REDGUM
THE TREE SPECIALISTS
ACN 34 125 456 395

Mr Bob and Mrs Charlotte Nattey
10 Canterbury Crescent,
Deakin, ACT 2600

15 September 2018

Dear Bob and Charlotte,

Re: Tree Assessment

The following assessment contains the information requested by you for the tree at the property 10 Canterbury Crescent, Deakin, ACT 2600. The subject tree was assessed to establish if removal of the tree meets the requirements for approval pursuant with the *Tree Protection Act 2005.*

The tree was assessed using the Safe Useful Life Expectancy (SULE) and a detailed explanation of SULE can be found on pages 6-7.

To record the health and condition of the tree, a visual Tree Assessment (VTA) was undertaken on the subject tree on Friday 31 August 2018. The criteria for this assessment is set out in the TreeAZ and is recognised by the International Society of Arboriculture.

The heights and distances in this report have been measured with a NIKON Forestry Pro laser measure.

TREE ASSESSMENT

This assessment is for the property 10 Canterbury Crescent, Deakin 2600. The objective of this report is to establish:

- Tree identity and background information;
- Make general observations of the tree and its surrounds; and
- Assess potential risks and hazards.

TREE IDENTITY

Scientific name: Eucalyptus Mannifera
Common name: White brittle gum
Height: 16.5
Circumference (abh): 270cm
Health: poor
Structure: poor
SULE Category: Z4, Z5
Age: 55 years (approx.)
Crown spread: 14 meters
Tree species native to: Eastern Australia

BACKGROUND

The Eucalyptus Mannifera (white brittle gum) is an attractive species of eucalypt native to the sclerophyll forest of the Canberra district. It is one of the more attractive native trees for ornamental purposes. For this reason it is widely used as a park and nature strip tree in Canberra.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS OF THE TREE AND ITS SURROUNDS

- The Brittle Gum is situated in the north east corner of property.
- It is growing close to an ECO energy power pole and lines.
- There is a large wound with several large bracket fungus in this area at 2-3 meters above ground level.
- The canopy has light deadwood throughout.
- There is evidence of many snapped limbs, and remedial pruning in the past.

POTENTIAL RISKS AND HAZARDS

- The Brittle Gum has a reputation for dropping branches, and it is evident this is no exception.
- The risk of this tree failing is high due to the large area of rot in the main trunk.
- The tree is growing close to powerlines.

REMEDIAL ACTION

Pruning to reduce the weight of suspect limbs or the canopy as a whole, theoretically is often a good option to reduce the risk of branch failure. However, in this case it would create detrimental and irreversible health and safety problems to the tree. This is due to the high percentage of the trees crown that would need to be removed to have any significant effect, and it would have little effect on the likelihood of the whole tree failing.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. This Eucalyptus Mannifera is in decline. The severe decay in the main trunk is unmanageable and the tree is now a safety risk to the public and property.
2. In my opinion the only option is **complete removal.** This would provide better growing space for the trees and shrubs in this area.
3. This Eucalyptus Mannifera meets the approval criteria under Sch 1 s 21 of the *Tree Protection Act 2005* to damage/removal to a regulated tree on several accounts:

    (a) the tree is in decline and its life expectancy is short;

    (b) the tree represents an unacceptable risk to public or private safety;

    (c) the tree is shown to be causing or threatening to cause substantial damage to a substantial building, structure or service.

If you require any more information, please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss things further.

Yours sincerely

Dave May

Director
Redgum, The Tree Specialists

TreeAZ Categories (Version 10.04-ANZ) Category Z: Unimportant trees not worthy of being a material constraint

Local policy exemptions: Trees that are unsuitable for legal protection for local policy reasons including size, proximity and species

Z1 - Young or insignificant small trees, i.e. below the local size threshold for legal protection, etc

2. **Z2** - Too close to a building, i.e. exempt from legal protection because of proximity, etc
3. **Z3** - Species that cannot be protected for other reasons, i.e. scheduled noxious weeds, out of

character in a setting of acknowledged importance, etc

High risk of death or failure: Trees that are likely to be removed within 10 years because of acute health issues or severe structural failure

Z4 - Dead, dying, diseased or declining

Z5 - Severe damage and/or structural defects where a high risk of failure cannot be satisfactorily reduced by reasonable remedial care, i.e. cavities, decay, included bark, wounds, excessive imbalance, overgrown and vulnerable to adverse weather conditions, etc

Z6 - Instability, i.e. poor anchorage, increased exposure, etc
Excessive nuisance: Trees that are likely to be removed within 10 years because of

unacceptable impact on people

Z7 - Excessive, severe and intolerable inconvenience to the extent that a locally recognized court or tribunal would be likely to authorize removal, i.e. dominance, debris, interference, etc

Z8 - Excessive, severe and intolerable damage to property to the extent that a locally recognized court or tribunal would be likely to authorize removal, i.e. severe structural damage to surfacing and buildings, etc

Good management: Trees that are likely to be removed within 10 years through responsible management of the tree population

Z9 - Severe damage and/or structural defects where a high risk of failure can be temporarily reduced by reasonable remedial care, i.e. cavities, decay, included bark, wounds, excessive imbalance, vulnerable to adverse weather conditions, etc

Z10 - Poor condition or location with a low potential for recovery or improvement, i.e. dominated by adjacent trees or buildings, poor architectural framework, etc

Z11 - Removal would benefit better adjacent trees, i.e. relieve physical interference, (e) dave@redgumtreeservices.com.au (m) 0403 122 278 6

suppression, etc

Z12 - Unacceptably expensive to retain, i.e. severe defects requiring excessive levels of maintenance, etc

NOTE: Z trees with a high risk of death/failure (Z4, Z5 & Z6) or causing severe inconvenience (Z7 & Z8) at the time of assessment and need an urgent risk assessment can be designated as ZZ. ZZ trees are likely to be unsuitable for retention and at the bottom of the categorization hierarchy. In contrast, although Z trees are not worthy of influencing new designs, urgent removal is not essential and they could be retained in the short term, if appropriate.

Category A: Important trees suitable for retention for more than 10 years and worthy of being a material constraint

A1 - No significant defects and could be retained with minimal remedial care
A2 - Minor defects that could be addressed by remedial care and/or work to adjacent trees

A3 - Special significance for historical, cultural, commemorative or rarity reasons that would warrant extraordinary efforts to retain for more than 10 years

A4 - Trees that may be worthy of legal protection for ecological reasons (Advisory requiring specialist assessment)

NOTE: Category A1 trees that are already large and exceptional, or have the potential to become so with minimal maintenance, can be designated as AA at the discretion of the assessor. Although all A and AA trees are sufficiently important to be material constraints, AA trees are at the top of the categorization hierarchy and should be given the most weight in any selection process.