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September 10, 2015

Keith Buchanan
Barton Creek Capital
515 Congress Ave., Suite 1515
Austin, Texas 78701

RE: 34-inch live oak at 504 East 8th Street

Dear Sir;

After exploring the condition of the 34-inch live oak at the above address, I found the following concerns.

Observations



The tree has a 25 to 30° lean out of plumb



*All of the roots on the north side have been cut with several roots well in excess of 2-inches in diameter exposed on the north side of the tree showing signs of decay.
View from west side.*



View from east side – note excessive girdling roots.



Excessive girdling roots (yellow arrows) Root crown found to be buried 8 to 12-inches below grade with fill consisting of rubble, bricks, excessive soil and asphalt. Also note excessive epicormic sprouting on trunk (red arrows).



Close up of girdling roots

Discussion

The presence of excessive epicormic sprouts is a sign of extreme stress. The trunk collar / root collar has been buried beneath 8 to 12-inches of fill soil consisting of soil, rocks, bricks, and asphalt has taken a toll on the tree.

The most concerning situation perhaps is the lean of 25° to 30° to the south with the supporting roots on the north side of the tree severed and decaying. Mechanically out of balance, if left alone as a parking lot tree, this tree would eventually fail and would either cause property damage, personal injury, or both.

As a very poor candidate for transplanting, the best solution for this tree is removal with mitigation to be worked out by the City and staff.

Sincerely;

Patrick Wentworth

ISA Certified Arborist #TX-0119

American Society of Consulting Arborists

Texas Oak Wilt Certification #TOWC-0001

TDA License #0525651

ISA Texas Chapter's Texas Arborist of the Year 1999

ISA Texas Chapter's Texas Arborist of the Year 2002

Austin Arborist of the Year 2004, Austin Chronicle's Readers' Poll



Tree Ordinance Review Application

Planning and Development Review Department

One Texas Center, 505 Barton Springs Road, 4th floor, Austin, TX 78704

Phone: (512) 974-1876 Fax: (512) 974-3010

Email: Michael.Embese@ci.austin.tx.us Website: www.ci.austin.tx.us/trees

ROW I.D. _____

Mapsco Pg# _____

Application request* (specify all that apply):

- ☒ Tree removal
- ☐ Development exceeding allowable standards for encroachment in the tree's critical root zone;
- ☐ Removal of more than 30% of a tree's crown.

* Refer to Land Development Code 25-8 (B)(1) and Environmental Criteria Manual (Section 3, App. F). Applicant understands that all impacts may threaten the health of the tree and that approval of this application does not guarantee favorable tree results.

Address and zip code of property: 504 East 8th Street, Austin, 78701

Name of owner or authorized agent: Pat Wentworth / Keith Buchanan

Building permit number (if applicable): _____

Telephone #: 512 474-4000 Fax #: 512-656-8522 E-mail: kbuchanan@bartoncreekcap.com

Tree Species: live oak Tree location on lot: rear center near alley

Trunk size (in inches) at 4 1/2 feet above ground: circumference (around) _____ or diameter (across) 34"

General tree condition: ☐ Good / ☐ Fair / ☒ Poor / ☐ Dead

Reason for request: Removal as potential hazard tree

Patrick D
Wentworth

Digitally signed by Patrick D Wentworth
DN: cn=Patrick D Wentworth, o=Austin
Tree Specialists, ou, email=pat-
als@texas.net, c=US
Date: 2015.09.15 09:59:01 -0500

9/15/2015

Owner/ Authorized Agent Signature

Date

- ☐ Proposed development projects should include an aerial drawing that includes the location of the tree and planned improvements (e.g. structure, driveway, utility and irrigation lines).
- ☐ This application is reviewed for tree impacts only; not for zoning or other applicable regulations. Payment (\$25 check to the City of Austin) must be made prior to City personnel completing this application. No fee is required for dead or diseased trees.

Application Determination – To be completed by City Arborist Program Personnel

☐ Approved ☐ *Approved With Conditions ☐ Denied ☐ Statutory Denial (more information required)

Comments _____

☐ Heritage Tree(s) ☐ A heritage tree variance is required: ☐ Administrative / ☐ Land Use Commission

Conditions of Approval: ☐ None or ☐ As described within Arborist Comments (see above); and

- ☐ Applicant agrees to plant _____ caliper inches of container grown City of Austin Appendix F trees on the lot prior to obtaining a final inspection (if applicable). Trees are to have a minimum 2-inch trunk diameter. Examples include Oaks, Cedar Elm, Bald Cypress, Desert Willow, Mountain Laurel, Texas Persimmon, Mexican Plum, etc.
- ☐ Prior to development, applicant agrees to supply a root zone mulch layer and maintain tree protection fencing (chain-link, five-foot in height) throughout the project duration. (ECM 3.5.2)
- ☐ Provide a receipt for remedial tree care and / or any required pruning as performed by a certified arborist.
- ☐ No impacts are permitted within the tree 1/2 Critical Root Zone (ECM 3.5.2), including trenching for utilities.

