



White Salmon Tree Board Meeting

A G E N D A

August 01, 2022 – 5:30 PM

100 N. Main and Via Zoom Teleconference

Meeting ID: 864 7332 8738 Passcode: 889803

Call in Numbers:

669-900-6833

929-205-6099

301-715-8592

346-248-7799

253-215-8782

312-626-6799

The committee will meet both in person and via Zoom Teleconference. The majority of individuals will meet via Zoom. However, if you wish to attend in person that option is being provided at City Hall at 100 N. Main.

Call to Order

Public Comment

Discussion and Action Items

1. Tree of Heaven Project Update
2. Fire Mitigation Project Update
3. Fireman's Park Update
- [4.](#) Sweet Gum Tree
- [5.](#) Green Street Trees
- [6.](#) Wyers Street Trees

Adjournment

File Attachments for Item:

4. Sweet Gum Tree



COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMO

Needs Legal Review: No.
Meeting Date: August 1, 2022
Agenda Item: Decision regarding the Sweet Gum Tree in downtown.
Presented By: Paul Koch, ICA

Action Required: Review and decision by the Tree Board regarding the Sweet Gum Tree in Downtown White Salmon.

Proposed Motion: A motion to recommend to City Council that the Sweet Gum Tree be removed and an appropriate tree be planted in its place.

Explanation of Issue: For several years the Sweet Gum Tree in downtown White Salmon has been discussed and now a decision is needed. During the past few years, the tree has had limbs fall off in high wind. Currently, the root system for the tree has buckled the public sidewalk creating a safety hazard. The root system is also creating a small separation in the adjacent roadway. The city has had two different arborists examine the tree and make recommendations. In the last evaluation, the arborist has identified that the tree represents a moderate risk. Regular attention, careful pruning and inspections will reduce this tree to a low risk. Public Works has removed two sections of sidewalk and exposed the root system of the tree. This was done at the suggestion of the Arborist.

The Arborist is recommending routine pruning and weight reduction to keep the otherwise healthy tree in place. Along with that the Arborist is recommending an “adaptive” sidewalk replacement over the top of the root system. The “adaptive” sidewalk would need to be constructed more like a bridge to get over the roots without damaging them or some other innovative design. We are looking at different materials and being careful to meet ADA requirements as well as being sensitive to the fact that this is a WSDOT right of way. Plus, the crosswalk on Jewett comes to the sidewalk very near the tree and root system.

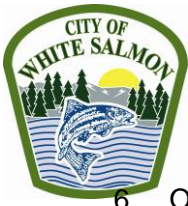
The businesses in the immediate area are pretty much split between keeping the tree and removing it. No one wants to see the tree fall on cars or people in a heavy windstorm but by the same token, they do not want to see the tree removed unnecessarily. People like the aesthetics but are concerned about the safety issue.

The arborist reports that this tree is prone to limbs dropping during windstorms. Proper pruning can alleviate this problem to a large extent. The comprehensive staff report is attached for Committee information.

WSMC 18.10.317(b) identifies any heritage tree as having a trunk diameter greater than 18 inches. The Sweet Gum Tree was measured to have a trunk diameter of 4.5 feet at breast level. WSMC 18.10317(B) is attached along with the Staff Report.

Tree Board Options: The Tree Board has the following options available to it at this time:

1. Accept the staff recommendation to remove the tree.
2. Make committee recommendation and refer this matter to the City Council for a final decision.
3. Take no action on this matter.
4. Keep the tree in place and absorb the necessary additional costs.
5. Refer this issue back to staff for additional work.



6. Other action that may be desired by the Tree Board.

Fiscal Implications: Staff estimates that the annual cost to inspect, prune and care for this tree will run about \$5,000 per year. Except for the regular inspections, most of the work would be contracted out to a tree service or arborist to complete. This cost initially would include a new sidewalk section and once that is done, the city would just need to schedule regular inspections and pruning. This item would appear in the Public Works annual budget and be tracked over time.

Staff Recommendation

It is recommended that the Sweet Gum Tree be removed, and an appropriate arborist selected tree be planted in its place.

The **rationale** for this recommendation has to do with the requirement for ADA standards on public sidewalk. Without pruning portions of the root system creating higher failure risk for the tree and creating a substandard sidewalk, it makes sense that the tree should be removed. ADA requirements include slope levels (2%) as well as width requirements (36 inches). In the current situation, neither of the ADA requirements can be met. Staff looked at options for the “adaptive” sidewalk and there does not appear to be enough room to build the “adaptive” sidewalk and meet ADA requirements.



**CITY OF WHITE SALMON
CITY COUNCIL
TREE BOARD COMMITTEE**

July 27, 2022

**CRITICAL AREA:
Downtown's Sweet Gum Tree**

TOPIC:

Staff's analysis of the two arborists' reports, short and long-term costs, safety, history of damage, how to replant something new, opinions of local businesses, the local political/community opinions, street improvements, etc., regarding the Downtown's Sweet Gum Tree.

STAFF REPORT

July 27, 2022

**City of White Salmon
City Council
Tree Board Committee**

Critical Area: Downtown's Sweet Gum Tree

REPORT OUTLINE

1. FULL DESCRIPTION OF THE CURRENT SITUATION
 - a. Tree Location
 - b. Sidewalk Buckle
 - c. Safety
 - d. Two Arborists' Reports and Summary
2. WHITE SALMON MUNICIPAL STATUTE(S) OF BEARING
3. TREE COMMITTEE OPTIONS
 - a. Keep
 - b. Keep and Trim & Fix Sidewalk with cost (with possible different options)
 - c. Remove with Cost
 - d. Remove and Replace with Cost
 - e. Refer to Council

1. FULL DESCRIPTION OF THE CURRENT SITUATION

a. Tree Location

The Sweet Gum Tree is located in downtown at 218 Jewett Blvd. and SE 2nd Avenue.

b. Sidewalk Buckle

Because of the extensive root system on the Sweet Gum, the sidewalk has buckled creating a safety issue for pedestrians that may use the sidewalk. At the suggestion of the Arborist from Treecology, city crews removed the buckled sidewalk sections to get a look at the root system. Pictures of the root system are attached to this report. There is also cracking in the roadway from the root system. Currently the sidewalk area is blocked off with yellow tape and bollards to keep the public from walking on the root system.

c. Safety

The tree carries a risk rating of moderate according to the rating system established by the International Society of Arboriculture. The tree has a history of branch failure and excessive end weight. The most likely mechanism of failure is branch failure in a windstorm. In the case of failure, commercial buildings, automobiles and individuals could be injured or damaged. According to the Arborist, if the tree is in fair condition and represents a moderate risk.

d. Two Arborist Reports and Summary

Two Arborists have examined the Sweet Gum Tree over the past few years, The most recent study was done in May of 2022. The Arborist did a ground level visual inspection that did not include root excavation, structural analysis or climbing to inspect for defects. The tree is approximately 64 feet tall and is 40 foot wide at foliage.

The Arborist also pointed out that the buckled sidewalk presented a situation that does not conform the ADA requirements. It is pointed out in the report that this site for the Sweet Gum Tree is not ideal for tis large stature mature tree with an aggressive root system. That ideally the planting width would be 8 feet wide.

This tree has had two previous failures, This is determined by the Arborist to be normal for trees of this nature. The arborist also points out that this tree could live for decades with routine maintenance 3-4 times per year. Such maintenance would include limb trimming and regular checking especially to check the weight problem at branch end.. The tree provides \$151 annually in ecosystem and property value benefits and prevents approximately 2,378 gallons of stormwater run off.

The Arborist provided three options that are included in the attached report. The options include:

- 1 Removal of the sidewalk and checking on the root system. (This has been done)
- 2 Routine end weight pruning within the next 2 years. (This would lower the risk rating to low)
- 3 Sidewalk repair in an adaptive way. Bridge over the root system and provide hand rails for pedestrians.
- 4 Remove the tree.

