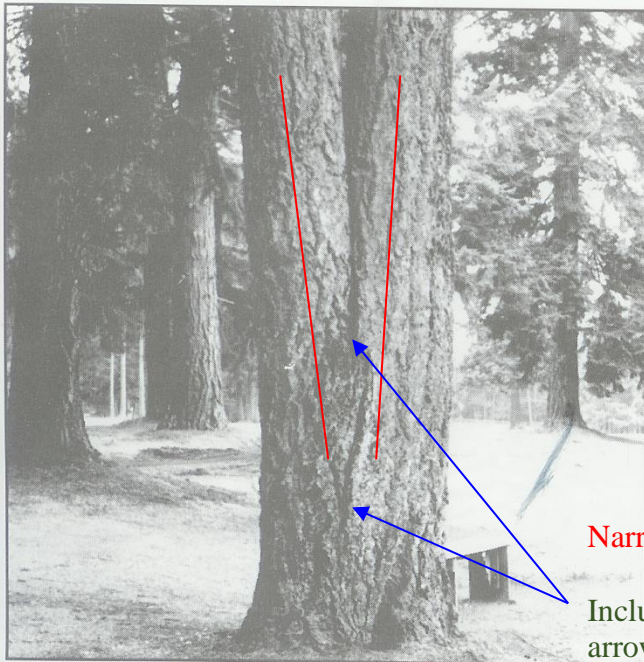
Limited space for canopy development produces poor structure in trees. The largest tree in a given area, which is 'shading' the other trees is considered Dominant. The 'shaded' trees are considered Suppressed. The following picture illustrates this point. Suppressed trees are more likely to become a potential hazard due to their poor structure.

Dominant Tree
Growth is upright
Canopy is balanced by limbs and foliage equally



Suppressed Tree
Canopy weight all to one side
Limbs and foliage grow away from dominant tree

Co-dominant leaders are another common structural problem in trees.



The tree in this picture has a co-dominant leader at about 3' and included bark up to 7 or 8'. Included bark occurs when two or more limbs have a narrow angle of attachment resulting in bark between the stems – instead of cell to cell structure. This is considered a critical defect in trees and is the cause of many failures.

Narrow Angle
Included Bark between the arrows

Figure 6. Codominant stems are inherently weak because the stems are of similar diameter.

Photo from Evaluation of Hazard Trees in Urban Areas by Nelda P. Matheny and James R. Clark, 1994 International Society of Arboriculture

Pruning Mature Trees for Risk Reduction

There are few good reasons to prune mature trees. Removal of deadwood, directional pruning, removal of decayed or damaged wood, and end-weight reduction as a method of mitigation for structural faults are the only reasons a mature tree should be pruned. Live wood over 3” should not be pruned unless absolutely necessary. Pruning cuts should be clean and correctly placed. Pruning should be done in accordance with the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) A300 standards. It is far better to use more small cuts than a few large cuts as small pruning wounds reduce risk while large wounds increase risk.

Pruning causes an open wound in the tree. Trees do not “heal” they compartmentalize. Any wound made today will always remain, but a healthy tree, in the absence of decay in the wound, will ‘cover it’ with callus tissue. Large, old pruning wounds with advanced decay are a likely failure point. Mature trees with large wounds are a high failure risk.

Overweight limbs are a common structural fault in suppressed trees. There are two remedial actions for overweight limbs (1) prune the limb to reduce the extension of the canopy, or (2) cable the limb to reduce movement. Cables do not hold weight they only stabilize the limb and require annual inspection.



Photo of another tree – not at this site.

Normal limb structure

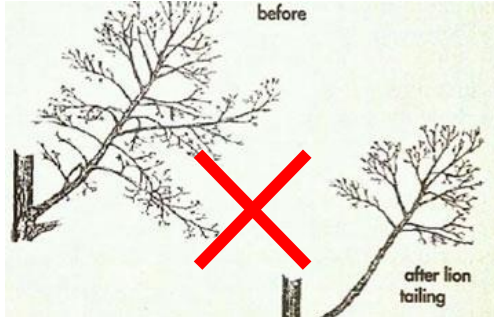
Over weight, reaching limb with main stem diameter small compared with amount of foliage present



Photo of another tree – not at this site

Lion's – Tailing is the pruning practice of removal of “an excessive number of inner and/or lower lateral branches from parent branches. Lion's tailing is not an acceptable pruning practice” ANSI A300 (part 1) 4.23. It increases the risk of failure.

