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2014 SEP 10 PM 12:16

January 25, 2014

Mr. Ed Jacobson
Jacobson Builders
40862 Robinson Circle
Leesburg, VA 20175

BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 18708
EXHIBIT NO. 38

Dear Ed:

With this letter, I will outline my observations and recommendations concerning tree protection for the proposed home construction at 4509 Foxhall Crescent, NW, Washington, D.C.

I visited this site on January 16, 2014 to inventory the trees that are 4" of diameter, and greater, within the proposed construction footprint, and also other trees that are within the 30' buffer zone, but who's critical root zones (CRZ) might be impacted by the limits of disturbance (LOD). These trees are listed in the spreadsheet provided to you. The corresponding CRZ's have been plotted on a site map by your staff. These CRZ limits are imposed by the DC Urban Forestry Administration (UFA).

The trees located in the buffer zone were visually located by me on site, but have not been field located. I understand that your staff used historic survey maps to locate these additional trees. My impression is that they are close to my observations, but I cannot guarantee their accuracy.

There are two trees within the building footprint that are of a large enough diameter size to be considered "special" trees under the District's Urban Forest Protection Act. These are trees #10 and 18. Tree #10 is a large diameter tulip poplar that is in good condition. We talked at length about trying to save this tree, but there are no options for preservation given the tight building envelope on site. Tree #18 is a large diameter American beech that is in fair to poor condition. This tree is declining due to a canker disease, and also has quite a bit of decay in trunk. There are two significant wounds, one at the base and another about 20' up the trunk. Each of these has a significant column associated with it. And, I believe that these decay columns are likely coalesced in the main trunk. If so, this represents a significant defect, and is one that is certainly prone to failure. Therefore, this tree would not be a preservation candidate under any home building circumstance.

Based upon the CRZ limits provided by your office, only trees #21, 23 and 27 in the buffer area have CRZ's that bisect the limits of disturbance. And, based upon this representation, my professional opinion is that the percentage of CRZ lost in each of these trees is well within the limits of sustainable root loss. As such, if standard tree protection steps are employed, such as root pruning and root zone protection, I have no doubt that these trees will survive the construction as proposed.

We have not yet discussed specific tree protection measures, but I have expressed to you some of my thoughts in this area. In particular, in order to save tree #14 changes to the grading plan will be required. Also, stockpiling of materials on site will require the creation of a staging area that is underlain with a root zone protection system, to avoid soil compaction in the tree save area. This is certainly possible to accomplish, but it will take some planning.

Additionally, I have not seen a utility plan for this site. It is best for the utilities to enter the site under the driveway, or at least within the construction envelope. Any utilities reaching the new home from outside this limit will require close scrutiny to their impacts on the saved trees. Options are available, such as directional boring that could be employed for this purpose. However, we will have to discuss these at greater length.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this initial impression of the trees and protection efforts on this site. Please contact me with any other questions.

Sincerely,



Keith C. Pitchford
ISA Certified Arborist, MA-0178
ISA Certified Tree Risk Assessor, #922
MD Licensed Tree Expert, #589
MD Licensed Forester, #675



4509 FOXHALL CRESCENT

E&S PLANS

E&S-E&S
E&S-DETAILS

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TREE SURVEY - 4509 Foxhall Crescent
Washington, D.C. 20007
January 16, 2014

Tree #	Common name	Scientific name	Diameter (in.)	CRZ (ft.)	Condition	Comments
1	Black locust	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	6	6	Poor	heavy ivy, almost dead
2	Black locust	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	8	8	Fair/Poor	ivy, declining
3	Black locust	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	12	12	Poor	heavy ivy, almost dead
4	Flowering dogwood	<i>Cornus florida</i>	7	7	Poor	broken in half
5	Black gum	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	8.5	8	Fair/Poor	ivy, asymmetric crown
6	Pignut hickory	<i>Carya glabra</i>	14	14	Good/Fair	some ivy
7	Black locust	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	16	16	Dead	Dead
8	American beech	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	7	7	Good	asymmetric crown
9	Pignut hickory	<i>Carya glabra</i>	7	7	Good/Fair	asymmetric crown
10	Black oak	<i>Quercus velutina</i>	15	15	Good/Fair	asymmetric crown
11	Tulip poplar	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	47	47	Good	nice tree
12	American beech	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	11.5	11.5	Good/Fair	asymmetric crown
13	Pignut hickory	<i>Carya glabra</i>	10	10	Good/Fair	ivy, asymmetric crown
14	Chestnut oak	<i>Quercus prinus</i>	22	22	Good/Fair	asymmetric crown
15	American beech	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	5.5	5	Good/Fair	asymmetric crown
16	American beech	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	7	7	Good/Fair	asymmetric crown
17	American beech	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	9	9	Fair	asymmetric, declining
18	American beech	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	30	30	Fair/Poor	center leader is dead, nectria canker, decay at base and at 20' up trunk, column of decay with cracking in main trunk
19	American beech	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	8.5	8	Fair	asymmetric, storm damage
20	American beech	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	11.5	11	Good	nice tree
21	White oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>	31	31	Good/Fair	along fence

Tree #	Common name	Scientific name	Diameter (in.)	CRZ (ft.)	Condition	Comments
22	Pignut hickory	<i>Carya glabra</i>	18.5	18	Fair	Ivy, declining
23	White oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>	25	25	Fair	Ivy, declining
24	White oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>	24	24	Good/Fair	off site
25	Black gum	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	12	12	Good/Fair	asymmetric crown
26	Tulip poplar	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	42	42	Good	off site, diameter estimate
27	Pignut hickory	<i>Carya glabra</i>	14	14	Good/Fair	