

ARBORIST REPORT

April 19, 2024



Re: 724 Townsend Court, Folsom CA - APN 072-3320-052

Executive Summary:

██████████ retained Canopy Tree Consulting for the purpose of preparing an arborist report that will accompany a permit request to remove three (3) oak trees in the City of Folsom. The subject trees are in the southeast property corner of 724 Townsend Court.

ISA Certified Arborist Cory Kinley, WE-9717A, visited the property on April 10, 2024 to evaluate the trees & onsite conditions, collect data and capture photographs.

This is not a tree risk assessment.

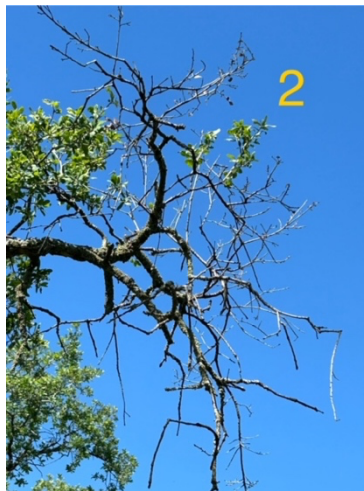
Findings Summary:

Because these trees are biological organisms in a state of decline and unpredictable, there is a degree of risk associated to tree hazards that could impact the property-line fences, the hardscape patio area and any person or animal occupying the southeast area of the back of the property.

When considering a time-frame of the next 10-20 years, the perceived risks of bodily injury or infrastructure damage from hazards associated to these declining trees are not acceptable to the property owners/risk managers.

The current and future risk of bodily injury or infrastructure damage from hazards associated to the subject trees would be completely eliminated by removing the trees.

Thinning the stand in which the subject trees are growing could provide a net benefit to the existing remnant oak woodland. This could be particularly true if planting more native oak trees in their vicinity is a condition of the tree removal permit approval.



Photos: Evidence of decline in subject trees.

Observations:

1. The subject trees are all protected native oak trees located in the backyard of what is the southeast corner of the parcel.
2. All three (3) trees are in a significant to severe state of decline and were all given an arborist rating of '2' (significant structure or health problems)
3. Tree #1 – 17" dsh (diameter at standard height), blue oak (*Quercus douglasii*):
 - Tree in significant decline. Buried flare. Codominant at 5 with significant inclusion and bark decay at the seam. Bark decay seam lower trunk south. Bark decay throughout trunk and branches. Borer damage. Severe dieback, epicormic growth on trunk and branches.
4. Tree #2 – 13.5" dsh, blue oak:
 - Tree in severe decline. Buried flare. Codominant at 5 with significant inclusion and bark decay at the seam. Trunk cavities, woodpecker holes. Bark decay throughout trunk and branches. Borer damage. Severe dieback, epicormic growth on trunk and branches. 4" dead limb south at 12'.
5. Tree #3 – 12.5", blue oak:
 - Tree in severe decline. Buried flare. Bark decay all around root collar. Bark decay throughout trunk and branches. Borer damage. Severe dieback, epicormic growth on trunk and branches.
6. There is a six (6') foot tall wooden fence located nine (9') feet south of tree #1. A 14" diameter codominant stem is overhanging the fence. The limb is heavy and extended and its junction to the trunk may be compromised by included bark and decay at the seam.
7. Tree #2 is located 20' from the hardscape patio to the north. Tree #3 is located 17' from the wrought-iron fence to the east.
8. The trees are crowded. Their growing spaces are in close proximity to each other. These trees are part of a remnant oak woodland.

Discussion:

A tree risk assessment was not conducted on the subject trees.

A tree hazard is a structural defect that could result in tree limb or trunk failure which could result in property damage or bodily injury. The focus of the tree inspections included, but were not limited to:

- Dead Trees
- Dead, Broken or Hanging Branches
- Codominant Stems, Branches & Heavy End Weights
- Cracks, Splits, Cavities & Cankers

The subject trees are in a state of significant to severe decline with an arborist rating of '2' (significant structure or health problems). It is probable that, within the time-frame of 5 years, the tree will further decline to an arborist rating of '1' (extreme structure or health problems). It is possible, within the time-frame of 10 years, that the tree will further decline to an arborist rating of '0' (Dead).