Pruning – Cutting back trees changes their natural structure, while leaving trees in their natural form enhances longevity.



Arborist Classifications

There are different types of Arborists:

Tree Removal and/or Pruning Companies. These companies may be licensed by the State of California to do business, but they do not necessarily know anything about trees;

Arborists. Arborist is a broad term. It is intended to mean someone with specialized knowledge of trees but is often used to imply knowledge that is not there.

ISA Certified Arborist: An International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist is someone who has been trained and tested to have specialized knowledge of trees. You can look up certified arborists at the International Society of Arboriculture website: isa-arbor.org.

Consulting Arborist: An American Society of Consulting Arborists Registered Consulting Arborist is someone who has been trained and tested to have specialized knowledge of trees and trained and tested to provide high quality reports and documentation. You can look up registered consulting arborists at the American Society of Consulting Arborists website: <https://www.asca-consultants.org/>

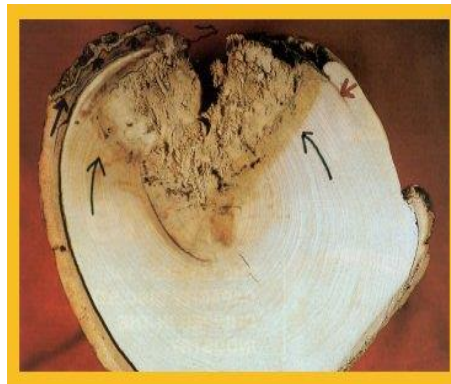
Decay in Trees

Decay (in General): Fungi cause all decay of living trees. Decay is considered a disease because cell walls are altered, wood strength is affected, and living sapwood cells may be killed. Fungi decay wood by secreting enzymes. Different types of fungi cause different types of decay through the secretion of different chemical enzymes. Some decays, such as white rot, cause less wood strength loss than others because they first attack the lignin (causes cell walls to thicken and reduces susceptibility to decay and pest damage) secondarily the cellulose (another structural component in a cell walls). Others, such as soft rot, attack the cellulose chain and cause substantial losses in wood strength even in the initial stages of decay. Brown rot causes wood to become brittle and fractures easily with tension. Identification of internal decay in a tree is difficult because visible evidence may not be present.



According to Evaluation of Hazard Trees in Urban Areas (Matheny, 1994) decay is a critical factor in the stability of the tree. As decay progresses in the trunk, the stem becomes a hollow tube or cylinder rather than a solid rod. This change is not readily apparent to the casual observer. Trees require only a small amount of bark and wood to transport water, minerals and sugars. Interior heartwood can be eliminated (or degraded) to a great degree without compromising the transport process. Therefore, trees can contain significant amounts of decay without showing decline symptoms in the crown.

additional cells. The weakest of the vertical wall. Accordingly, decay progression inward at large are more than one pruning cut trunk of the tree, the likelihood of decay progression and the associated structural loss of integrity of the internal wood is high.



Compartmentalization of decay in trees is a biological process in which the cellular tissue around wounds is changed to inhibit fungal growth and provide a barrier against the spread of decay agents into the barrier zones is the formation of while a tree may be able to limit pruning cuts, in the event that there located vertically along the main

Oak Tree Impacts

Our native oak trees are easily damaged or killed by having the soil within the Critical Root Zone (CRZ) disturbed or compacted. All of the work initially performed around protected trees that will be saved should be done by people rather than by wheeled or track type tractors. Oaks are fragile giants that can take little change in soil grade, compaction, or warm season watering. Don't be fooled into believing that warm season watering has no adverse effects on native oaks. Decline and eventual death can take as long as 5-20 years with poor care and inappropriate watering. Oaks can live hundreds of years if treated properly during construction, as well as later with proper pruning, and the appropriate landscape/irrigation design.

APPENDIX 4 – PHOTOGRAPHS





