



FAIR
PAVILION

TREE
UPDATE
Council is undertaking
tree work in this area.



**TREE
UPDATE**
Council's arborists
are monitoring.
Should also require further education,
ground surface moved on 10/10/2019
can look for the latest update on this tree.



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 22 March 2024 9:04 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: onsite meeting at 2 Sanctuary Dr, Mt Cotton

[REDACTED]

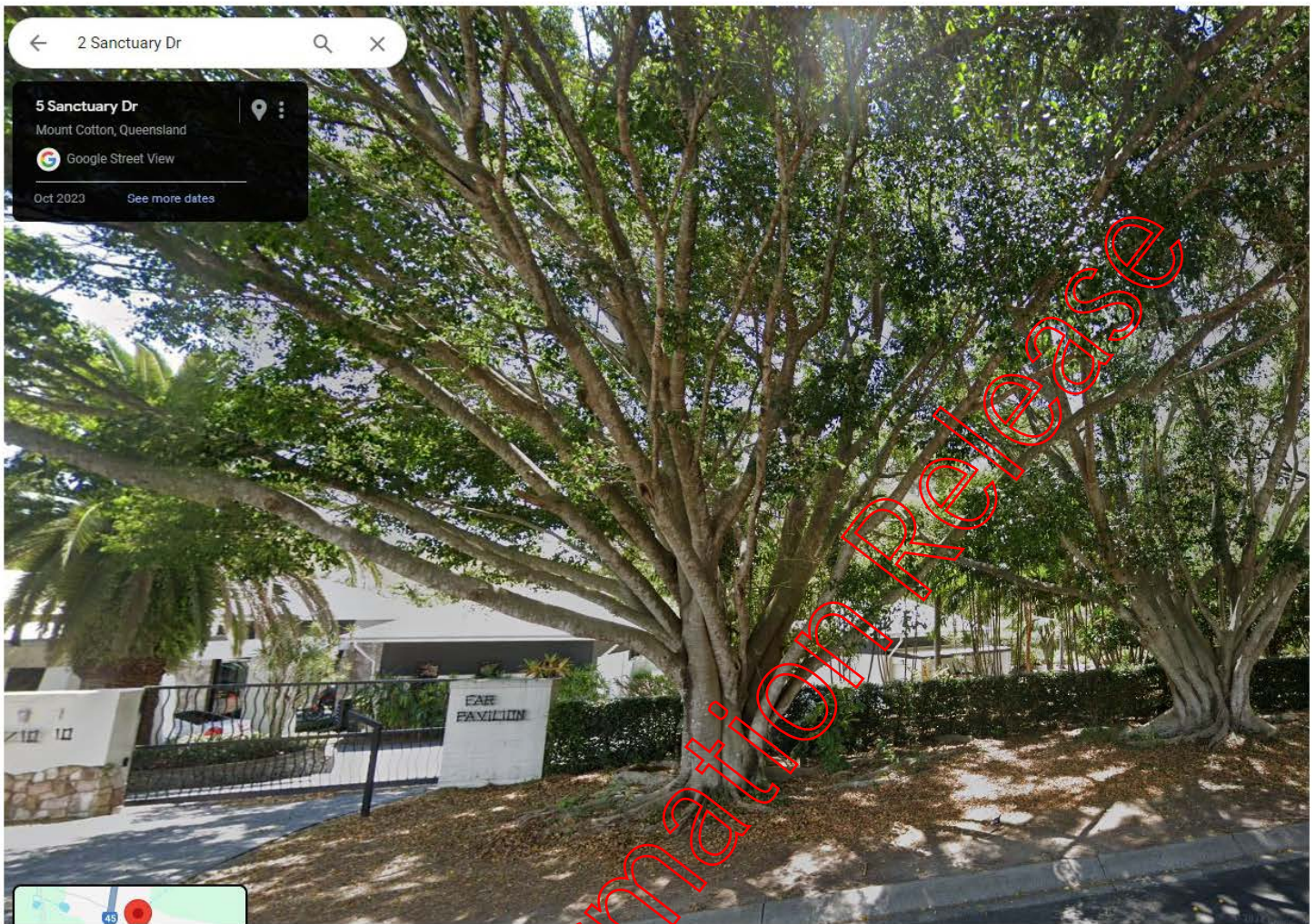
Could we please arrange a site meeting to discuss some large Fig Trees at 2 Sanctuary Drive, Mount Cotton. There has been a recent request [REDACTED] regarding root ingress and potential damage [REDACTED] have assessed the site and it is a visibly obvious that large roots are [REDACTED] infrastructure is more than likely being effected. We are proposing the removal of the three (3) Figs [REDACTED] as root barriers are feasible whilst maintain tree stability. Given this is part of probably the most significant avenue planting of trees we have on a roadway in the city there is going to be considerable public interest and comment.