Applicant Signature

Date

City Arborist Signature

Date

Post this document on site while any proposed work is in progress.
Conditions for approval of this application must be met within 1 year of the effective date.

TREE RISK EVALUATION FORM

(EXAMPLE)

Property address: 504 East 8th St 78701

Date: 9/10/15

Property owner: Platinum Parking Evaluator: Pat Wentworth

SIGNATURE: *Pat Wentworth*

ISA/ASCA Certification #: TX-0119

1. TREE CHARACTERISTICS

DBH of each trunk: 34" Common & Latin name: Live oak (Quercus fusiformis)

Location: Private Public Estimated height & canopy spread (ft): 28' / 25'

Age class: young / mature / over-mature / dead (if dead, there is no need to fill out section 2)

Deadwood: 0% 0-10% 10-25% 25-50% >50%

Form: generally symmetric / minor asymmetry / major asymmetry / stump sprout

Pruning history: crown cleaned / excessively thinned / topped / crown raised
pollarded / crown reduced / utility clearance / storm damage cleaning / none

Crown class: dominant / co-dominant / intermediate / suppressed

2. TREE HEALTH

Foliage color: normal / chlorotic / necrotic

Foliage density: normal / sparse

Annual shoot growth: < 2 inches

Callus development: Y / N If so, is callusing:

Vigor class: excellent / average / fair / poor

Major pests/diseases: _____

Epicormics: Y / N

Leaf size: normal / abnormal

Twig dieback: Y / N

excellent / average / fair / poor

3. SITE CONDITIONS

Site character: residence / commercial / industrial / park / open space / natural / other (see below)

Landscape type: parkway / raised bed / container / open / other (see below)

Irrigation: none / adequate / inadequate / excessive / trunk wetted

Dripline paved: 0% 10-25% 25-50% 50-75% 75-100%

Dripline w/ fill soil: 0% 10-25% 25-50% 50-75% 75-100%

Dripline grade lowered: 0% 10-25% 25-50% 50-75% 75-100%

Dripline grade raised: 0% 10-25% 25-50% 50-75% 75-100%

Soil problems: drainage / shallow / compacted / small volume / other (see below)

Obstructions: lights / signage / line of sight / view / overhead lines / traffic / other (see below)

Wind (tree position): single tree / below canopy / above canopy / recently exposed / canopy edge

Other: _____

4. TREE DEFECTS – IDENTIFY ALL AREAS AND SEVERITY THAT APPLY TO EACH DEFECT

DEFECT TYPE	DEFECT AREA	DEFECT SEVERITY	NOTES	LEGEND
Poor taper				<p>AREA</p> <p>T – Trunk(s) R – Root Flare L – Lateral Roots S – Scaffolds B – Branches</p> <p>SEVERITY</p> <p>S – Severe M – Moderate L – Low</p>
Codominants/forks				
Multiple attachments				
Included bark				
Excessive end weight				
Cracks/splits				
Hangers				
Girdling	TR	S		
Wounds				
Decay	R	M		
Cavity				
Conks/Mushrooms				
Bleeding				
Loose/cracked bark				
Nesting hole/bee hive				
Deadwood/stubs				
Borers/termites/ants				
Cankers/galls				
Previous failure				

7. OTHER FEATURES

Lean: 30 degrees from vertical natural or unnatural Soil heaving: Y / N
 Decay in plane of lean: Y / N Roots exposed: Y / N Soil cracking: Y / N
 Lean severity: S / M / L Compounding factors: 100% compaction / impervious
 Suspect root rot: Y / N Mushroom/conk present: Y / N ID: _____
 Exposed roots: S / M / L Undermined: S / M / L
 Root pruned: 4 feet from trunk Root area affected: >40% Buttress wounded: Y / N
 Restricted root area: S / M / L Potential for root failure: S / M / L

6. TARGET AND ABATEMENT

Use under tree: building / parking / traffic / pedestrian / recreation / landscape / hardscape
 Occupancy: occasional use / medium, intermittent use / frequent use Can target be moved: Y / N

RISK ABATEMENT

Action: prune / remove / other Comments: Poor candidate for transplanting.
Removal with mitigation recommended.

7. COMMENTS OR OTHER RISK FACTORS

8. TREE RISK (SEE THE ADDITIONAL RISK ASSESSMENT GUIDELINES)

RATING: Risk rating (circle one):

Failure potential: 1 2 3 4 Size of Part: 1 2 3 Target: 1 2 3 Other Risk Factors: 0 1 2

Risk rating: Low: 3 4 Moderate: 5 6 High: 7 8 9 Extremely high: 10 11 12