WHITE SALMON MUNICIPAL STATUTE(S) OF BEARING

WSMC 18.10.317 (B) Heritage trees include:

1. *Oregon White Oaks with a trunk diameter larger than fourteen inches,*
2. *All other tree species with a trunk diameter greater than eighteen inches.*

WSMC 18.10.317 (E) Maintenance and preservation of heritage trees is required:

1. *Any owner or applicant shall use reasonable efforts to maintain and preserve all heritage trees located thereon in a state of good health pursuant to the provisions of this chapter. Failure to do so shall constitute a violation of this chapter. Reasonable efforts to protect heritage trees include:*
 - a. *Avoidance of grading, excavation, demolition, or construction activity within the heritage tree protection area where possible. The city shall consider special variances to allow location of structures outside the building setback line of a heritage tree whenever it is reasonable to approve such variance to yard requirements or other set back requirements.*
 - b. *Grading, excavation, demolition or construction activity within the heritage tree protection area shall require submittal of a tree protection plan, prepared in accordance [with] applicable guidelines for a critical area report and habitat management plan per Section 18.10.200, General Provisions.*
 - c. *Consideration of the habitat or other value of mature trees in the request for a variance or other modification of land use standards may require listing of the tree as a heritage tree. Once listed for protection approval of variances or modification of standards are considered reasonable actions and not the result of a self created hardship.*
2. *The critical area report for purpose of this section shall include a heritage tree protection plan and shall be prepared by a certified arborist. The plan shall address issues related to protective fencing and protective techniques to minimize impacts associated with grading, excavation, demolition and construction. The city may impose conditions on any permit to assure compliance with this section. (Note: Some provisions in section 18.10.200, such as 18.10.211 Buffers, 18.10.214 Native growth protection easement, 18.10.215 Critical areas tracts, and 18.10.216 Marking and/or fencing requirements; may not be applicable to protection areas for heritage trees.)*
3. *Building set back lines stipulated by subsection 18.10.212 shall be measured from the outer line of the tree protection area for heritage trees.*
4. *Review and approval of the critical areas report and tree protection plan by the city is required prior to issuance of any permit for grading or construction within the heritage tree protection area.*

WSMC 18.10.317 (F) Heritage tree removal and major pruning is prohibited:

It is unlawful for any person to remove, or cause to be removed any heritage tree from any parcel of property in the city, or prune more than one-fourth of the branches or roots within a twelve-month period, without obtaining a permit; provided, that in case of emergency, when a tree is imminently hazardous or dangerous to life or property, it may be removed by order of the police chief, fire

chief, the director of public works or their respective designees. Any person who vandalizes, grievously mutilates, destroys or unbalances a heritage tree without a permit or beyond the scope of an approved permit shall be in violation of this chapter.

WSMC 18.10.317 (G) Exceptions to the provisions in this section include:

1. *A heritage tree can be removed if it is dead, dangerous, or a nuisance, as attested by an arborist's report, submitted to the city and paid for by the tree owner or by order of the police chief, fire chief, the director of public works or their respective designees.*
2. *A heritage tree in or very close to the "building area" of an approved single family residence design can be replaced by another tree. A heritage tree can be removed if its presence reduces the building area of the lot by more than fifty percent after all potential alternatives including possible set backs to minimum yard depth and width requirements have been considered.*
3. *Any person desiring to remove one or more heritage trees or perform major pruning (per subsection 18.10.316 F, above) shall apply for an exception pursuant to procedures established by this section rather than subsection 18.10.125 Exceptions, which generally applies elsewhere in this chapter.*
4. *It is the joint responsibility of the property owner and party removing the heritage tree or trees, or portions thereof to obtain exception. The city may only issue a permit for the removal or major pruning of a heritage tree if it is determined that there is good cause for such action. In determining whether there is good cause, the city shall consult with a certified arborist, paid for by the applicant, as appropriate. The city shall also give consideration to the following:*
 - a. *The condition of the tree or trees with respect to disease, danger of falling, proximity to existing or proposed structures and interference with utility services;*
 - b. *The necessity to remove the tree or trees in order to construct proposed improvements to the property;*
 - c. *The topography of the land and the effect of the removal of the tree on erosion, soil retention and diversion or increased flow of surface waters;*
 - d. *The long-term value of the species under consideration, particularly lifespan and growth rate;*
 - e. *The ecological value of the tree or group of trees, such as food, nesting, habitat, protection and shade for wildlife or other plant species;*
 - f. *The number, size, species, age distribution and location of existing trees in the area and the effect the removal would have upon shade, privacy impact and scenic beauty;*

- g. *The number of trees the particular parcel can adequately support according to good arboricultural practices; and*
- h. *The availability of reasonable and feasible alternatives that would allow for the preservation of the tree(s).*

WSMC 18.10.125 - Exceptions.

A. Administrative Exceptions.

- 1. *The proponent of the activity shall submit a written request for exception from the city or its agent that describes the proposed activity and exception that applies.*
- 2. *The city or its agent shall review the exception requested to verify that it complies with the chapter and approve or deny the exception. Exceptions that may be requested include:*
 - a. *Single family residential building permits are exempt from the requirements of this chapter when the development proposal involves:*
 - i. *Structural modifications to or replacement of an existing single-family residential structure or construction of a new residential structure where construction and associated disturbance does not increase the footprint of any existing structure.*
 - ii. *The structure is not located closer to the critical area.*
 - iii. *The existing impervious surface within the critical area or buffer is not expanded.*
 - b. *Operation, maintenance or repair of existing structures, infrastructure improvements, existing utilities, public or private roads, dikes, levees, or drainage systems, including routine vegetation management activities when performed in accordance with approved best management practices, if the activity does not increase risk to life or property as a result of the proposed operation maintenance or repair.*

5 TREE COMMITTEE OPTIONS

The Tree Committee has the following options available to it at this time.

- 1. Keep the tree, trim it annually and replace the sidewalk with a curved surface to be lifted above the root system
- 2. Remove the tree.

3. Remove the tree and replace it with a tree better suited to the location.
4. Refer this matter to the City Council for decision.

6 **STAFF RECOMMENDATION AND RATIONALE**

That the tree be removed and an appropriate replacement tree planted in the space.

Tree Assessment

May 2022



Prepared For:

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Notice of Disclaimer

Assessment data provided by Treecology Consulting Group is based on visual recording at the time of inspection. Visual records do not include testing or analysis and do not include aerial or subterranean inspection unless indicated. Treecology Consulting Group is not responsible for discovery or identification of hidden or otherwise non-observable risks. Records may not remain accurate after inspection due to variable deterioration of surveyed material. Risk ratings are based on observable defects and mitigation recommendations do not reduce potential liability to the owner. Treecology Consulting Group provides no warranty with respect to the fitness of the trees for any use or purpose whatsoever.

Summary

In May 2022, Treecology Consulting Group (TCG) conducted a risk assessment, and site evaluation for one street tree at 218 Jewett Blvd. in White Salmon, WA. The tree was assessed on May 20, 2022 by Ruth Williams, International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Board Certified Master Arborist #WE-7317-BM, ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualified. The results of this assessment are documented in this report. The goal of this assessment is to provide strategies to manage the tree and site that may impact people and property, and to guide long-term tree care decisions. Considerations include tree health, safety, and site history.

A tree risk assessment is an evaluation of current risk of failure and the consequences anticipated within a specified timeframe, in this case five (5) years. The tree was inspected for risks to buildings, infrastructure, and people. The data set was collected via the ISA Tree Hazard Evaluation Form that will allow managers to better understand, prioritize, and make decisions about the tree. Analysis of the data showed the following:

- The tree is a mature 25" DBH *Liquidambar styraciflua* that is 64' tall and approximately 35' wide with minor crown asymmetry. Two prior limb failures were documented. The tree has healthy vigorous foliage. The overall condition is fair. The tree provides \$151 in property value and ecosystem benefits annually.
- The tree risk is moderate based on the ISA TRA methodology. The tree risk mitigation option is pruning to reduce end weight. With this pruning, the residual risk rating is likely low, but that should be verified with a visual inspection from the pruning arborist at the time of work.
- Adjacent pavement was replaced within the decade, and has become disrupted. This site-related risk is likely to reoccur in a 3-8 year timeframe post sidewalk repair without an innovative solution that adapts to root growth. Minimal root pruning is possible, but is not likely to provide a complete solution that also allows tree preservation.
- Tree removal and replacement may be considered. It will likely require 30-40 years to grow a tree of comparable size with comparable ecosystem and property value benefits.

Introduction

This street tree provides shade and beauty to the commercial streetscape. The community in the Columbia river gorge routinely experiences significant wind events.

Assignment and Limits

City of White Salmon contracted Treecology Consulting Group to inspect the tree and answer specific management questions.

1. Health of the tree including ongoing health of the tree based on its location. The tree has been pruned on the north side to keep it off the structures that are located adjacent to it. Are there any prescriptive pruning recommendations if the tree were to remain in place to 1) keep the tree of the structures to the north and to keep it from growing out into the sidewalk and the roadway. The tree must be pruned up to 8 feet above sidewalks for clearance and 14 feet above any roadways.
2. If the tree were to remain in place, how can the city remove the lower sidewalk and replace it so it is walkable and maintain the health of the tree without further damage. The city has plans in the future (1 to 2 years at the earliest and more likely 2 to 3 years at best) for constructing a sidewalk that would move out into the street. However, we need a temporary concrete or something similar fix so that pedestrians can use the sidewalk.
3. The upper sidewalk does not belong to the city. Is there any likely damage to the upper concrete?