In an effort to keep ahead of the inevitable questions we are seeking your assistance to prepare a risk assessment with potential costs of what the RCC could be potentially liable for in regard to infrastructure damages should these trees be retained. We will use this cost to benefit rational as part of our decision to remove these trees.

If you can propose a time to meet onsite that would be great, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Right to Information Request





Regards,

Senior Trees and Landscapes Services Officer
City Operations
Redland City Council

I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the
lands and seas where I work. I pay my respects
to Elders, past, present and future

Right to Information Release

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 24 April 2024 9:45 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: 2 Sanctuary Drive, Mount Cotton

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for the meeting on site and for the follow up photos.

During the site visit it was evident that the root systems from the three Fig trees on Council land have penetrated [REDACTED]. The root system is already impacting [REDACTED] causing damage. There are also roots located [REDACTED].

RLS understands that cutting the roots to prevent further damage [REDACTED] will significantly de-stabilise the trees. Additionally, the trees are located directly opposite Mount Cotton Primary School where there is significant pedestrian and vehicle traffic.

It should be noted that cutting the roots and de-stabilising the trees, will introduce an additional risk of tree/limb failure that has the potential to cause harm or injury in a high risk location.

Based on the consequences that the additional risk will introduce to the community and to prevent further costs/damage [REDACTED] RLS is in agreement to remove the Fig trees.

If you would like to discuss or require clarification, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Kind regards
[REDACTED]

Service Manager Risk and Liability Services
Risk and Liability Services
Redland City Council

P [REDACTED]



I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands and seas where I work. I pay my respects to Elders, past, present and future.

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@redland.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2024 10:37 AM

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@redland.qld.gov.au>

Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@redland.qld.gov.au>

<[REDACTED]@redland.qld.gov.au>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@redland.qld.gov.au>;
[REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@redland.qld.gov.au>

Subject: 2 Sanctuary Drive, Mount Cotton

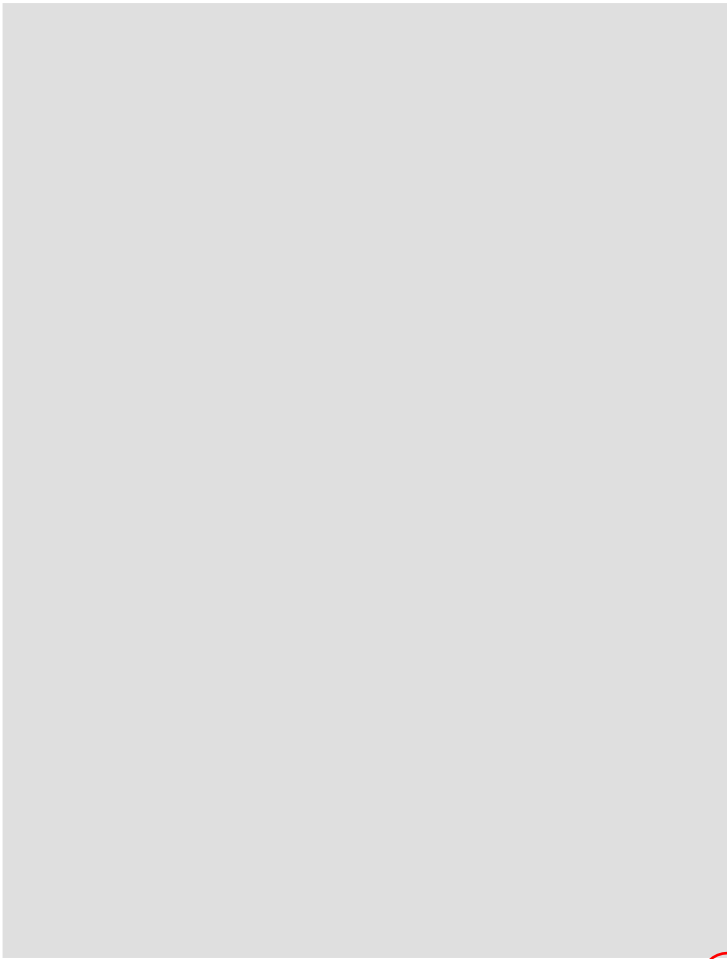
[REDACTED]

Sorry for the delay (discovered this sitting in my outbox not able to be sent until I resized the photos)

, I have attached the photos I took during our onsite at 2 Sanctuary Drive. Are you able to provide a report as discussed with the potential liability implications if these trees are retained. The photos are clear that if retained these trees are likely to cause significant infrastructure damage.



