

Att: Joanna MeGee
mail@togetherweserve.org
www.togetherweserve.org



URBAN FORESTRY ASSOCIATES, INC.

8 Willow Street San Rafael, CA 94901
(415) 454-4212 info@urbanforestryassociates.com

ARBORIST REPORT

For

***Att: Joanna MeGee First Presbyterian Church of San Anselmo
72 Kensington Road, San Anselm, CA 94960***

PURPOSE

Urban Forestry Associates (UFA) was hired to assess a Canary Island Palm on the First Presbyterian Church property at 72 Ken Avenue property by Marsha and Berry Strom. I inspected the property and subject trees on March 25th, 2020. This inspection and report was done on an emergency basis which was justified by the findings of my inspection.

SCOPE OF WORK AND LIMITATIONS

Urban Forestry Associates has no personal or monetary interest in the outcome of this investigation. All observations regarding trees in this report were made by UFA, independently, based on our education and experience. All determinations of health condition, structural condition, or hazard potential of a tree or trees at issue are based on our best professional judgment. The health and hazard assessments in this report are limited by the visual nature of the assessment. Defects may be obscured by soil, brush, vines, aerial foliage, branches, multiple trunks or other trees. Even structurally sound, healthy trees are wind thrown during severe storms or fail due to other weather conditions. Consequently, a conclusion that a tree does not require corrective surgery or removal is not a guarantee of no risk, hazard, or sound health.

OBSERVATIONS

Tree # 1:

Species Canary Island Palm (*Phoenix canariensis*) WC ISA Appraisal Class 2 Group \$375TF
Size 32" DBH Height, DGL ≈ 55.4", CGL = 14.35' (See Figure 2)
Location In a garden surrounded by a building and covered walkway (See Aerial Map, Figures 1a & 1b)
Condition Very good health, good / typical structural condition. The tree base is 3' from the sidewalk and five feet from the building corner (Figure 3). Concern about annual dead frond maintenance, debris on roofs and rat habitat (Figure 4).

Species Characteristics: Canary Island Palm, *Phoenix canariensis* WCISA group \$375TF class #2

Canary Island Palm, is very hardy species tolerant of adverse soil conditions. It endures drought conditions and hard frost. It is extremely tough and durable. Excessive irrigation and poorly drained sites should be avoided. It thrives in the San Francisco Bay Area and does particularly well on deep soils.

It has a formal conformation that complements Mediterranean architecture.

It is one of the most massive palms, reaching diameters up to three feet and crown diameters up to 30 feet, heights of 40 feet and weighing about 1,000 pounds per trunk foot (root/soil ball included). Transplanting of large specimens should be handled very carefully. The mass of mature trees makes trunk damage probable (See Palm Dendrology section). Stress can lead to palmetto weevil attack and should be avoided.

Two important diseases affecting the species are fusarium wilt (*Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp.

canariensis) and pink rot (*Nalanthamala vermoeseni*). Fusarium is a fatal vascular disease that can cause slow (several years) or rapid (3 months) mortality after symptoms occur. The chief means of infection is through pruning tools. Pink rot and fusarium wilt are often associated, as pink rot affects stressed or weakened palms, contributing to decline. Due to its' susceptibility to fungal pathogens, pruning tools must be disinfected with non-bleach based cleaner (e.g. Lysol) or heat treated with a torch prior to pruning. Due to risk of infection chainsaw use is not advisable.

Excerpt from Gilman, E.F. 1997. *Trees for Urban and Suburban Landscape*. Delamar. Albany, NY.

Canary Island Date Palm (*Phoenix canariensis*)

Height: 15 to 60 feet

Width: 15 to 25 feet

Fruit: round; 0.5 to 1"; fleshy; orange to yellow; showy on female trees

Growth Rate: slow-growing; long-lived

Habit: palm; open; symmetrical; coarse texture

Light Requirements: grows best in full sun

Soil Tolerances: all textures; slightly alkaline to acidic; some salt; drought

Pest Problems: moderately susceptible to lethal yellowing, This tree is considered a nuisance in some locations because it provides prime habitat for rats and yellow jackets

Pruning Requirements: remove dying and drooping older fronds; clean pruning tools with bleach or alcohol after pruning to prevent spread of Fusarium wilt. Arborists are major vectors of palm diseases.

