January 30, 2025

123 something Street
Newton, MA

Tree Protection Plan

Guidelines for Protecting Mature Trees
During The Demolition and Construction
Phases of a Single Family Residence

Prepared By:
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ISA# NE-6630A
TRAQ Certified

January 30, 2025

Client Name
345 Something Avenue
Newton, MA 01776

Project Contact: Somebody

RE: Address Tree Protection and Replacement Plan

Dear client,

Thank you for the opportunity to assist with the tree protection plan for your property located at xyz in Newton. Following our recent meeting, I've prepared this report as a pre-construction assessment in compliance with The City of Newton's requirements. This plan outlines the necessary steps for preserving trees on-site and nearby, that are 5 inches or greater in diameter at breast height (DBH) during the planned demolition and construction phases.

1. Narrative, Project Scope, and Objective

- **Narrative and Scope:**
  This Tree Protection Plan has been prepared by John E. Coppinger IV, ISA# NE-6630A and addresses tree preservation during the planned demolition and construction activities on-site. It includes protective measures for all trees 5 inches or greater, including any trees on neighboring properties whose critical root zones extend onto the subject property.
- **Objective**:
  The objective of this Tree Protection Plan is to ensure the health and structural stability of trees during construction. By implementing industry-standard practices as outlined in ANSI A300, this plan aims to minimize impacts on trees and preserve the site's, and thereby the city's, existing tree canopy.

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2. Tree Inventory and Condition Assessment

- **Tree Inventory:**
  A total of 7 trees, each with a DBH of 5 inches or more, were observed on or near the property. These include:
  - **On-Site: (4)** Trees on the property or straddling property lines.
  - **Neighboring Trees: (3)** Mature hardwood trees across the neighboring west property line in the backyard.
- **Tree Health and Recommendations:**
  Based on my observations:
  - **All 7 trees are in reasonable health, with no immediate signs of decline or structural faults.** (ISA Level 1 assessment)

        - There is one large hanger in the Norway maple (#6), above the fence line that may hit the fence if it falls out.
    - **Trees #1, 2, 3, & 4** will be removed prior to the demolition and excavation phases of development.
    - **Trees #5, 6, & 7,** will be protected prior to any demolition, and throughout all phases of construction and re-planting.

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3. Tree Protection Plan

To protect the remaining trees during construction, the following measures are recommended:

- **Protective Fencing:**
  Temporary, 4-6' high chain link fencing should be installed at the designated distances from each tree, as specified in the attached map, spreadsheet, and according to city requirements. In this instance, orange snow fencing, or construction fencing may be used in lieu of chain link.
    - **Fence Placement:** Distances from the tree are based on the DBH of each tree and outlined in the attached spreadsheet.
    - Placement adjustments may be required by a Certified Arborist to accommodate critical root zones.
    - I recommend using stands and ballast where applicable to support the fence in lieu of driving posts within the Critical Root Zone of the protected trees.
    - Fencing should be installed at the specified distances, or at the limit of paving.

- **Additional Root Zone Protections:**
    - **Mulching:** When the Tree Save Area is outside of the protective fencing, and exposed to construction; apply a 3-4 inch layer of mulch within these areas to retain moisture and prevent soil compaction.
        - Natural/aged wood chips are best, as are larger chip sizes (~3")
    - **Plywood Ground Cover:**
        - Place ¾" plywood on the ground outside fenced areas when heavy equipment is used near critical root zones - above the mulch layer.
            - This includes track or wheeled machines, and any transport of said machines across the Tree Save Areas.
    - **Excavation Precautions:** If excavation is required within a Tree Save Area, the following precautions should be implemented by, or done under the direction of an ISA certified arborist;
        - Roots should be exposed with an air spade prior to excavation and preemptively cut to reduce damage.
        - When possible, tunnel under major roots ~3" or greater instead of pruning. These roots should be kept moist during any period of exposure to the air with the assistance of damp burlap cloth wrapped around them.
        - No excavation should take place inside the fenced off areas around a tree's Critical Root Zone.

    - If excavation is to be carried out while the ground is frozen, and air-spading is not feasible, every effort should be made to undermine near roots 2”+ within Tree Save Areas, and prune them back cleanly.

Supplemental language:

- If excavation is to be carried out while the ground is frozen, and air-spading is not feasible, every effort should be made to undermine near roots 2”+ within Tree Save Areas, and prune them back cleanly.
- If a substantial portion of the subject trees’ critical root system are exposed from this stage of demolition, the property developer should then be prepared to backfill in that section of the property with appropriate subgrade and at least two feet of topsoil in order to meet the existing grade. This should be done within 3 days of any significant root exposure. In the interim, roots should be kept moist through a temporary misting sprinkler system, with burlap applied on top of the exposed roots and watered thoroughly on a daily basis. If this work is to be performed during the winter months when watering is not feasible, every effort should be made to re-cover exposed roots in the timeframe laid out above.
- If only secondary, or non-critical roots are found in this zone, they may be pruned with sharp, clean, pruning instruments - back to the existing soil under the direction of an ISA certified arborist. Typically these roots would be 1” or under in diameter.

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4. Site Monitoring

To ensure compliance and tree health, the following monitoring schedule is recommended:

- **Pre-Construction Inspection:** Verification that all protective measures are in place.
- **Ongoing Monitoring:** Bi-weekly inspections during active construction.
- **Excavation Oversight:** An ISA Certified Arborist should oversee excavation within Tree Save Areas.

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5. Post-Construction Evaluation

Once construction is complete, a post-project assessment should be conducted to evaluate the condition of remaining trees, with recommendations for additional care if needed.

Conclusion

This plan outlines essential steps to preserve the trees adjacent to XYZ Street, while complying with local regulations and ANSI A300 standards for tree protection. Please refer to the attached documents, including an inventory spreadsheet, replacement plan spreadsheet, and site plan, for further details.

Attachments:

1. Site Map with Tree Names, Numbers, and outlined Tree Save Areas
2. Tree Inventory Spreadsheet
3. Tree Replacement Plan Spreadsheet.

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