The arborist collected information about the species, size, condition, and risk factors for the tree. This assessment was a ground-level visual inspection, and did not include root excavation, advanced structural analysis, or climbing to inspect defects only visible from the canopy or scaffold branches. Many factors can limit specific and accurate data when performing evaluations of trees, their conditions, and values. The determinations and recommendations presented here are based on current data and conditions that existed at the time of the evaluation and cannot be a predictor of future performance for the trees.

Methods

Inventory & Assessment

Data was collected by an ISA Board Certified Master Arborist (Ruth Williams #WE-7317 BM) with a current tree risk assessment qualification (TRAQ). A visual inspection was used to develop the findings, conclusions, and recommendations found in this report.

The following attributes were collected:

Species: Tree genus and species were identified.

Diameter at Breast Height (DBH): Trunk diameter was recorded to the nearest inch at 4.5 feet (breast height) above grade except where noted. When limbs or deformities occurred at breast height, measurement was taken below 4.5 ft.

Height: Tree height was measured with a laser range finder accurate within a range of +/-5'

Crown Spread: Horizontal spread of scaffold branches was visually estimated within a range of +/-10'

Condition Rating: The condition of each tree was recorded in one of the following categories adopted from the rating system established by the International Society of Arboriculture: excellent, good, fair, poor, dead.

Excellent - An immaculate specimen with minor or insignificant defects

Good - A tree with minor issues that can be mitigated with pruning or cultural care

Fair - A tree with significant issues with either structure or health that may be improved with multiple cultural improvements or specific pruning.

Poor - A tree near the end of its useful life with issues that cannot be resolved

Dead - A tree with less than 5% live crown

Observations: Additional observations, comments, or other points of consideration.

Photographs: Photographs of the full tree and defects were collected as necessary.

Findings

Site Attributes

The site is adjacent to a relatively busy commercial roadway with frequent use. Irrigation was present but not tested. The area is landscaped. The tree is open-grown, with no nearby adjacent street trees. There are sidewalks on both sides of the tree within 1-2' of the trunk. The site has elevation gain from the road to the adjacent buildings that includes a retaining wall and handrails. The tree is the largest street tree in the immediate vicinity of the commercial corridor.

The adjacent pavement appeared new, as though it had been replaced recently. However, the new panels had already lifted unevenly creating a potential trip hazard, and eliminating ADA accessibility compliance. The pavement adjacent was within 6" of the tree trunk.

The site is not ideal for this large-stature-at-maturity tree with an aggressive root system. The ideal planter width for this species should be 8' wide.

The adjacent retaining wall and upper sidewalk should be monitored for cracking. They are currently in good condition, however, with the hillside condition, and unknown hydrology, it is possible tree roots can extend uphill if a water source and air are present.



Tree Attributes

The tree is a mature 25" DBH Liquidambar styraciflua that is 64' tall and approximately 40' wide with minor crown asymmetry. The tree has healthy vigorous foliage. The overall condition is fair.

Defects

The root flare and base are sound with no evident wounding or prior root pruning, however, pavement has been replaced in the past, so there is a possibility roots were pruned. One way to determine this is to remove the pavement and visually inspect the roots below.

This tree is an open-grown tree with two prior limb failures. One was on the south side (photo, right), toward the street several years ago, and the wound has mostly sealed over. The outer 2-3" of wood beneath the wound is spongy and delayed. Minor epicormic sprouts are present near this wound. A second wound is visible on the north side, higher in the canopy. It looks recent, within the past 3 years. These wounds are consistent with the species that tends to have moderately brittle branches, and tends to fail where included bark is present.



Benefits

The tree is mature, in fair condition, and could live for decades with a routine 3-4 year maintenance schedule. The tree provides \$151 annually in ecosystem and property value benefits, preventing approximately 2,378 gallons of stormwater runoff.



North side limb failure



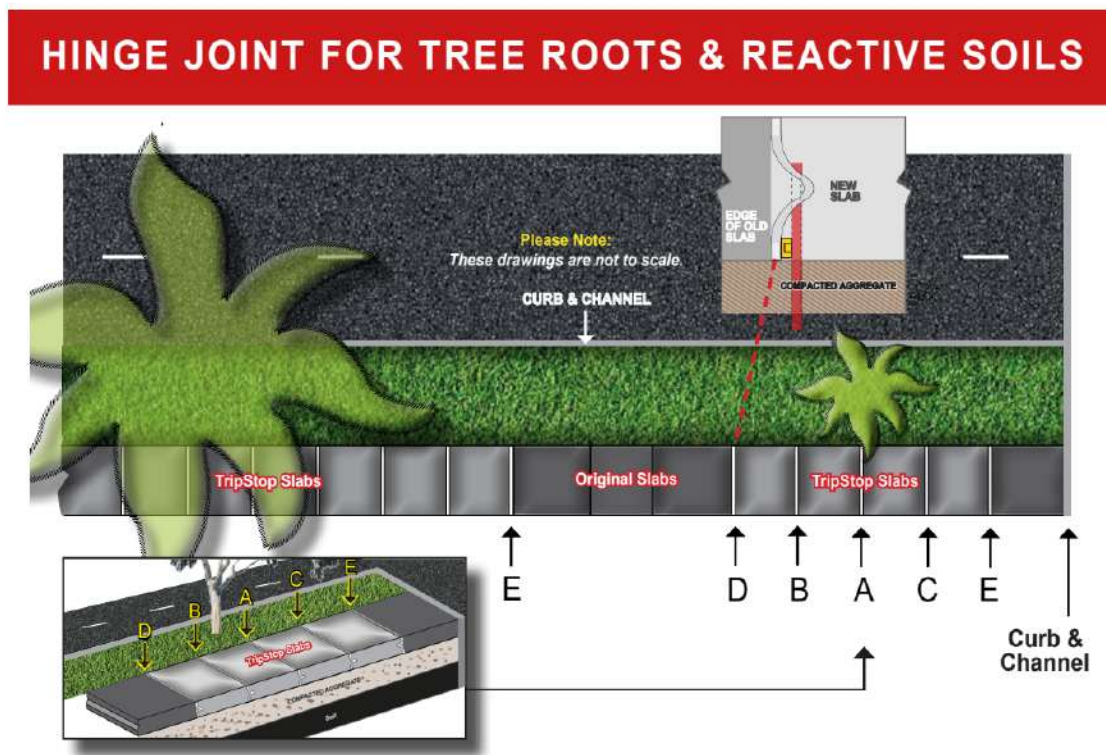
South side limb failure (close up) shows decay/splintered wood indicating prior failure, not pruning wound. Smaller pruning wound above is sealed.

Discussion

The City of White salmon plans to change the site design in the future. While site plans have not been reviewed, the option of extending the sidewalk into the road area is under consideration. Meanwhile, a temporary solution must be implemented to achieve sidewalk functionality. The first step will be to remove existing pavement carefully to avoid root damage. This requires a cement saw and pry-bars, OR a carefully maneuvered excavator claw to remove pieces of the panel. Jack hammers or sledge hammers can crack and damage roots below and are not recommended.

The following options may be considered:

1. Root pruning may be conducted under the supervision of a Certified Arborist. This is most likely possible for roots under 2". Based on the nature of the pavement disruption, a significant root over 4" is likely present. If found, root pruning will likely not be recommended as that could destabilize the tree, leading to basal failure.
2. A. Fill over the root area with clear angular gravel overlaid with geotextile, sand, and pavers, or rubberized pavement or asphalt as a temporary solution. OR
B. Pour new sidewalk panels that ramps over the roots in conjunction with hinge joints such as Tripstop(r) that maintain aligned sidewalk slab joints as roots grow. Evaluate the need for additional roadway asphalt to meet code requirements for curb height.



Risk Assessment

The tree was assessed with a Level 2 or Basic Tree Risk Assessment, the industry standard developed by the International Society of Arboriculture. This method outlines the process for evaluating tree risk that evaluates the likelihood of failure, the nature of the targets (property or people that may be impacted by tree failure), and the consequences of failure.

Risk Rating

This tree has a history of branch failure and excessive end weight. The risk rating in its current condition is moderate - and the most likely mechanism of failure is branch failure in a wind event. Pruning for end weight reduction will reduce the risk rating of this tree to low.