FronD Breakage: very resistant



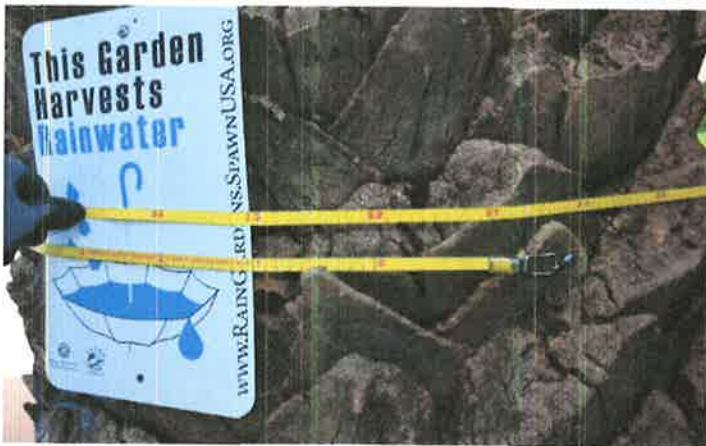


Figure 2a



Figure 2b



Figure 3a



Figure 3b

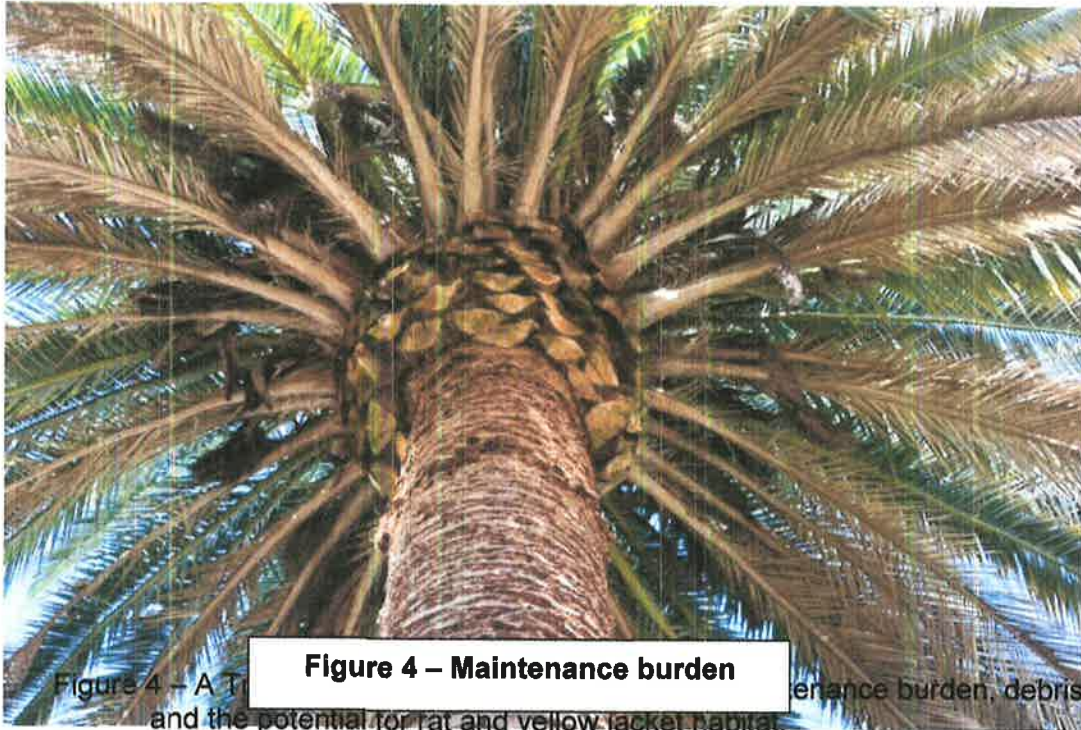


Figure 4 – Maintenance burden
Figure 4 – A T... maintenance burden, debris, and the potential for rat and yellow jacket habitat.

Conclusions: In my experience this species does, in fact, provide habitat for rats and yellow jackets, and sometimes excessive debris and bird droppings. Together with the removal of dead fronds and debris for fire safety I can understand the concerns about the maintenance burden.

TREE WORK STANDARDS AND QUALIFICATION

All tree work, removal, pruning, planting, shall be performed using industry standards as established by the International Society of Arboriculture. Contractor must have a State of California Contractors License for Tree Service (C61-D49) or Landscaping (C-27) with general liability, worker's compensation, and commercial auto/equipment insurance.

Contractor standards of workmanship shall adhere to current Best Management Practices (where possible) of the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) and the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) for tree pruning, fertilization and safety (ANSI A300 and Z133.1). However, structural stability is the primary goal.

Ray Moritz, SAF Certified Forester #241, ISA Qualified Tree Risk Assessor.

Handwritten signature of Ray Moritz in blue ink.

Ray Moritz, Urban Forester SAF Cert #241