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SOUND URBAN FORESTRY, LLC

Appraisals ~ Site Planning ~ Urban Landscape Design and Management
Environmental Education ~ Risk Assessments

11/29/2022

City of Tumwater
Water Resources and Sustainability Department
Alyssa Jones Wood, Sustainability Coordinator
555 Israel Rd SW
Tumwater, WA 98501

RE: Proposed Heritage Trees – Mills & Mills Funeral Home and Memorial Park Chestnut Trees

Ms. Wood:

Upon the request of the City of Tumwater, I have conducted an assessment of two chestnut trees located within the Mills & Mills Funeral Home and Memorial Park property at 5725 Littlerock Road SW, as part of the City's Heritage Tree nomination process. I visited the site on November 22, 2022.

Findings

The identified chestnut trees are located within a raised roundabout to the west of the main funeral building. They are situated on each side of a memorial wall (see aerial and photos).

Tree #1: American chestnut, (*Castanea dentata*), 79" DBH. Approximate height of 100'. Overall condition is fair. The main stem splits at 5' into co-dominants. There is some bulging at the inclusion between the stems on the north side of the tree. No signs of active separation. Previously topped at 45-50'. Fungal fruiting bodies associated with Brown Cubical Rot (*Laetiporus sulphurrus*) are found at the site of a past large diameter scaffold branch cut on the north side. Decay is present within the main and co-dominant stems. Root flare is growing into the cement base of the memorial.

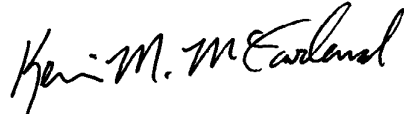
Tree #2: American chestnut, 79" DBH. Approximate height of 115'. Overall condition is fair. Open cavity is found on the north side of the tree, at the location of a past co-dominant stem failure. Decay is present at the site of a large wound from a past scaffold branch failure on the south side at 22' above grade. Previously topped at 45-50'.

Comments

Due to the structures and amount of decay, both of the assessed trees would benefit from pruning to clean the crowns of dead/damaged branches and reduce stress load. I would also recommend the cement at the base of the trees be cut to accommodate the expanding root flares.

Per the plaque at the site, the trees were planted in 1846 and therefore are 176 years old.

Professionally Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kevin M. McFarland". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kevin M. McFarland, Principal
Consulting Forester, Contracted City of Tumwater Tree Protection Professional
ISA Certified Arborist PN-0373 & Tree Risk Assessment Qualified

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P.O. Box 489
Tahuya, WA 98588
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Locations of Nominated Trees



Photo of Trees within Memorial Roundabout



Bulging Inclusion on North Side of Tree #1



Base of Tree #1



Open Cavity on Tree #2



Base of Tree #2