Timeframe

For each risk assessment, the Arborist must identify a time frame. This risk assessment considers failures that may occur within a limited time frame of 5 years.

Targets

Targets are occupants and features that may be damaged in the event trees or branches fail. In this case, the targets assigned for this assessment are the adjacent buildings with constant occupancy, parked vehicles with frequent occupancy, crosswalk and sidewalk pedestrians with occasional occupancy, drivers of vehicles in the road with occasional occupancy, landscaping, and hardscape with low likelihood of damage from tree failure.

Recommendations

Based on these findings, TCG recommends the following for this mature, fair condition, moderate risk tree:

- Additional Assessment: Pavement may be removed carefully to allow a visual inspection of roots. This will allow managers to have more information about the quantity and quality of roots, whether

roots were pruned before, and the actual current height required for ramping over the roots and therefore, an indicator if road (re)pavement will also be required.

OR

- Pruning: routine end-weight reduction/clearance pruning (cuts largely below 3" diameter in the upper outer ⅓ of the canopy) and aerial inspection for hidden defects every 3-5 years will decrease the likelihood of future limb failure, resulting in a residual risk rating of low. This should be conducted within the next 1-2 years. The tree must be pruned up to 8 feet above sidewalks for clearance and 14 feet above any roadways. The tree should be monitored, and an arborist consulted if changes are noticed in vigor or lean, and after significant storms. The adjacent retaining wall and upper sidewalk should also be monitored for cracking.
- Sidewalk repair with adaptive design: The costs associated with pavement repair options should be explored. Traditional concrete slab pavement installation will not achieve lasting functional results and is likely to be disrupted within 2-8 years. Therefore, an adaptive solution as described in the discussion section is strongly recommended.

OR

- Tree removal and replacement may be considered. Removal will require a traffic plan and stump grinding. It will likely require 30-40 years to grow a tree of comparable size with comparable ecosystem and property value benefits. This option should be pursued if pruning and repair options are found to be cost prohibitive.

Conclusion

The sidewalk disruption was a trigger for this tree risk assessment, leading to assessment of the remaining tree parts, and a discussion of sidewalk repair solutions. Managers were prudent in requesting this assessment and reviewing this assessment to inform decisions about maintenance/mitigation priorities.

Appendix: Photo Documentation



Photo 1. View facing east showing site, upper and lower sidewalk



Photo 2. View facing west showing site, upper and lower sidewalk



Photo 3. Close view of south trunk wound/ previous branch failure



Photo 4. DBH tape on trunk showing over 25" DBH May 20, 2022

File Attachments for Item:

5. Green Street Trees



COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMO

Needs Legal Review: No
Committee Meeting Date: August 1, 2022
Agenda Item: Green Street Trees
Presented By: Jan Brending, Clerk Treasurer

Action Required

Take action on two trees located within the right-of-way at 244 NE Green.

Proposed Motion

Motion options are provided as below:

1. Move to accept staff's recommendation and the recommendation of two arborists to remove tree #1 and to replant the tree and provide for future maintenance of both trees.
2. Move to leave both trees in place, prune and cable tree #1 and provide for future maintenance of both trees.
3. Move to refer the issue back to staff for additional information (provide what additional information is required in the motion).
4. Move to refer the issue to the City Council with a recommendation from the Tree Board.
5. Other motion as determined by Tree Board member(s).

Explanation of Issue

Klickitat Tree made an assessment of two trees located at 244 NE Green as to the conditions and recommendations for possible removal. This information was presented to the Tree Board and the Tree Board asked for a second arborist assessment. The city hired Treecology Consulting Group who completed the assessment in July 2022. Both assessments are provided as attachments to this report.

The Treecology report provided the following summary and recommendations:

In July 2022, Treecology Consulting Group (TCG) conducted a risk assessment, and site evaluation for two street trees at 244 NE. Green in White Salmon, WA. The trees were assessed on July 2, 2022 by Ruth Williams, International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Board Certified Master Arborist #WE-7317-BM, ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualified. The results of this assessment are documented in this report. The goal of this assessment is to provide strategies to manage the trees that may impact people and property, and to guide long-term tree care decisions. Considerations include tree health, safety, and site history.

A tree risk assessment is an evaluation of current risk of failure and the consequences anticipated within a specified timeframe, in this case five (5) years. The trees were inspected for risks to buildings, infrastructure, and people. The data set was collected via the ISA Tree Hazard Evaluation Form that will allow managers to better understand, prioritize, and make decisions about the tree. Analysis of the data showed the following:

-
- Tree #1 is a mature 44" DBH *Robinia pseudoacacia* that is 73' tall and 35' from the primary target (residence at 244 NE. Green), and about 2' from the secondary target (driveway with frequent vehicle parking). One stem lost much of the living tissue on the interior side of the limb. There is a cavity between the three stems, and charred wood as from a fire. One prior limb failure was documented. The tree has healthy, vigorous foliage. The overall condition is poor.
 - Tree #2 32" DBH *Robinia pseudoacacia* that is 62' tall and approximately 35' from the primary target (residence at 244 NE. Green). The tree is codominant with two major stems. The tree has healthy vigorous foliage. The overall condition is fair.

Recommendations (Treecology Consulting Group)

- Tree #1 is high risk based on the ISA TRA methodology. The tree risk mitigation recommendation is removal. Pruning and cabling were considered and are discussed further in this report.
- Tree #2 is low risk. Routine end weight reduction pruning is recommended.

The Tree Board has the authority to make decisions on trees located within the city's rights-of-way, city property and within the city's parks. WSMC 18.35.120 (attached). The City could refer this to the City Council as identified in the options below.

Tree Board Options

The Tree Board has the following options available at this time:

1. Accept the staff recommendation (and both arborists' recommendation) to remove tree #1, replant a tree to replace tree #1 and provide for maintenance for tree #2.
2. Leave the tree #1 in place and try pruning and cabling the tree in place to gain a couple of years of additional life span and provide for continued maintenance for both trees.
3. Refer this issue back to staff for additional work.
4. Refer this issue to the City Council for decision.
5. Other action that may be desired by the Tree Board.

Fiscal Implications

If the tree is removed, the city will need to hire a contractor to remove the tree and stump. The cost is estimated to be \$1000 to \$2000. The cost of a new tree to be planted could be \$100 to \$1500 depending on the size of tree selected to be replanted. If the tree is removed, a contractor will need to be hired to prune the tree and to correctly cable it. In addition, regular tree maintenance of all trees in the city's rights-of-way should be included in the city's annual tree maintenance bid schedule. At a minimum, trees that are identified as being within the city's right-of-way should be added to the city's tree inventory and maintenance schedule. Costs of individual tree maintenance unclear at this time. Tree Board members may have some information on a standardized cost per tree for maintenance.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends the Tree Board authorize the removal of tree #1 and to include a tree in the upcoming tree planting small works roster bid for replanting in the area.

Staff also recommends that trees that are in the city's right-of-way be evaluated for tree maintenance. This will require staff to identify (to the best of their ability) any trees that are located within the city's rights-of-way, including alleys. The city will need to hire an arborist to evaluate the trees and provide maintenance recommendations and schedule. These trees should be added to the city's tree inventory. The time to identify the trees will take some time but the Tree Board could possibly help with this process. Staff recommends discussion of this issue at a future Tree Board meeting.

Tree Assessment

July 2022



Prepared For:

Jan Brending
Clerk Treasurer
City of White Salmon
PO Box 2139
White Salmon WA 98672
509-493-1133 #205
janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us

Prepared By:

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Notice of Disclaimer

Assessment data provided by Treecology Consulting Group is based on visual recording at the time of inspection. Visual records do not include testing or analysis and do not include aerial or subterranean inspection unless indicated. Treecology Consulting Group is not responsible for discovery or identification of hidden or otherwise non-observable risks. Records may not remain accurate after inspection due to variable deterioration of surveyed material. Risk ratings are based on observable defects and mitigation recommendations do not reduce potential liability to the owner. Treecology Consulting Group provides no warranty with respect to the fitness of the trees for any use or purpose whatsoever.

Summary

In July 2022, Treecology Consulting Group (TCG) conducted a risk assessment, and site evaluation for two street trees at 244 NE. Green in White Salmon, WA. The trees were assessed on July 2, 2022 by Ruth Williams, International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Board Certified Master Arborist #WE-7317-BM, ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualified. The results of this assessment are documented in this report. The goal of this assessment is to provide strategies to manage the trees that may impact people and property, and to guide long-term tree care decisions. Considerations include tree health, safety, and site history.