The homeowners/risk managers plan on living at the property for the next 10-20 years. If the trees continue to decline, the chances increase of hazards impacting pedestrians and infrastructure of the property.

Selectively removing trees, when crowding occurs, is an accepted practice to promote tree stand health.

Findings:

- Because these trees are biological organisms in a state of decline and unpredictable, there is a degree of risk associated to tree hazards that could impact the property-line fences, the hardscape patio area and any person or animal occupying the south east area of the back of the property. The homeowners/risk managers do not accept the level of risk associated to the subject trees.
- It could be argued that thinning the grove, of which the subject trees are a part, would result in an increase in the overall net health of the remnant native oak woodland in proximity to the parcel.
- The trees' growing space is crowded. There is ample room on the property to plant healthy native oak trees to mitigate a portion of the oak canopy loss. The homeowner has agreed to plant an appropriate number of replacement inches of native oak trees and provide irrigation to them until they are established; if it is a condition of an accepted tree removal permit.

Recommendations:

1. The most effective way to mitigate the potential risk of property damage or bodily harm associated with tree hazards would be to remove the trees.
2. Some of potential risk of property damage or bodily harm associated with tree hazards could be mitigated by retaining a qualified contractor to clean the trees' canopies of dead twigs & branches > 1" in diameter along with reducing end weights on heavy, extended branches.

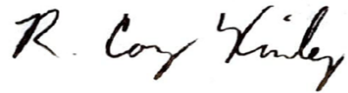
Limitations:

Canopy Tree Consulting's goal is to provide an accurate and candid assessment of known tree conditions and hazards, while recognizing our common commitment with our clients to tree preservation. The consultant undertakes the responsibility to report and assess the conditions, but the client assumes liability and the duty of care to minimize hazards according to their own criteria, and the guidance of recommendations in this report. The consultant would like to clarify that the client is the sole provider of funding for hazard-management, and therefore is the only one who has the actual means to change the situation. The consultant cannot be held liable for the choices made by the client.

Trees are biological organisms subject to environmental forces beyond human control. We cannot predict, with absolute certainty, the safety or structural integrity of any tree; nor can we guarantee it. We provide in this report, a summary of our assessment, performed to the best of our ability and knowledge.

This report reflects the condition of the tree at the time of examination. It is not intended to predict risk during highly unusual or catastrophic natural occurrences such as, but not limited to, floods, hurricanes, extreme wind, microbursts and earthquakes.

Report Prepared by:



R. Cory Kinley
ISA Certified Arborist #WE-9717A, TRAQ

Appendix 1 – Tree Location Map
Appendix 2 – Tree Inventory
Appendix 3 – Site Photographs

Appendix 1 – Tree Location Map



Appendix 2 – Tree Inventory

Tag#	Protected by Code	Protection Classification	Species Botanical Name	Species Common Name	DSH (in.)	Arborist Rating	Measured At (in.)	Canopy Radius (ft.)	Notes
1	Yes	Native	<i>Quercus douglasii</i>	blue oak	17	2 – Significant Structure or Health Problems	54	25	Tree in significant decline. Buried flare. Codominant at 5 with significant inclusion and bark decay at the seam. Bark decay seam lower trunk south. Bark decay throughout trunk and branches. Borer damage. Severe dieback, epicormic growth on trunk and branches.
2	Yes	Native	<i>Quercus douglasii</i>	blue oak	13.5	2 – Significant Structure or Health Problems	54	15	Tree in severe decline. Buried flare. Codominant at 5 with significant inclusion and bark decay at the seam. Trunk cavities, woodpecker holes. Bark decay throughout trunk and branches. Borer damage. Severe dieback, epicormic growth on trunk and branches. 4" dead limb south at 12'.
3	Yes	Native	<i>Quercus douglasii</i>	blue oak	12.5	2 – Significant Structure or Health Problems	54	15	Tree in severe decline. Buried flare. Bark decay all around root collar. Bark decay throughout trunk and branches. Borer damage. Severe dieback, epicormic growth on trunk and branches.



