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Berkley County
Planning and zoning

05/09/2025

Re: Oak, 80" DBH

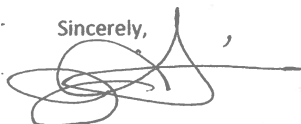
At the request of Mr. Elvis Black residing at 1111 Quenby Lane, Moncks Corner, SC 29461, I examined a hazardous, high-risk, tri-dominant hybrid Oak, threatening the residence as well as its inhabitants. The tree is positioned within 10 feet away from the home's foundation.

This massive Oak, 80" DBH, has three poorly attached leads stemming near the base of this raised anchor root surface. Each lead has included bark with weak branching causing the tree to lean precariously over the homeowner's residence. The weakened outer bark was detachable making the tree susceptible to water retention and insect infestation. The loose bark demonstrates an aging specimen with progressive areas of rot and further decay at the lowest juncture of this hazardous tree. Large upper branches have fallen onto the homeowner's roof as well as his vehicle's skylight. The innermost lead leans precariously and directly over his daughter's bedroom above the garage. Rotting hollows where squirrels nest illustrate additional decomposition.

Canopy reduction of a defective Oak is never recommended for a failing tree. Much more than 25% subordination would be needed in an attempt to reduce the threat this tree represents. This percentage far exceeds the ISA standards. Further, cabling of rotting limbs would never be accepted as a means to salvage a tree already in an advanced state of decline.

Mr. Black allowed me to enter his home to show the damage incurred by the aggressive and expanding anchor roots. Sheet rock above his first story living room has split twice and been repaired. Below this archway, his floor separated and needed modification. The structural integrity of the building has been permanently altered and the excessive expansion of the anchor roots has jeopardized his entire residence. This high-risk tree is a potential candidate for removal. Prior to its inevitable demise, I strongly encourage Mr. Black to apply for a tree removal permit through the auspices of Berkley County.

Sincerely,



James Critikos