NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING Removal of Public Shade Trees City of Cambridge, Department of Public Works

Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 87, Sections 3 and 4, a public hearing will be held on Thursday, June 13th, 2013 at 5:30 pm at 147 Hampshire St, Cambridge, Mass., to consider the removal of the following public tree(s):

- 1. **48 Reservoir St** Removal of 23.9" linden due to structural issues. Location will be replanted.
- 2. **330 Concord Ave** Removal of 16.8" Norway maple due to significant dieback. Location will be replanted.
- 3. **350 Concord Ave** Removal of 18.8" Norway maple due to dieback and trunk decay. Location will be replanted.
- 4. 139 Fayerweather St Removal of 17" sugar maple due to significant dieback. Location will be replanted.
- 5. **171 Fayerweather St** Removal of 21.6" Norway maple due to root and trunk decay, cavities, and dieback. Location will be replanted.
- 6. 172 Fayerweather St Removal of 24" Norway maple due to root and trunk decay and structural issues. Location will be replanted.
- 7. 1 Field St Removal of 18.9" Norway maple due to trunk decay, cavities, and dieback. Location will be replanted.
- 8. 43 Saville St Removal of 20.7" Norway maple due to trunk decay and structural issues. Location will be replanted.
- 9. 44 Coolidge Ave Removal of 21.5" red oak due to trunk decay and dieback. Location will be replanted.
- 10. **62** Coolidge Ave Removal of 2 trees (23.4" Norway maple and 20" Norway maple) due to trunk decay and dieback. Location will be replanted.

The tree(s) identified above have been posted for public inspection. Any objections to their removal must be submitted in writing to the City Arborist, prior to or during the hearing. The mailing address for the City Arborist is Department of Public Works, City of Cambridge, 147 Hampshire Street, Cambridge, MA 02139; phone: 617-349-6433 email: cambridgetree@cambridgema.gov

TREE HEARING
6-13-13
SIGN-IN

1) Phillip Tucker - Shady Hill School 2) William Ford 3) Monica Strauss 4) Mary Lane

5) JANE MURPHY

6/13/13 To Whom It May concert; I am writing re! me London true at 48 Reservoir St I believe mat this Wel especially if pruned on the Sheet sode, would live for many years to come inspite of the damage mouved on it by the DPW (Wuck vanned in 6 hr Selde and major Dulhing E back of me voots on his side, Stating down his her will mean great heat sucrease in the warm wonths and will malee hu from side of my house was tractive.

In addition, the tree is very Mbrant with a huse canopy and innumable Sweet scented flows wat we an alkation to honey bees as well as birds, It will be little with to foster a new bree to reach mis majesty in The chiefe changes - me extreme neat in me spring and fall at random trues, I would ask mat of him? tree is taken down and not primed (W site) and caseed-trat the replacent tree se fast growing to reach me height of the Linding So ask to swe Pan ve cooling of hie w Sode of my house. 48 Reservices Monitar M

Lefcourt, David

From:

Hunter Aldrich [hunteraldrich@gmail.com]

Sent:

Sunday, June 02, 2013 12:02 PM

To:

Lefcourt, David

Subject:

Objection! to Tree Scheduled for Removal @ 1 Field Street

Dear Mr. Lefcourt,

We have been given notice that the tree in front of our house at the corner of Field and Hazel streets is scheduled to be removed in the near future. This is the last of four trees originally surrounding our house. It is alive, produces many leaves each year, and provides habitat for many birds and other animals. The vegetation on this tree gives us beauty, shade, and needed privacy. We do not want it to be removed.

We will not be able to attend the tree hearing on June 13, but I would appreciate the opportunity to speak with you about your plans for removing this tree before the City removes it and leaves us without a tree we have had for 31 years. Please contact me as soon as possible.

Thank you,



Hunter Aldrich 1 Field Street 617-251-7171

Lefcourt, David

From:

Hunter Aldrich [hunteraldrich@gmail.com]

Sent:

Thursday, June 13, 2013 8:00 AM

To:

KyAnn Anderson

Cc:

Woodbury, Catherine; Lefcourt, David

Subject:

Re: Tree Considered for Removal @ 1 Field Street

Mr. Lefcourt:

I, too, am voicing my opposition to the removal of the tree in front of our house at 1 Field St. and the nearby two trees on Fayerweather. I'd like for my daughter's and my strong opposition to be noted in the meeting tonight. Neither of us can attend as we are both at work at the time you've scheduled this public meeting.

I have owned my home for 31 years. There have been numerous times when trees in our neighborhood have needed attention and care but there has been no response from the City to take action - until it's determined, arbitrailiy that they need to be cut down. Copley St., right around the corner from us, has virtually no trees left - and I'm afraid we're next in this neighborhood.

If the public hearing (or emails such as this) is truly a forum for input, why is it that the decisions have already been made? And why now? Why not 5 years ago or 3 years from now? Holly Aldrich

1 & 1A Field St.

On Wed, Jun 5, 2013 at 4:35 PM, KyAnn Anderson < KAnderson@kleinfelder.com> wrote:

Hello Hunter,

Thank you for your note regarding the tree removal hearing for June 13th, and your inability to attend or to find someone to speak on your behalf. Unfortunately, we will not be able to re-schedule the meeting, as the date has already been set and announced to the public. However, if you would like to voice your opposition to the removal of this tree in an email to David Lefcourt (cc'd on this email), he will take your comments into consideration prior to the tree hearing on June 13th.

I recognize that this tree has significance to you, and your concerns with having your street be absent of trees for a length of time. I can assure you that the decision to remove the tree was based on the perceived health of the tree under closer observation by a qualified professional. It is not the City's policy to remove healthy, mature trees, given the value that they bring to the neighborhoods where they reside. They try to avoid doing this at all costs. Within this project, there are many mature trees that we will be building the sidewalks around, in order to assure they survive, but also to provide sidewalk accessibility to all. Had the health of this tree in question been better, this would have been the direction the design would have gone.

