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Tree Assessment & Management Statement for DA Submission: Palm Tree Management 380 Great North Road, ABBOTSFORD

This document has been prepared in response to an issue raised by the property owner of 2 Chatham Place, Abbotsford. This document is to be linked to the lodged Development Application, 2018/0162, (from herein the DA) for Alterations/Additions to the existing dwelling residence with the intent of creating a Child Care Centre.

The issue raised relates to the management of a *Phoenix canariensis* (Canary Islands Date Palm) located within the property known as 2 Chatham Place. The tree is located near the common boundary shared with the property subject of the lodged DA. See below;





Figure 1: Above & previous page images illustrates site & discussed tree characteristics. Images courtesy of Whereis.com & Google Earth.

Information within this document has been prepared by Kyle A Hill (Senior Practicing/Consulting Arborist, [AQF level 5 Horticulture–Arboriculture Diploma (TAFE NSW/Grow SA) & AQF level 8 Post Graduate Certificate in Arboriculture (Uni of Melbourne)]).

The consent authority is the City of Canada Bay Council (from herein CofCB).

As briefed, concern has been raised relative to the previously not discussed tree subject of this document. The concern raised relates to a potential threat to persons occupying the subject site (380 Great North Road) by falling ‘fronds’. This tree is considered as easily able to be managed (as is the previously discussed same species Tree #11) in a manner that significantly reduces any likelihood of injury to persons caused by falling ‘fronds’ as well as addressing all ‘reasonable duty of care’ responsibilities of the subject site property owners.

Tree #11 is noted to not have any significant underplanting below its canopy. The tree subject of this document is confirmed to have subject site as well as 2 Chatham Place underplanting’s, all of which are NOT proposed to be removed. The significance being that in reality & independent of any pruning regime (to be discussed later) happily applied by the property owners (380 Great Northern Road) it is likely that at the least any falling ‘frond’ would have its fall partially if NOT TOTALLY arrested by underplanting’s proposed to be retained under the 2 Chatham Place discussed tree.

The below *Site Specific “Pruning Plan of Management”* must be completed by suitably qualified/experienced (minimum AQF level 3 Hort/Arb) contractors able to abide at all times with the provisions as outlined within the *Australian Standard (AS4373-2007 Pruning of amenity trees)*. See *Chapter 7 Pruning Classes, Clause 7.1, General, Clause 7.2 Crown maintenance, sub clauses 7.2.1, General, 7.2.2 Deadwooding & 7.2.4 Selective pruning*.

Site Specific “Pruning Plan of Management” (to apply to both Tree #11 & the tree subject to this document)

- Access tree canopies by ‘Elevated Work Platform (EWP) at least **once annually**. (It is not acceptable to access palm tree canopies using ‘live tissue damaging’ climbing spikes.) **Remove dead/dying ‘fronds’ (near their point of attachment to the tree trunk). They are easily distinguished as they will have or will be undergoing a ‘change of colour’, i.e. turning brown from their normal green colour.** (As a new palm frond opens from the central growth bud a lower canopy ‘frond’ becomes redundant & dies off.) **On this basis it is suggested the pruning cycle be undertaken towards the end of each years most ‘active growth’ period, i.e. late May/early June).**
- **Before & After photographic evidence of pruning required & then pruning completed is essential.** (This is easily completed as part of the pruning contractors ‘Terms of Engagement’.)

Conclusion

- **The tree subject to this document as well the same species previously discussed Tree #11 are easily managed in a manner whereby all ‘reasonable duty of care’ responsibilities of the subject site property owners can easily be achieved by implementation of the above Site Specific “Pruning Plan of Management”.**

If you have any questions relating to this report or implementation of recommendations, please contact Kyle Hill on 0412-221-962.

Yours faithfully,



Kyle A. Hill (Practicing & Consulting Arborist)