A tree risk assessment is an evaluation of current risk of failure and the consequences anticipated within a specified timeframe, in this case five (5) years. The trees were inspected for risks to buildings, infrastructure, and people. The data set was collected via the ISA Tree Hazard Evaluation Form that will allow managers to better understand, prioritize, and make decisions about the tree. Analysis of the data showed the following:

- Tree #1 is a mature 44" DBH *Robinia pseudoacacia* that is 73' tall and 35' from the primary target (residence at 244 NE. Green), and about 2' from the secondary target (driveway with frequent vehicle parking). One stem lost much of the living tissue on the interior side of the limb. There is a cavity between the three stems, and charred wood as from a fire. One prior limb failure was documented. The tree has healthy, vigorous foliage. The overall condition is poor.
- Tree #2 32" DBH *Robinia pseudoacacia* that is 62' tall and approximately 35' from the primary target (residence at 244 NE. Green). The tree is codominant with two major stems. The tree has healthy vigorous foliage. The overall condition is fair.

Recommendations

- Tree #1 is high risk based on the ISA TRA methodology. The tree risk mitigation recommendation is removal. Pruning and cabling were considered, and are discussed further in this report.
- Tree #2 is low risk. Routine end weight reduction pruning is recommended.

Introduction

Assignment and Limits

City of White Salmon contracted Treecology Consulting Group to inspect the trees and evaluate the health and condition. The arborist collected information about the species, size, condition, and risk factors for the tree. This assessment was a ground-level visual inspection, and did not include root excavation, advanced structural analysis, or climbing to inspect defects only visible from the canopy or scaffold branches. Many factors can limit specific and accurate data when performing evaluations of trees, their conditions, and values. The determinations and recommendations presented here are based on current data and conditions that existed at the time of the evaluation and cannot be a predictor of future performance for the trees.

Methods

Inventory & Assessment

Data was collected by an ISA Board Certified Master Arborist (Ruth Williams #WE-7317 BM) with a current tree risk assessment qualification (TRAQ). A visual inspection was used to develop the findings, conclusions, and recommendations found in this report.

The following attributes were collected:

Species: Tree genus and species were identified.

Diameter at Breast Height (DBH): Trunk diameter was recorded to the nearest inch at 4.5 feet (breast height) above grade except where noted. When limbs or deformities occurred at breast height, measurement was taken below 4.5 ft.

Height: Tree height was measured with a laser range finder accurate within a range of +/-5'

Crown Spread: Horizontal spread of scaffold branches was visually estimated within a range of +/-10'

Condition Rating: The condition of each tree was recorded in one of the following categories adopted from the rating system established by the International Society of Arboriculture: excellent, good, fair, poor, dead.

Excellent - An immaculate specimen with minor or insignificant defects

Good - A tree with minor issues that can be mitigated with pruning or cultural care

Fair - A tree with significant issues with either structure or health that may be improved with multiple cultural improvements or specific pruning.

Poor - A tree near the end of it's useful life with issues that cannot be resolved

Dead - A tree with less than 5% live crown

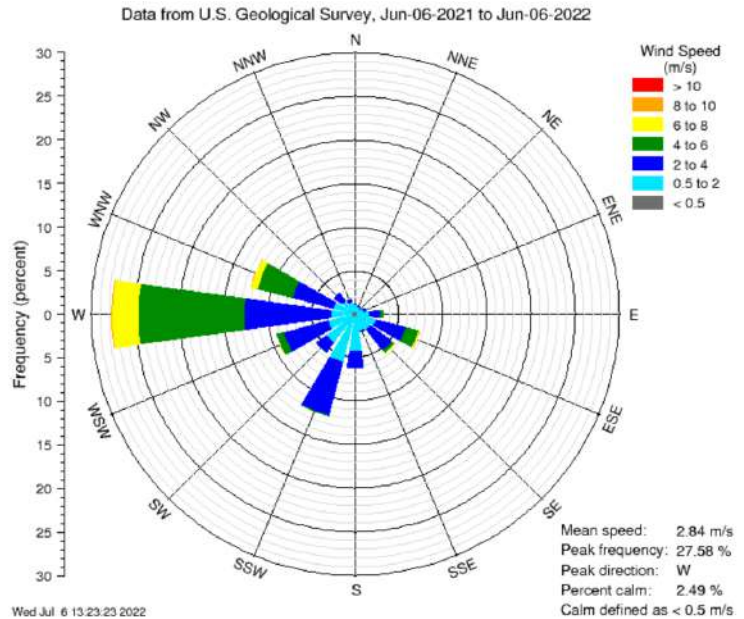
Observations: Additional observations, comments, or other points of consideration.

Photographs: Photographs of the full tree and defects were collected as necessary.

Findings

Site Attributes

The site is adjacent to a low-traffic neighborhood street. The area is a maintained front yard. The trees are open-grown, no crowding of the canopies from other trees. There is asphalt and soil near the trunk. The site has elevation gain from the road to the adjacent buildings with a few stairs. The prevailing wind is from the west. A neighboring tree to the west at 220 NE Green St. provides shelter from wind for trees #1-2.



Tree Attributes

The tree species *Robinia pseudoacacia*, black locust, is a drought-tolerant tree that thrives in poor soil conditions without irrigation once established. Its mature height is 65-100' tall. The wood strength is one of the highest of all rated lumber with especially good tolerance of outdoor applications.

Tree #1 is 44" DBH. It is 73' tall and approximately 35' from the primary target (residence at 244 NE. Green). One stem lost much of the living tissue on the interior side of the limb. There is a cavity between the three stems and charred wood as from a fire. One 6-9" prior limb failure was documented around 40' high in the canopy. The tree has healthy vigorous foliage. The overall condition is fair.

Tree #2 32" DBH *Robinia pseudoacacia* that is 62' tall and also approximately 35' from the primary target (residence at 244 NE. Green St.). The tree is codominant with two major stems. The tree has healthy vigorous foliage. The overall condition is fair.

Defects

Tree #1 has three stems that are poorly attached. The union has a cavity and decay that extends down in a column for over 24". The stem that extends toward the house/ driveway (to the northwest) has lost 30-50% of its bark and cambium for the full length of the limb. The union of the leaders shows evidence of a fire. Below the union, bark is missing and the cambium is dead, with adjacent wound wood showing 5-8 years of reaction to the prior wound as a roll of wound tissue.

Tree #2 is codominant with two main leaders. The limbs are well-attached, with minor included bark on one side. There is no evidence of cavity or decay.

Risk Assessment

The tree was assessed with a Level 2 or Basic Tree Risk Assessment, the industry standard developed by the International Society of Arboriculture. This method outlines the process for evaluating tree risk that evaluates the likelihood of failure, the nature of the targets (property or people that may be impacted by tree failure), and the consequences of failure.

Risk Rating

Tree #1 has a leader with a probable likelihood of failure, and high likelihood of impacting a target. In the event of failure, consequences would be significant, so the risk rating is high.

Tree #2 has a codominant union with a possible likelihood of failure and a medium likelihood of impacting a target. Therefore the risk rating is low.

Timeframe

For each risk assessment, the Arborist must identify a time frame. This risk assessment considers failures that may occur within a limited time frame of 5 years.

Targets

Targets are occupants and features that may be damaged in the event trees or branches fail. In this case, the targets assigned for this assessment are the adjacent residences, driveways with frequently parked vehicles, the road with occasional occupancy, and the front yard with occasional occupancy.

Recommendations

Tree #1 is high risk in a 5 year timeframe. Pruning or cabling may be performed to extend the life of the tree perhaps 10-15 years, but would not reduce the risk rating below moderate due to the significant defect in the union of the three stems. Pruning for end weight reduction and to reduce height would likely be followed by vigorous sprouting and growth. These sprouts would need to be pruned in a 3-4 year interval. These actions would all incur considerable cost for a tree that is senescent, or nearing the end of its urban life.

