



August 14, 2017

Ms. Brenda Press
Lake County, Department of Public Works
12901 County Landfill Road
Tavares, FL 32778

RE: Eustis Tree Assessment
32646 Lake Eustis Drive, Tavares, Florida
MLA Project No. 17-00070

Dear Ms. Press:

On August 2, 2017, certified arborist Paul Mann ISA Certified Arborist FL-0985 with Miller Legg visited the property located at 32646 Lake Eustis Drive, Tavares, Florida to evaluate two pine trees located at the front of the property. Miller Legg met with a representative from the Department of Public Works to assess for pests that could be detrimental to the trees.

The trees were identified as fully mature examples of slash pines (*Pinus elliottii*). On the day of assessment, the trees observed were generally in good health. The subject trees were inspected from the ground. Tree 1 appeared healthy and in good condition with an older trunk wound that appeared well closed with well-developed specialized “callus” tissue around the edges of the wound. Tree 2 also appeared healthy but in fair condition due to a large growth of the exotic Arrowhead vine on its trunk. If left unchecked the vine has the potential to climb up the tree and expand into the canopy. Making the pine tree top heavy and more susceptible to damage from strong winds. Arrowhead vine is listed as a Category I invasive species by the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council. In addition, wood boring insects were identified on both pine trees in small numbers, which is typical. Wood boring insects are native insects that may be found on pine trees. No insects were observed during the assessment and the exact species of wood boring insect could not be determined. In addition sap, pine dust, trails under the bark or other evidence typically associated with pine bark beetles were not observed. No soil samples were taken and no aerial or internal investigations (borings) were undertaken.

Arborists cannot detect every condition that could possibly lead to the structural failure of a tree. No tree can be deemed safe and risk free. Deficiencies are often hidden within trees, below ground or not clearly visible from the ground. Pine trees have large

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branches that decay and fall as the tree matures. Trunk injuries or improper pruning cuts can result in decay inside the trunk. Arborists cannot guarantee that a tree will be healthy, safe or adequately protected under all circumstances or for a specified period. Likewise, remedial, protective and mitigating treatments and recommendations cannot be guaranteed.

No action is required at this time for Tree 1.

Based on the aforementioned conditions it is recommended that the Arrowhead vine be physically removed from Tree 2 to reduce stress on the tree as much as possible and the remaining roots from the vine treated with an herbicide product with the active ingredient glyphosate by a trained applicator. Vines that are removed and discarded must be disposed of properly in a landfill.

If you have any questions, please contact me by email at dlarson@millerlegg.com or by phone at (954) 436-7000.

Sincerely,



Dylan Larson, PWS, CEP
Principal

DL/pm/wm

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Observations of Subject Trees – Two Slash Pines (*Pinus elliottii*)



Subject Property – Tree Locations Approximate (Labels 1 and 2 Defined in Report)



Trunks of Subject Trees Viewing West (Note Vines on Tree 2)

Observations of Subject Trees – Two Slash Pines (*Pinus elliottii*)



Tree 1 and 2 Viewing East



Tree 1 and 2 Viewing North



Minor Well Sealed Wound on Tree 1



Arrowhead Vine on Tree 2

Observations of Subject Trees – Two Slash Pines (*Pinus elliottii*)



Minimal Insect Boring Holes Tree 1



Minor Insect Boring Holes and Vine Roots Tree 2