Thank you for taking the time to voice your concerns regarding this matter to me and David Lefcourt. Please let me know if you have any additional questions on this matter.

From: Hunter Aldrich [mailto:hunteraldrich@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, June 03, 2013 6:28 PM

To: KyAnn Anderson

Subject: RE: Tree Considered for Removal @ 1 Field Street

Hi Kyann,

Thank you for writing back to me. Unfortunately, I do not have anyone else who can attend the meeting and speak on my behalf. All of us will be working during the time of this meeting.

I would like to see whether you could schedule this meeting at a later time so that one of us would be able to attend. I would hate to have this this tree removed just because we are not able to speak with the arborist at this hour of the day.

My family has lived at this residence for over 31 years. We love this tree and are aware that neither this tree nor any of the other trees that have been cut down in the last few years will be replaced any time soon. If this tree is cut down, we will be without any trees surrounding our house for over two years because of the upcoming construction.

Why don't you wait to remove this tree until you will be able to promptly replace it with a new one?

Thank you,

Hunter

On Jun 3, 2013 5:09 PM, "KyAnn Anderson" < KAnderson@kleinfelder.com > wrote:

Hello Hunter,

I wanted to get back to you on your inquiry about the tree at the corner of Field and Hazel Street. According to my records, this tree was identified by David Lefcourt, the City Arborist, as having several defects, including trunk decay, cavities, and die back. The tree hearing that will be held on June 13 will be the neighbors opportunity to hear these claims publicly and/or dispute them, and speak about why they do not want a specific tree to be removed. If you are unable to attend, I would strongly encourage you to have someone go to the hearing to speak on your behalf. The City does not want to take down any healthy trees let alone those that have been there for decades such as this one, as it takes considerable time to grow them back. However, we defer to the Arborist's expertise in identifying those trees who's likelihood of survival and healthy growth is compromised.

Please let me know if you have any additional comments/questions on the above, and I thank you for taking the time to write to me of your concerns.

KyAnn

From: KyAnn Anderson

Sent: Monday, June 03, 2013 10:20 AM

To: 'Hunter Aldrich'

Cc: 'Woodbury, Catherine'; Jason Bobowski (jbobowski@bioengineering.com)

Subject: RE: Tree Considered for Removal @ 1 Field Street

Hello Hunter,

Thank you for your note of concern regarding the tree at the corner of Field and Hazel Street. I have forwarded your email along to our landscape architect, and he is going to discuss this directly with the City Arborist to find out exactly why this tree is slated for removal. Once I hear back from them, I will contact you with more details.

Thank you.

KyAnn

From: Hunter Aldrich [mailto:hunteraldrich@gmail.com]

Sent: Sunday, June 02, 2013 11:48 AM

To: KyAnn Anderson

Subject: Tree Considered for Removal @ 1 Field Street

Dear Ms. Anderson.

We have been given notice that the tree in front of our house at the corner of Field and Hazel streets is scheduled to be removed in the near future. This is the last of four trees originally surrounding our house. It is alive, produces many leaves each year, and provides habitat for many birds and other animals. The vegetation on this tree gives us beauty, shade, and needed privacy. We do not want it to be removed.

We will not be able to attend the tree hearing on June 13, but I would appreciate the opportunity to speak with you about your plans for removing this tree before the City removes it and leaves us without a tree we have had for 31 years. Please contact me as soon as possible.

Thank you,

Hunter Aldrich

1 Field Street

<u>617-251-7171</u>

Lefcourt, David

> 978-270-8441

From:

CambridgeTrees [cambridgetree@cambridgema.gov]

Sent:

Wednesday, June 12, 2013 3:51 PM

To:

Lefcourt, David

Subject:

FW: 43 Saville St. Tree

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From: Samuel Kachmar[SMTP:SAMUEL KACHMAR@HOTMAIL.COM]
Sent: Wednesday, June 12, 2013 3:51:21 PM
To: CambridgeTrees
Subject: 43 Saville St. Tree
Auto forwarded by a Rule
to whom it may concern
> I am writing to Object to the removal of the 20.7' Norway Maple at 43 Saville St.
> My Wife and I own 43/45 Saville St and this tree is a great provider
> of public shade, and the leafs and branches are all quite healthy. This tree poses no risk
or falling and provides a great canopy for the neighborhood. There doesn't seem to be a viable
reason to remove this tree without further inspection.
> thank you for your time
>
> -Samuel Jacob Kachmar
   978-270-8441
   45 Saville St. Cambridge MA 02138
>
> Samuel Jacob Kachmar
> R.A. AIA LEED AP
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I am Phillip Tucker, Interim Plant Manager at Shady Hill School. I am primarily here to hear the City's concerns about the trees in front of 44 and 62 Coolidge Avenue, but I would also like to share some statements on behalf of the school.

As stewards of a beautiful setting, we love natural plantings and have, for many years, appreciated the trees in this area of Coolidge Avenue. As a school, our primary interest is the safety of our students and families and we are in favor of whatever measures will support the safety of the community. We look to the City to guide the decision about the health and safety of the trees.

In that same vein, we want to point out that the tree in front of 44 Coolidge Avenue has long been a safety issue for families, as it constricts the sight lines as parents and buses exit the driveway at 56 Coolidge Avenue, the primary entrance to our school. The tree also partially blocks the sight line for drivers going south on Coolidge Avenue heading from Mt. Auburn Street to Grove Street. If that tree is to be removed and replaced, we hope that the new tree is planted in such as way as to improve and expand the sight line for traffic.

Thank you.