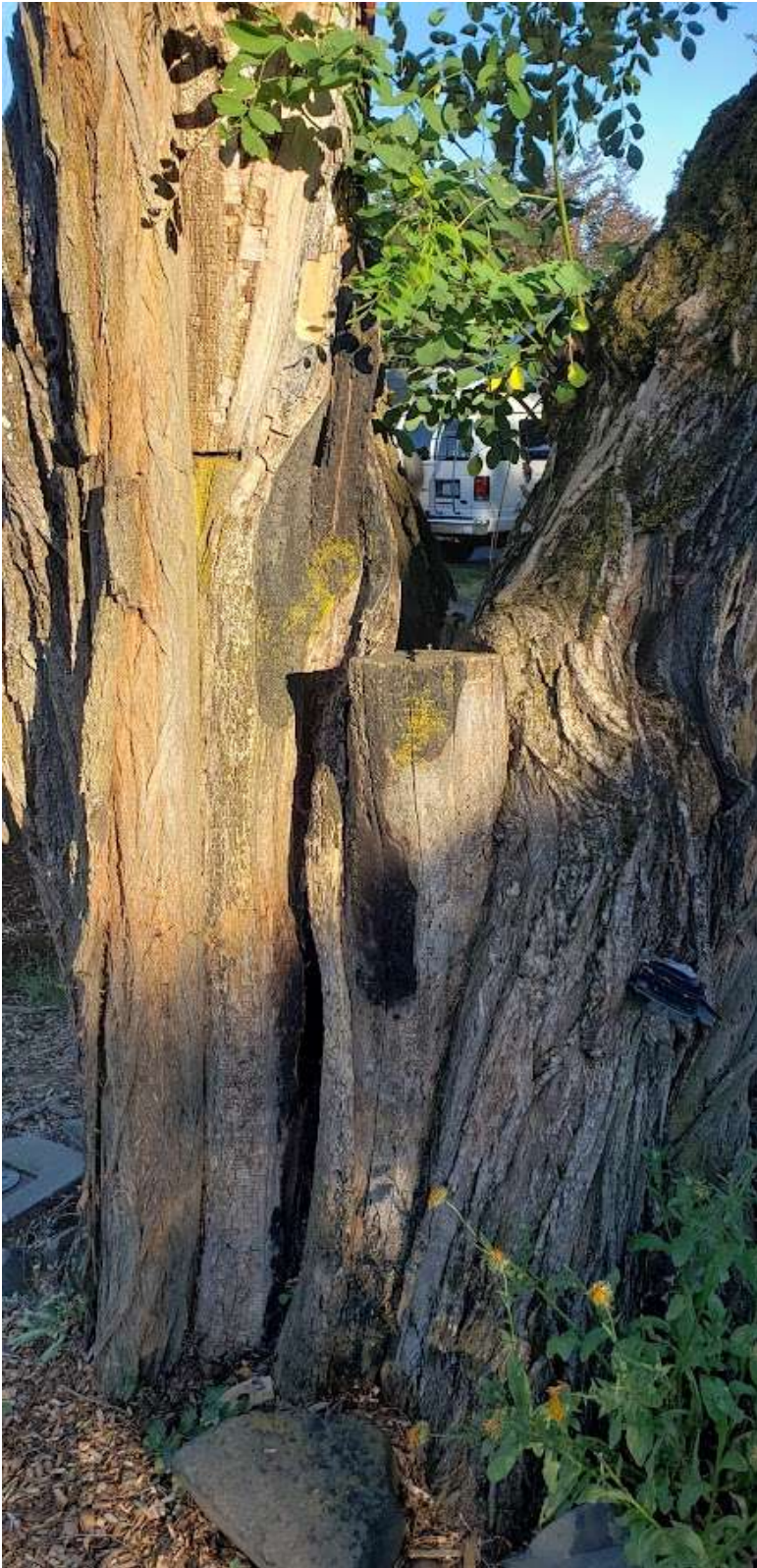
The recommended risk mitigation for this tree is removal.

Tree #2 is low risk in a 5 year timeframe. Routine end weight reduction pruning can help reduce the likelihood of branch failure. Routine pruning is conducted on a 6-8 year interval.

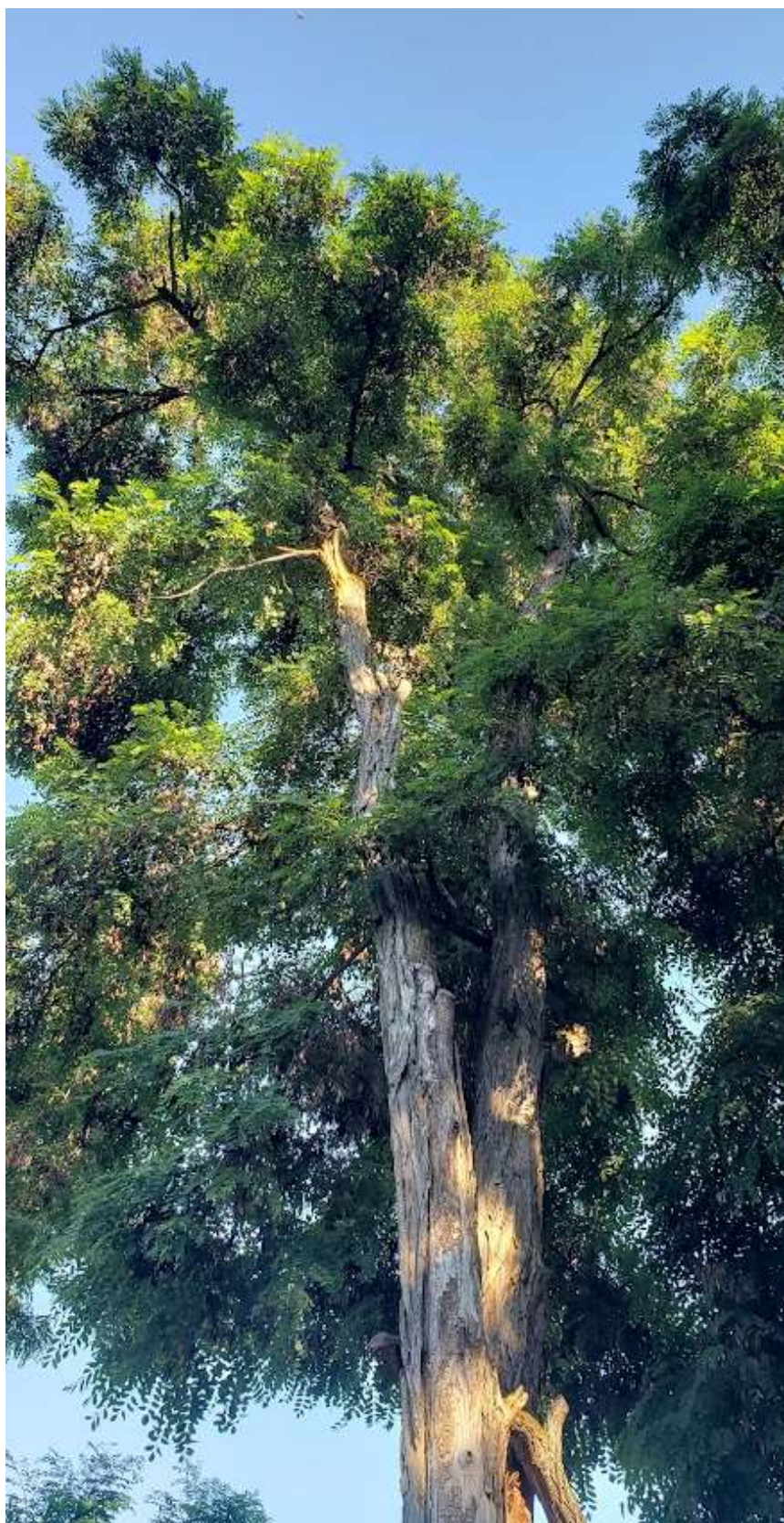
Appendix: Photo Documentation



Tree #1 viewed from the north (left) and south (right)



Tree #1 prior leader failure, 15" dead center, column of decay, fire.



Tree #1 North leader missing 50-70% live tissue on the interior side, recent limb tear-out in upper canopy.



Tree #2 is low risk.



Tree #2 has included bark evident from one side.

