

SBCA TREE CONSULTING

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Date: April 12, 2012

To: Todd Williams, Public Works Supervisor

Subject: Tree Removal Recommendation

Location: 1001 Pearl St.

Species: *Myoporum (Myoporum laetum)*

Assignment: Arborist was requested to inspect the tree for health and safety.

Summary

The *Myoporum* appears to be near dead and in the process of failing. These are indicated by sparse foliage and uplifted roots on the opposite side of the lean. Due to its small size, the tree does not present a serious hazard. It is recommended the tree be removed and replaced at a time when it can be efficiently undertaken.

Tree Description

The tree has a DBH of 16 inches and is approximately 20 feet in height. The tree displays a 40 degree lean to the east. A large decay area emanating from an old pruning wound begins 5.5 feet up the trunk and continues down to the ground. Over 70% of the tree is decayed or hollow. Roots on the west side appear to be uplifting. The tree displays distorted and sparse foliage, a sign of *Myoporum* Thrips (*Klambothrips myopori*) infestation. Live crown ratio is 5-10%.

Analysis and Discussion

Myoporum Thrips – Infestation of thrips is the event contributing to this trees transition from declining to dead on the mortality spiral¹.

Hazard Evaluation – Tree failure potential is severe. Uplifted roots indicate the tree is in the process of falling over slowly. However, the tree is not very large and target rating is low, with the potential for damage to a car if parked underneath during the time of failure.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the tree be removed and replaced at a time when it can be efficiently undertaken. It may be best if no cars park under the tree in the meantime.

¹ **Mortality Spiral** – Trees often die from a series of linked events. A mortality spiral describes the tree's transition from vigorous to stressed, from stressed to injured, from injured to declining, and from declining to dead. At each stage, specific biological, cultural, and environmental factors are involved (Harris, Richard, James Clark, and Nelda Matheny. Arboriculture: Integrated Management of landscape Trees, Shrubs and Vines. Prentice-Hall, Inc, 1999. Print)

Photo Supplement



Photo 1. Photo to the right show the uplifting roots on the east side of the tree, opposite the lean. It appears the tree has been in the process of failing for some time and will continue to do so as the root system deteriorates.



Photo 2. Photo to the left shows the tree with sparse foliage and a large cavity 5.5 feet up the trunk. The tree is at the end of its life and should be removed and replaced.

End

