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Date: February 2, 2008

TO: Chi-Wai Chung, P.E.
City of Alameda Public Works Dept.

Locations: 1728 Chapin

Species: Liquidambar Tree

Subject: Root Street Conflict

Assignment: Arborist was asked to provide recommendations for the treatment subsequent to the removal of sidewalk, curb and street from around the tree.

Summary

It is recommended that this tree be removed and replaced. The root conflict cannot be resolved without compromising the safety of the tree.

Tree Description

The liquidambar tree has a DBH of 34" and is approximately 65 feet tall. A large root, (minimum 10" diameter) was observed growing under the street.

Site Description

The tree is located at the corner and tree branches are in conflict with power and communication lines. The tree is also located close to a storm drain and has displaced the surrounding gutter.

Assessment

It does not appear that the tree can be retained due to the need to cut the large root growing under the street. This root would be cut at a point well inside of the primary root plate¹.

Recommendations

It is recommended that this tree be removed and replaced prior to making street repairs.

¹ Primary Root Plate – A radial distance from the base of the tree equal to three times the tree diameter. Cutting roots inside of the primary root plate significantly increases the potential for root failure.

Photo 1. Photo to the left below shows the root (Red Arrow) that is growing under the street. Cutting this root will compromise the tree stability beyond acceptable limits.

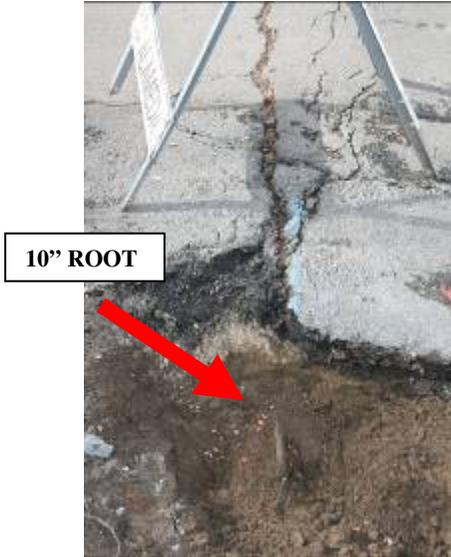


Photo 2. Photo above shows the uplifted street that extends well out to the center of the roadway. Only cutting the root will solve the problem.

End Report

