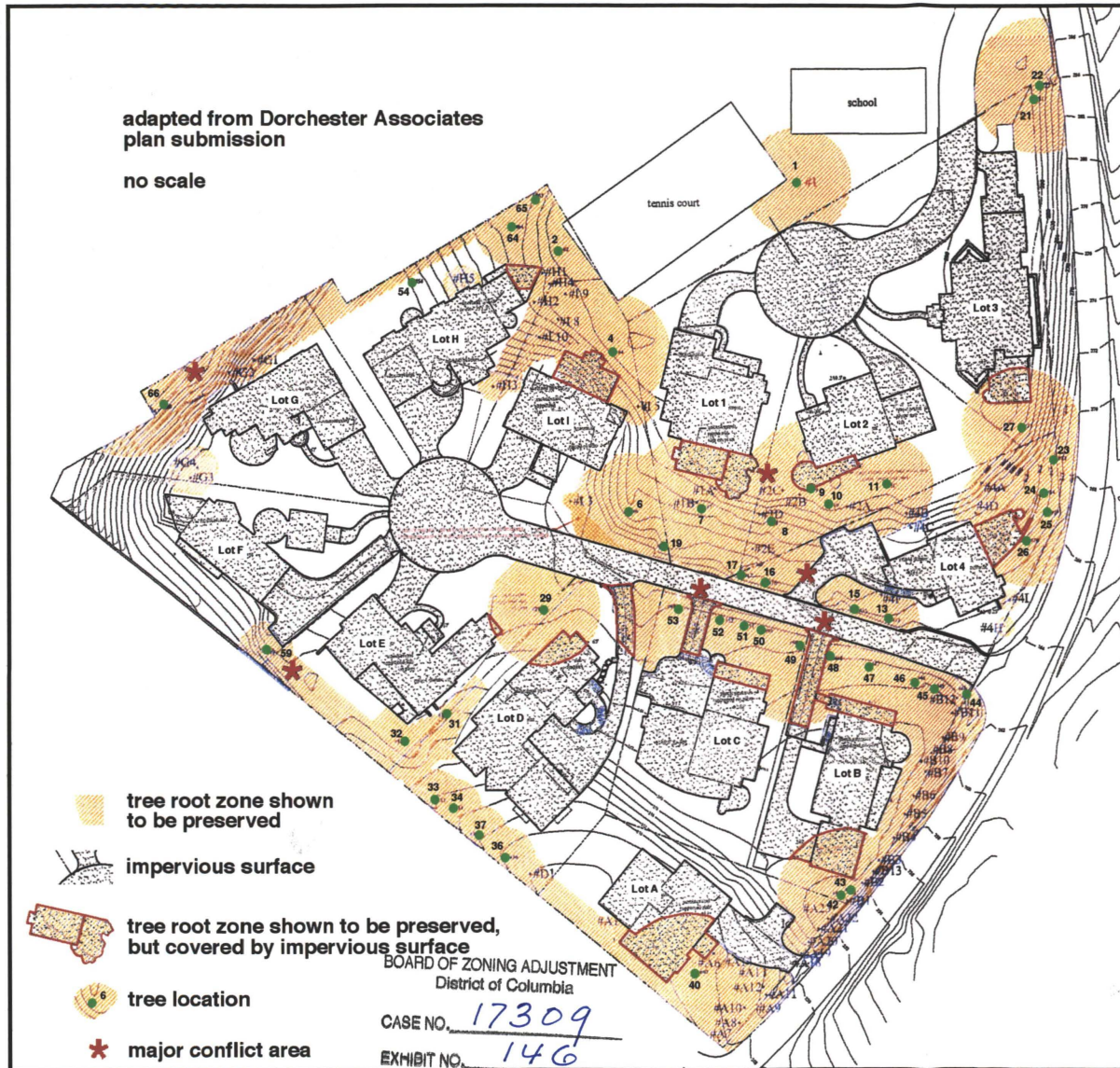




Dorchester Associates Tree Conflicts Summary

- Basic tree biology: where are the roots? They are in the top few inches of soil, and can travel a long distance from the tree in any direction.
- Critical root zone (CRZ) definition
 - Considered to be a range; from 6 inches of radius per inch of trunk diameter for young, tolerant species of trees in good condition... to 18 inches of radius per inch of trunk diameter for older trees, trees in less than healthy condition, and/or trees that are intolerant of change.
 - Among the species considered most sensitive to change are American beech, Canadian hemlock, and tulip tree.
 - The condition ratings for most of the trees on this site are generally fair... not good.
 - These trees cannot be considered young.
 - The plan shows a CRZ of 12 inches radius per inch of diameter. Most of larger trees will lose a substantial portion of their root systems. If you use the more likely 18 inches of radius CRZ, every one will lose the majority of its root zone.
 - It is one thing to ask a newly planted tree to adapt to the environment it is placed in. It is quite another thing to expect an old tree to withdraw its roots into a space half to two-thirds the size of what it has had at its disposal for 50 years.
- Grading plan
 - No grading lines are shown... are they really going to build these huge houses without any grade changes? With no drainage swales around the houses? With no foundation overdrigs? With no equipment access?
 - No limits of clearing and grading (LOC) are shown, and without this detail, it is impossible to say exactly what will be left intact. Arborists do not determine where the LOC are going to be; engineers do that job.
- Applicant's presentation statements, slightly paraphrased:
 - "We are building on the flats and staying away from the trees."
 - They cannot stay away from the trees with this density. Many trees have construction activity directly beside them; none is given a lot of space.
 - "We are meeting the tree and slope overlay requirements by not removing any trees."
 - The classic developer mistake: trying to save *all* the trees, and as a result, saving none of the trees.
 - "By bridging over the roots we are not having any impact on them."
 - It may be possible to bridge over tree roots, but we have no details of how this will be done; and it is patently ridiculous to say that it will have *no* effect on the roots. It will at the very least deprive them of water and that much more growing space. If deprived of air, the roots will die.
 - "If we find roots, we will just move the catchbasins."
 - It is unlikely there is any place where the roadway catchbasins must be located that will not have tree roots growing.
- This compilation plan shows numerous conflicts that will result in tree fatalities. I am of the opinion that virtually all the mature trees on this site will not survive the construction process in a state of health that will be acceptable to the residents.