Klickitat Tree Operations, LLC
PO Box 2290 PMB 168
White Salmon, WA 98672 US
+1 5093103113
klickitattree@gmail.com



Estimate

ADDRESS

Jan Brending
City of White Salmon
100 N Main Ave
White Salmon, WA 98672
United States

ESTIMATE # 1213

DATE 04/28/2022

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Two Black Locust trees. Location: In front of 244 Green st. In the city's right of way. Tree # 1: The western tree. DBH 46" Height 40ft The tree shows to have defects in the trunk. Common with these trees. The full circumference of the trunk is not always connected as is the case with this tree. I suspect it dose not have much sound wood holding it together. I recommend removal.	0.00T
Tree # 2: the eastern tree. DBH 34" Height 40ft This tree is in better condition then it's companion. Although it dose show the same poor structure as tree #1 it is not as advanced in its decay and or degradation of its trunk structure. It did loose many branches last winter. Even with this loss of crown weight I don't believe this tree would be wise to keep in the long run, due to it proximity to the road and large scaffolding branch extending towards a residence. I recommend removal.	
<hr/>	
SUBTOTAL	0.00
TAX	0.00
TOTAL	\$0.00

Accepted By

Accepted Date

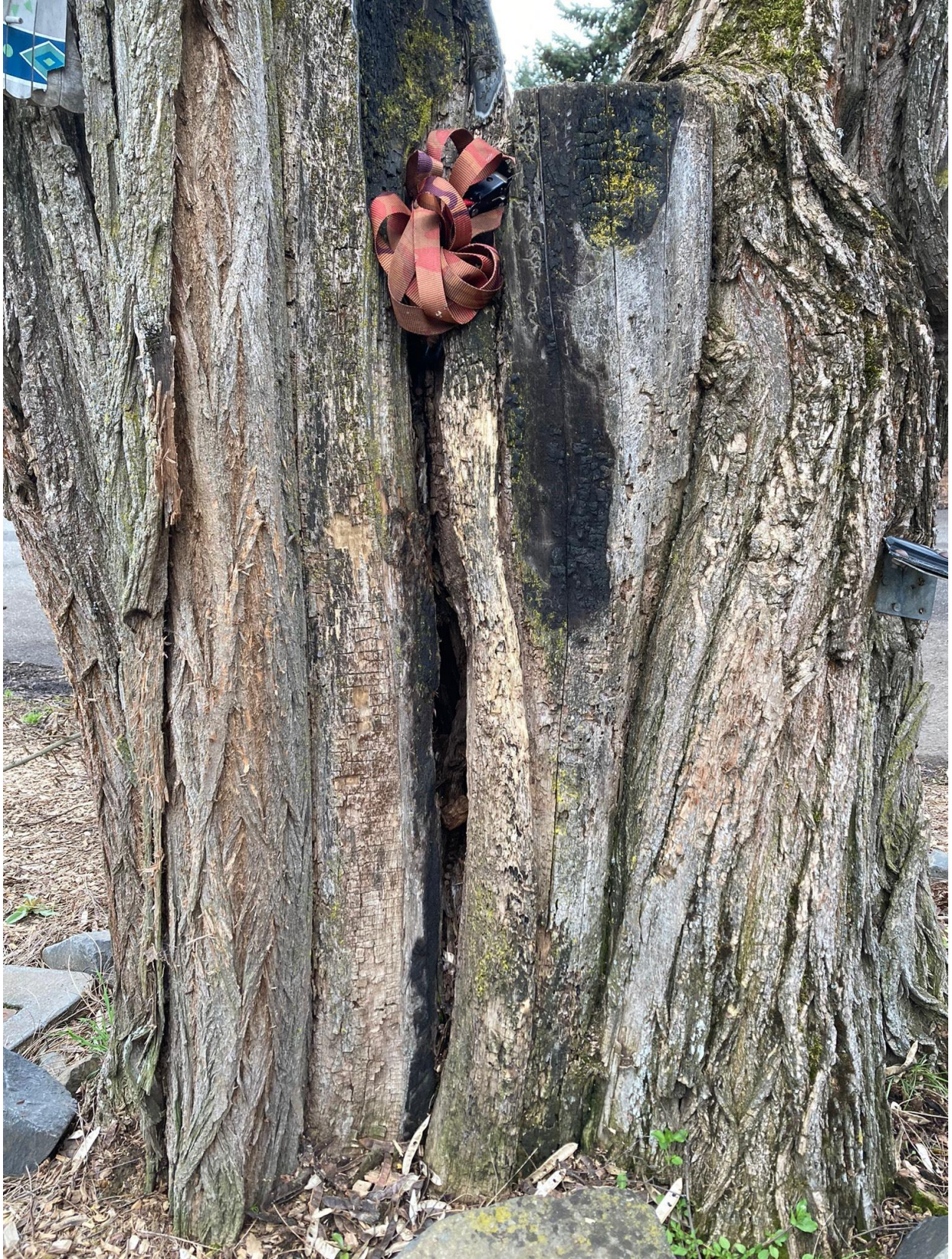
Bell Design Photo 244 E. Green



Klickitat Tree Photographs 244 E Green Street Trees













Chapter 18.35 CITY TREE ORDINANCE¹

Sections:

18.35.010 Definitions.

- (a) **Street Trees:** "Street Trees" are herein defined as trees, shrubs, bushes, and all other woody vegetation on land lying between property lines on either side of all streets, avenues, or ways within the city.
- (b) **Park Trees:** "Park Trees" are herein defined as trees, shrubs, bushes and all other woody vegetation in public parks having individual names, and all areas owned by the city, or to which the public has free access as a park.
- (c) **City Trees:** "City Trees" are all trees located on city property and include without limitation, street trees and park trees.

(Ord. No. 2017-09-1013, § 2, 9-20-2017; Ord. No. 2021-01-1072, § 1, 1-6-2021)

18.35.020—18.35.060 Reserved.

Editor's note(s)—Ord. No. 2021-04-1077, § 1, adopted April 21, 2021, repealed §§ 17.80.010—17.80.050, which pertained to creation and establishment of a city tree board; term of office; compensation; duties and responsibilities; and operation, and derived from Ord. No. 2017-09-1013, § 2, adopted Sept. 20, 2017 and Ord. No. 2021-01-1072, § 1, adopted Jan. 6, 2021.

18.35.070 City tree species to be planted.

Following recommendation by the City Tree Board, the city council shall adopt a list of acceptable and/or prohibited city trees by a separate resolution referring to this section. The city tree list may be amended by city council as necessary following recommendation of the City Tree Board. No species other than those included in the current city tree resolution, or as amended may be planted as city trees without written permission of the City Tree Board.

(Ord. No. 2017-09-1013, § 2, 9-20-2017; Ord. No. 2021-01-1072, § 1, 1-6-2021)

18.35.080. Spacing.

The spacing of city trees will be in accordance with adopted resolution of acceptable city trees.

(Ord. No. 2017-09-1013, § 2, 9-20-2017; Ord. No. 2021-01-1072, § 1, 1-6-2021)

¹Editor's note(s)—Ord. No. 2017-09-1013, §§ 1, 2, adopted September 20, 2017, repealed the former Ch. 18.35, §§ 18.35.010—18.35.150, and enacted a new Ch. 18.35 as set out herein. The former Ch. 18.35 pertained to similar subject matter. See Code Comparative Table and Disposition List for complete derivation.

18.35.090 Distance from Curb and Sidewalk.

The distance trees may be planted from curbs or curblines and sidewalks will be in accordance with the city street tree resolution, or unless allowed in advance by the City Tree Board and no trees may be planted closer to any curb or sidewalk than the following: Small trees, two feet; medium trees, three feet; and large trees, four feet.

(Ord. No. 2017-09-1013, § 2, 9-20-2017; Ord. No. 2021-01-1072, § 1, 1-6-2021)

18.35.100 Distance from Street Corners and Fire Hydrants.

No street tree shall be planted closer than 35 feet of any street corner, measured from the point of nearest intersecting curbs or curblines. No street tree shall be planted closer than 10 feet of a fire hydrant.

(Ord. No. 2017-09-1013, § 2, 9-20-2017)

18.35.110 Utilities.

No street trees other than those species listed as small trees in Section 18.35.070 may be planted under or within ten lateral feet of any overhead utility wire, or over or within five lateral feet of any underground water line, sewer line, transmission line or other utility.

(Ord. No. 2017-09-1013, § 2, 9-20-2017)

18.35.120 Public Tree Care.

The city shall have the right to plant, prune, maintain and remove trees, plants and shrubs within the lines of all streets, alleys, avenues, lanes, squares and public grounds, as may be necessary for public safety. The City Tree Board shall be notified and consulted in a timely manner of any proposals for new plantings or removal of existing trees, plants and shrubs within the lines of all streets, alleys, avenues, lanes, squares and public grounds.

The City Tree Board may remove or cause or order to be removed, any tree or part thereof which is in an unsafe condition or which by reason of its nature is injurious to sewers, electric power lines, gas lines, water lines, or other public improvements, or is affected with any injurious fungus, insect or other pest.

This Section 18.35.120 does not prohibit the planting of street trees by adjacent property owners providing that the selection and location of said trees is in accordance with Sections 18.35.070 through 18.35.110 of this ordinance. Planting of street trees within the city rights-of-way by adjacent property owners requires a right-of-way permit pursuant to WSMC 12.02.

(Ord. No. 2017-09-1013, § 2, 9-20-2017; Ord. No. 2021-01-1072, § 1, 1-6-2021)

18.35.130 Tree Topping.

It shall be unlawful as a normal practice for any person, firm, or city department to top any street tree, park tree, or other tree on public property. Topping is defined as the severe cutting back of limbs to stubs larger than three inches in diameter within the tree's crown to such a degree so as to remove the normal canopy and disfigure the tree. Trees severely damaged by storms or other causes, or certain trees under utility wires or other obstructions where other pruning practices are impractical may be exempted from this ordinance at the determination of the City Tree Board.

