



**TALMACK**  
URBAN FORESTRY  
— Consultants Limited —

**206 St. Charles Street, Victoria BC**

Letter of Assurance

PREPARED FOR: Lisa Head  
206 St. Charles Street, Victoria BC

PREPARED BY: Talmack Urban Forestry Consultants Limited  
Brayden Borle – Consulting Arborist  
ISA Certified # PR-5508A  
Tree Risk Assessment Qualified

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ISA Certified # PN-6822A  
Tree Risk Assessment Qualified

DATE OF ORIGINAL ISSUANCE: December 19, 2022

# 1. LETTER OF ASSURANCE

Talmack Urban Forestry Consultants Ltd. was asked to provide a letter of assurance for works within and adjacent to critical root zones at the following development:

<b>SITE ADDRESS:</b> 206 St. Charles Street	<b>CLIENT NAME:</b> Lisa Head
<b>MUNICIPALITY</b> Victoria	<b>REFERENCE DOCUMENT(S):</b> December 19, 2022, Construction Impact Assessment and Tree Management Plan
<b>VICTORIA FILE #:</b> Unknown	<b>DATE OF ISSUANCE TO CLIENT:</b> December 19, 2022

Pursuant to the City of Victoria tree protection bylaw requirements, the owner has retained Talmack Urban Forestry Consultants Ltd. as Project Arborist. The owner must ensure our attendance prior to and during demolition and construction works to: review the scope of work, determine potential tree impacts, delineate the tree protection zones, designate truck loading areas and provide onsite direction to ensure that tree and root protection can be achieved to municipal and project arborist satisfaction. Project arborist attendance onsite is required for the following construction related events within the critical root zones of bylaw protected trees (as identified in the December 19, 2022 construction impact assessment and tree management report:

- All excavation required within the critical root zones of M1 & M2 to facilitate the installation of the site services and new driveway
- All excavation required within the critical root zones of M1 & M2 to facilitate the decommissioning of the existing site services and driveway
- All excavation required within the critical root zone of 656 to remove and re-install the driveway access to St. Charles Street and to install the proposed building foundations.
- All excavation within the critical root zone of 656 & 657 to remove the existing housing structures and foundations.
- All demolition activity within critical root zones of bylaw protected trees.
- To delineate machine access corridors.
- To document any tree impacts.
- To perform or direct any tree pruning.
- To observe any backfilling or landscape restoration – within critical root zones.
- Any other requirements as per the December 19, 2022, construction impact assessment and tree management report.



### 3. TREE PROTECTION GUIDELINES

**Arborist supervision:** All excavation occurring within the critical root zones of protected trees should be completed under supervision by the project arborist. Any severed or severely damaged roots must be pruned back to sound tissue to reduce wound surface area and encourage rapid compartmentalization of the wound.

**Material storage:** Areas must be designated for material storage and staging during the construction process. Ideally these areas will be located outside of the tree protection areas that will be isolated by barrier fencing. Should it be necessary to store material temporarily within any of the tree protection areas, the project arborist must be consulted.

**Mulch layer or plywood over heavy traffic areas:** Should it be necessary to access tree protection areas during the construction phase of the project, and heavy foot traffic or vehicular encroachment is required, we recommend that a layer of wood chip horticultural mulch or plywood be installed to reduce compaction. The project arborist must be consulted prior to removing or moving the protection barrier for this purpose.

**Pruning:** We recommend that any pruning of bylaw-protected trees to be retained be conducted to ANSI A300 Standards and ISA Best Management Practices.

**Stump removal:** We recommend that, if stumps require removal, they are removed under arborist supervision or ground using a stump grinder to avoid disturbing root systems of trees in close proximity to retained trees in plan.

**Demolition of the Existing Buildings:** The demolition of the existing houses, driveways, and any services that must be removed or abandoned, must take the critical root zone of the trees to be retained into account. If any excavation or machine access is required within the critical root zones of trees to be retained, it must be completed under the supervision and direction of the project arborist. If temporarily removed for demolition, barrier fencing must be erected immediately after the supervised demolition.

**Washout area:** It may be necessary to designate any area on the property for washing out cement and masonry tools and equipment. This area should be located away from the critical root zones of any trees to be retained.

**Paved areas over critical root zones of trees to be retained:** Where paved areas cannot avoid encroachment within critical root zones of trees to be retained, construction techniques, such as floating permeable paving, may be required. (specifications can be provided by the project arborist, in consultation with the design consultant).

**Tree Protection Barrier:** The areas, surrounding the trees to be retained, should be isolated from the construction activity by erecting protective barrier fencing. Where possible, the fencing should be erected at the perimeter of the critical root zones. The barrier fencing to be erected must be a minimum of 4 feet in height, of solid frame construction that is attached to wooden or metal posts. A solid board or rail must run between the posts at the top and the bottom of the fencing. This solid frame can then be covered with flexible snow fencing. The fencing must be erected prior to the start of any construction activity on site (i.e. demolition, excavation, construction), and remain in place through completion of the project. Signs should be posted around the protection zone to declare it off limits to all construction related activity. The project arborist must be consulted before this fencing is removed or moved for any purpose.

**Landscaping:** Any proposed landscaping within the critical root zones of trees to be retained must be reviewed with the project arborist.