



CONSULTING ARBORISTS — URBAN FORESTRY SPECIALISTS

PHONE: 352-588-2580 FAX: 352-588-2229

P.O. Box 564 San Antonio, Fl. 33576

February 13, 2023

Windermere Town Council
Windermere, Fl.

Re: Redevelopment Project

This letter will serve to address the concerns brought forth by the Windermere Tree Board, as well as the Town Council during the several hearings which have been held to discuss this project. Below is a response to the Tree Board's email to Brett Dargis of V3 Capital on October 24, 2022. Measurement of heights referenced below was done utilizing a clinometer.

A total of 38 trees shall remain. This number includes trees along 6th Avenue and Oakdale Street, as well as two trees along Main Street. These trees have a total diameter of 986 inches which represents a retention of 51 percent of the total diameter inches for all trees. Of these 38 trees, 26 are live or laurel oaks with diameters ranging from 15 inches to 52 inches.

Regarding the patio tree (#18), a patio area of approximately 50 feet by 70 feet shall be retained around this tree. Although the canopy exceeds these dimensions, very little canopy will be affected. According to the site plan, approximately five feet of the outer canopy, representing small diameter limbs, will need to be cut to accommodate building one. Regarding building two, the lowest limb protruding over the building is 25 feet, thus little to no pruning of the canopy shall be needed as it is a one story building.

In addition, a pervious area extending in a radius approximately ten to twelve feet away from the trunk shall remain. WANE (water, air, nutrient exchange) Tree Feeders shall be installed, per product specifications, in concentric rings around the canopy within the courtyard. These "feeders" allow, as the name implies, the ability of the roots to receive water, air, and nutrients from the surface, as well as the soil. Organic material and/or fertilizer can be placed within these feeders when installed and can also be replenished over time with periodic inspections.

Regarding trees 54 and 55, the elliptical-shaped open space around these two trees is approximately 60 feet north and south and 53 feet east and west. Although the canopies of these trees extend beyond these dimensions, there is nothing to interfere with the canopy as the limbs extend over the adjacent parking area.

Tree 61 is a 22-inch diameter laurel oak. It shall be retained within an island approximately 40 feet square, thus a sufficient rooting area will remain. Only the very outer portion of the canopy on the west side of the tree may be affected by building two as it is a one story building.

Tree protection practices, to include air spading to locate roots, root pruning as needed, tree barricades, and the application of a plant growth regulator will be done under the direction of Eric Hoyer, a Certified Arborist with Legacy Arborist Services. The tree barricades will be either chain link or of post and beam construction.



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No grade changes – either the removal of, or the addition of, fill material - will be done within the Tree Protection Zone (area within the tree barricades).

Tree 53, although requested to be saved by the Tree Board, is within the drain field. Construction of the drain field will greatly diminish the root system of the tree, jeopardizing both the health and stability of the tree. In addition, the presence of tree roots within the drain field can cause infrastructure damage and inhibit the effectiveness of the drain field. Therefore, this tree is not scheduled for retention.

The invasive undergrowth below the trees near the corner of 5th Avenue and Oakdale shall be removed using hand-held equipment. This work shall be done under the supervision of Eric Hoyer of Legacy Arborist Services and the root zone shall be protected.

Several issues were discussed at the last Town Council meeting. These issues are addressed below.

The tree along the property line adjacent to building two shall be airspaded to locate roots prior to construction of the footer. Large roots shall be bridged over utilizing a pier and beam construction method, allowing the footer to remain above grade. A concern was also raised regarding the necessity of pruning lateral limbs along the south side of the tree to accommodate building two. However, the lowest limb on the south side of the tree is 38 feet, thus no limbs shall need to be pruned to erect building two as this height is well above the roof of the building.

Another concern was the need to elevate the trees along 5th Avenue to accommodate truck traffic. As a general rule, tree limbs should be elevated to a height of fourteen (14) feet above a street to provide sufficient height for truck and bus traffic. The lowest limbs of the four trees along 5th Avenue (three along the north side and one along the south side) were measured and the results are as follows. The heights of these limbs were measured directly above the curb.

- Tree along south side – lowest limb 15', next limb above it 20'
- Easternmost tree on north side – lowest limb 13 feet, second lowest 16'. Trimming may not be necessary but to achieve the 14' clearance, approximately 5 percent of the canopy would be removed
- Middle tree on north side – lowest limb 14'
- Westernmost tree on north side – lowest limb 10.5'. Trucks are currently striking this limb as evidenced by wound on lower side of limb. This limb elbows above the curve to a height of 13 feet. Removing this limb would result in an approximate canopy reduction of 5 percent.

I hope this information answers and addresses the concerns of both the Tree Board and the Town Council. I am available to answer any questions or concerns you may have.



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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eric H. Hayes".

Certified Arborist #SO-0103

Registered Consulting Arborist #482

Tree Risk Assessment Qualified