



September 14, 2020

Subject: Montreux Street Tree Status, September 2020

Dear Montreux Residents,

This note is to provide you status on Montreux Homeowners' Association (HOA) activity to address concerns with dead/dying trees along NW Village Park Drive.

In May, the Landscape Committee formed a sub-committee to *develop and implement a near-term and long-term plan to repair and maintain the residential trees for which the HOA is responsible.*

Participating on this committee are:

- Judy Norman, Landscape Chair
- Joyce Stewart, Vice President (and Landscape Committee member)
- Jerry Lilly, Ponds & Waterfall Chair
- Hamid Koohpai, past Landscape Chair
- Peter Roppo, Native Growth Protection Easement (NGPE) Chair
- Frank Yandrasits, President

Scope of the study includes trees along Village Park Drive, NW Montreux Drive and NW Lac Lemman Drive (including islands in semi-circles on those streets). The scope does NOT include trees on private property, trees in NGPE areas (these are handled by the NGPE Chair), or arborvitae and other shrubs (these are being addressed by the Landscape Committee).

In June, after evaluating proposals from three vendors, the committee selected Davey Resource Group to conduct a formal site analysis. The arborist from Davey performed his assessment in July. Each tree was visually assessed, and data were collected within a GIS database. The data collection and arborist report include:

- A numbering system of all the subject trees on the property with corresponding tree tag.
- Tree type or species and DBH (Diameter at 4.5' above soil level).
- A complete description of each tree's health, condition, and viability, including existing hazards and defects to the tree structure.
- Growing space size.
- Evaluation of sidewalk heaving.
- Type of work required; typically pruning for clearance, deadwood, or tree removal.
- Work prioritization; an expression of the urgency for the work to be done.
- Map illustrations of tree locations.
- A summary report and map which will guide tree maintenance activities over the next 5-7 years.

Four-hundred-and-twenty-six trees were inventoried. The most prevalent species were:

- Norway maple (*Acer platanoides*, 256 trees). These are mostly along Village Park Dr.
- Armstrong maple (*Acer x freemanii* 'Armstrong', 90 trees). These are mostly along Montreux Dr.
- Red maple (*Acer rubrum*, 76 trees). These are mostly along Lac Lemay Dr.

Assessment of tree condition:

- Twenty-six (26) trees were in excellent condition.
- Two-hundred-and-sixteen (216) trees were in good condition.
- Ninety-two (92) were in fair condition.
- Sixty (60) were in poor condition.
- Eleven (11) were in very poor condition.
- Thirteen (13) trees were dead and eight (8) trees were in critical condition.

Recommendations from the report included:

Removals should take priority over pruning and replanting to help ensure safety at the site.

- Priority 1 Removal: 18 trees
- Priority 2 Removal: 5 trees
- Priority 3 Removal: 8 trees

Prune all selected trees, as resources allow and according to priority designation. Specific pruning recommendations for each tree are noted in the inventory tables of the report appendix.

- Priority 1 Prune: 35 trees
- Priority 2 Prune: 114 trees
- Large Tree Routine Prune: 40 trees
- Small Tree Routine Prune: 58 trees

In August, based on recommendation in the report, the committee began developing a 3-5 year plan. "Phase 1" will focus on NW Village Park Drive: priority 1 and 2 removals, and priority 1 pruning. Estimates were obtained from multiple vendors, and a meeting with City of Issaquah was held to review the report and discuss permit requirements. Tree removal and right of way permit requests were submitted. Pending issuance of permits and vendor availability, this work is tentatively scheduled for the 3rd week in October. Further status will be provided as plans become more firm.

Discussions with City of Issaquah and clarifying estimates with vendors have taken longer than anticipated. We appreciate your patience as we work towards a near-term and long-term plan to repair and maintain the beautiful residential street trees in Montreux.

Frank Yandrasits
President, Montreux HOA
On behalf of the Montreux Tree Committee

If you would like an electronic copy of "Arborist Report – Montreux HOA (August 2020)," prepared by Davey Resource Group please contact Frank Yandrasits at f.yandrasits@comcast.net.