(Ord. No. 2017-09-1013, § 2, 9-20-2017; Ord. No. 2021-01-1072, § 1, 1-6-2021)

18.35.140 Pruning, Corner Clearance.

Every owner of any tree overhanging any street or right-of-way within the city shall prune the branches so that such branches shall not obstruct the light from any street lamp or obstruct the view of any street intersection and so that there shall be a clear space of fourteen feet above the surface of the street or eight feet above the surface of the sidewalk. Said owners shall remove all dead, diseased or dangerous trees, or broken or decayed limbs which constitute a menace to the safety of the public. The city shall have the right to prune any tree or shrub on private property when it interferes with the proper spread of light along the street from a street light or interferes with sight distance to oncoming traffic or the visibility of any traffic control device or sign or within the clear space of fourteen feet above the surface of the street or eight feet above the surface of the sidewalk.

(Ord. No. 2017-09-1013, § 2, 9-20-2017; Ord. No. 2021-01-1072, § 1, 1-6-2021)

18.35.150 Dead or Diseased Tree Removal on Private Property.

The city shall have the right to cause the removal of any dead or diseased trees on private property within the city, when such trees constitute a hazard to life and property, or harbor insects or disease which constitute a potential threat to other trees within the city. The city will notify the owners of such trees in writing. Removal shall be done by said owners at their own expense within sixty days after the date of service of notice. In the event of failure of owners to comply with such provisions, the city shall have the authority to remove such trees and charge the cost of removal on the owners' property tax notice.

(Ord. No. 2017-09-1013, § 2, 9-20-2017; Ord. No. 2021-01-1072, § 1, 1-6-2021)

18.35.160 Removal of Stumps.

All stumps of street and park trees shall be removed below the surface of the ground so that the top of the stump shall not project above the surface of the ground. Gaddis Park shall be exempt from this requirement.

(Ord. No. 2017-09-1013, § 2, 9-20-2017; Ord. No. 2021-01-1072, § 1, 1-6-2021)

18.35.170 Interference with City Tree Board.

It shall be unlawful for any person to prevent, delay or interfere with the City Tree Board, or any of its agents, while engaging in and about the planting, cultivating, mulching, pruning, spraying, or removing of any street trees, park trees, or trees on private grounds, as authorized in this ordinance.

(Ord. No. 2017-09-1013, § 2, 9-20-2017; Ord. No. 2021-01-1072, § 1, 1-6-2021)

18.35.180 Reserved.

Editor's note(s)—Ord. No. 2021-01-1072, § 1, adopted Jan. 6, 2021, repealed § 18.35.180, which pertained to arborists license and bond and derived from Ord. No. 2017-09-1013, § 2, adopted Sept. 20, 2017.

18.35.190 Review by City Council.

The city council shall have the right to review the conduct, acts and decisions of the City Tree Board. Any person may appeal from any ruling or order of the City Tree Board to the city council who may hear the matter and make final decision.

(Ord. No. 2017-09-1013, § 2, 9-20-2017)

18.35.200. Penalty.

Any person violating any provision of this ordinance shall be, upon conviction or a plea of guilty, subject to a fine not to exceed two hundred fifty dollars, plus the city's cost to restore the tree(s) to a pre-violation condition.

(Ord. No. 2017-09-1013, § 2, 9-20-2017)

File Attachments for Item:

6. Wyers Street Trees



COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMO

Needs Legal Review: No
Committee Meeting Date: August 1, 2022
Agenda Item: Wyers Street Trees
Presented By: Jan Brending, Clerk Treasurer

Action Required

Take action on two oak trees located within the right-of-way on the south side of SE Wyers at 328 SE Wyers (328 SE Wyers is on the north side of the street)

Proposed Motion

Motion options are provided as below:

1. Move to retain the three oak trees located within the right-of-way on the south side of SE Wyers at 328 Wyers (328 SE Wyers is on the north side of the street).
2. Move to refer the issue back to staff for additional information, including obtaining a certified arborist assessment.
3. Move to refer this issue to the City Council with a recommendation from the Tree Board.
4. Other motion as determined by Tree Board member(s).

Explanation of Issue

The property owners at 328 SE Wyers, Chris Moore and Crissy Trask, have contacted the city about the removal of two trees located within the city's right-of-way. Emails from the property owner are attached. Staff has taken pictures of the trees which are also attached. The subject property is located on the south side of Wyers directly across from the 328 SE Wyers. Emails from the property owners at 328 SE Wyers are attached. There are actually three oak trees within the right-of-way including the two trees that appear twisted together. These trees may qualify as Heritage trees. They have not been measured.

The City hired Bell Design to determine the property line at the subject property. The two trees are clearly located within the right-of-way. Bill Hunsaker, Building Official/Fire Chief and Karen Black-Jenkins, Tree Board Member reviewed the subject two trees. The city has not hired an arborist for an independent review of the two trees. Both Bill Hunsaker and Karen Black-Jenkins have stated that the trees appear to be healthy but need maintenance. Hunsaker and Black-Jenkins do not recommend removal of the trees.

The property that the three trees are located in front of is currently vacant. No structures exist on the property. There are additional trees that are located on the property. One or more of the three trees located within the street right-of-way may need to be removed in order to provide access to the property in the future when it is developed.

The Tree Board has the authority to make decisions on trees located within the city's rights-of-way, city property and within the city's parks. WSMC 18.35.120 (attached). The City could refer this to the City Council as identified in the options below.

Tree Board Options

The Tree Board has the following options available at this time:

1. Accept the staff recommendation.
2. Refer this issue back to staff for additional work, including obtaining a certified arborist assessment of the trees.
4. Refer this issue to the City Council for decision.

5. Other action that may be desired by the Tree Board.

Fiscal Implications

If the trees are allowed to remain in place, the trees should be placed in the city's inventory and assessed by an arborist for recommended maintenance. The trees would then be included in the city's regular tree maintenance schedule. The associated costs to maintain a single tree are unknown at this time.

If trees are removed, the city will need to hire a contractor to remove the tree(s) and stump(s).

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends the two trees be allowed to remain in place and that they be placed in the city's tree inventory. The trees should be assessed by an arborist when the next round of tree maintenance is scheduled, and any necessary maintenance performed at that time.



Two oak trees twisted together



Oak tree located at east of twisted oak trees.

From: [Chris Moore](#)
To: [Jan Brending](#)
Subject: Re: Tree Board proposal
Date: Sunday, April 3, 2022 4:27:52 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)
[image.png](#)

Jan,

Here are some pictures of the two trees we are proposing for removal--in the picture they are the trees that are twisted together. The two trees are on the south side of Wyers street in front of an empty lot across from our property at 328 SE Wyers Street. The trees are Street Trees, 33 1/2 inch circumference, which is 10.6 inch diameter. Wade at Klickitat Tree Service knows where they are. We have 5 huge trees across the street on our property that we are protecting from pests and diseases that could come from these trees.

Thanks,

Chris Moore
509-344-9255



On Wed, Oct 13, 2021 at 4:58 PM Chris Moore <cmo.pnw@gmail.com> wrote:

Hi Jan,
What is the latest regarding these trees on Wyers Street?
Thanks,
Chris Moore

On Tue, Jun 8, 2021 at 10:04 AM Jan Brending <janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us> wrote:

Chris:

Are the trees on Wyers or on 3rd? Can you take some pictures of them and send to me.
Thanks.

Jan Brending, Clerk Treasurer

City of White Salmon

PO Box 2139

White Salmon WA 98672

509-493-1133 #205

janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us

From: Chris Moore <cmo.pnw@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 12:27 PM
To: Jan Brending <janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us>
Subject: Re: Tree Board proposal

No, they are street trees across the road.

On Tue, May 11, 2021 at 11:30 AM Jan Brending <janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us> wrote:

Are these trees on your property?

Jan Brending, Clerk Treasurer

City of White Salmon

PO Box 2139

White Salmon WA 98672

509-493-1133 #205

janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us

From: Chris Moore <cmo.pnw@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 11:21 AM

To: janb@ci.white-salmon.wa.us

Subject: Tree Board proposal

Hello Jan,

I would like to make a proposal to remove a couple smaller oak street trees that have twisted together and are not Heritage Trees. Please reply with an email address and any forms I may need.

Thanks,

Chris Moore

509-344-9255