Appendix 3 - Site Photographs



Top Left & Right:
Subject trees – view facing east.



Tree #2 – View facing east.



Tree #3 – View facing west.

Tree #1

Tree #1:

Top- Included bark, Decay seam.

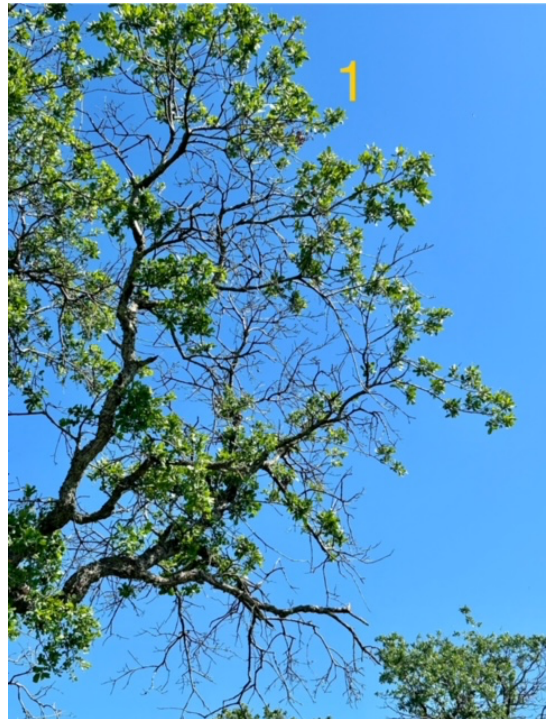
Bottom Left- Large pruning wound.

Bottom Right- Bark decay seam.





Tree #1:
All Photos- Epicormic growth, Canopy dieback



Tree #2



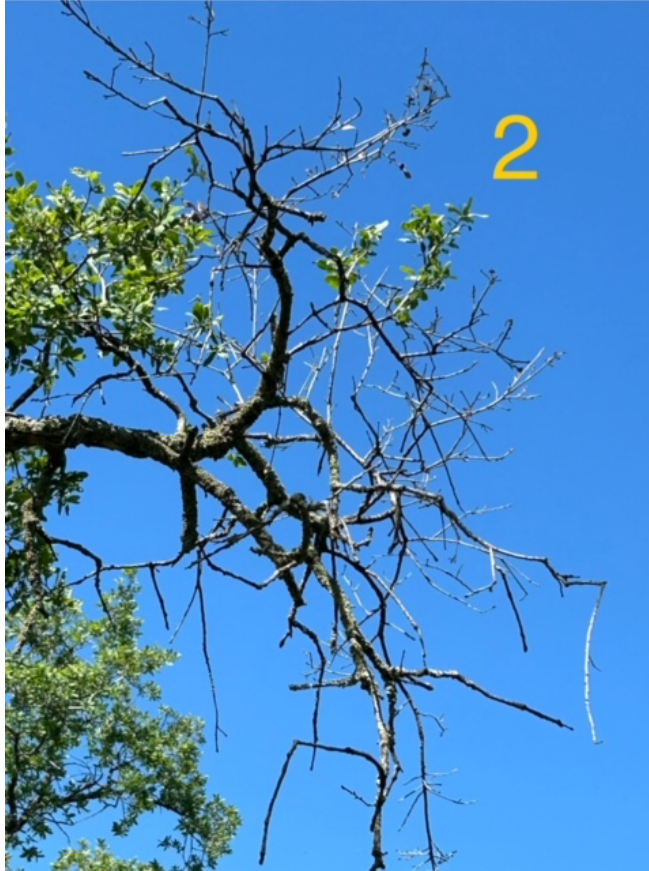
Tree #2:

Top- Epicormic growth.

Bottom left- Trunk cavities.

Bottom Right- Dead leaders.





Tree #2:

Top & Bottom- Canopy dieback.



Tree #3



Tree #3:
All Photos- Epicormic growth, Canopy dieback