Right to Information Release





Right to Information Release



Right to Information Release



Regards,

Senior Trees and Landscapes Services Officer
City Operations
Redland City Council

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Right to Information Release

From: [REDACTED]@redland.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, September 25, 2024 9:06 AM
To: [REDACTED]@redland.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Re: URGENT pls - tree issue

Re, the Ficus Trees at 2 Sanctuary Drive, Mount Cotton.

[REDACTED] seeking a resolution to the roots systems of these Ficus trees causing infrastructure damage [REDACTED]

When inspected it was clearly evident that the roots of these Ficus trees were causing and had the potential to cause significant increasing property damage [REDACTED] which had several large exposed roots in close proximity and multiple large exposed roots that ran down the slope [REDACTED]

Additionally a telecommunications pillar on the road reserve was being uplifted and displaced through root contact.

To establish the liability potential to Council an onsite meeting with Council's Risk and Liability department was conducted. see #2 below

From an arboricultural perspective, Ficus tree typically have a large radiating buttress root system due to their naturally occurring shallow soiled rainforest environments, therefore these Ficus have behaved as

expected when planted in reserve adjacent a hard surfaced road. The root systems have been hindered in developing southwards under the road due to the non viable growth environment under a road with compacted, dry and nutrient deficient soil. Therefore as would be expected the trees roots systems have predominantly grown northwards [REDACTED] and down the slope [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (exposed roots in excess of 15m away from the trees were visible, and undoubtedly there is a prolific sub surface root system as well).

The buttress roots also made parts of the road reserve surface unsafe for pedestrian movement.

The potential option of root severance being performed [REDACTED] could not be performed within arboricultural best practice and Australian Standards AS4970. AS4970 provides the required unaffected distances for root growth without causing tree health or stability issues. In the case of these Ficus as the root systems of these trees was asymmetrical due to the roads proximity, root severance [REDACTED] would cause in excess of 30% root loss. AS4970 provides that 10% of a root system can be potentially affected provided remedial measures and careful arboricultural management is performed. In this instance the 30% root severance required to resolve the root ingress [REDACTED] would create large wounds allowing for pathogen attack on the retained tree and would destabilise the tree given the huge reduction in the root system torsional force within the soil profile. Additionally the issues related to the unsafe road reserve surface and risk to telecommunications infrastructure would not be resolved.

From a risk management perspective the retention of these Ficus tree could not be managed arboriculturally without introducing additional and potentially increasing levels of risk, hence the final decision to remove these Ficus trees was made.

Community notification via a QR equipped signs were placed adjacent these trees which linked to Councils Tree Update Website providing information on the removal process. Several residents contacted Council for additional information and were subsequently talked through the decision process, which was well received positively. A communication plan was developed and followed and notice to stakeholders was distributed.

Assetic chronology and notes of WR88126 and following WO226299

Job completed to rcc specifications

[REDACTED] - 24/09/2024 15:10:56

Assigned to contractor to discuss with Senior supervisor and complete in school holidays as per quotation

[REDACTED] - 08/08/2024 12:31:17

Tree removal required of 4 x Ficus trees as marked in attached photo.

Removal required of 4 x Ficus trees and stump grinding required on council to RCC specifications.

Community Consultation required - to arrange quotation.
- 24/05/2024 14:54:35

Correction 4 x 'Ficus species' are being removed.
WR88126 - - 24/05/2024 14:50:14

3 x Ficus trees located at marked location on attached map have met removal criteria. Trees require removal due to having an Arboriculturally responsible way of preventing future damage without resulting in structural damage to the tree. Trees will require removal as approved by Senior supervisor Trees / service manager following meeting with Risk and Liability.
WR88126 - - 24/05/2024 14:40:45

Arranged onsite meeting with R&L for 4 April 2024 @ 11am
WR88126 - - 22/03/2024 09:31:53

FIR - Request inspected and further investigation required prior to outcome decision

Discuss with
Exposed roots through hedge into yard
WR88126 - - 18/03/2024 10:11:18

2-10 Sanctuary Drive Mount Cotton Qld 4165
urgent inspection and remedial action for root ingress from
figus trees

WR88126 - Integration CRM - 12/02/2024 16:01:15

#2 R&L response after site meeting

Hi

Thanks for the meeting on site and for the follow up photos.

During the site visit it was evident that the root systems from the three Fig trees on Council land have penetrated The root system is already impacting causing damage. There are also roots located in the

RLS understands that cutting the roots to prevent further damage will significantly de-stabilise the trees. Additionally, the trees are located directly opposite Mount Cotton Primary School where there is significant pedestrian and vehicle traffic.

It should be noted that cutting the roots and de-stabilising the trees, will introduce an additional risk of tree/limb failure that has the potential to cause harm or injury in a high risk location.

Based on the consequences that the additional risk will introduce to the community and to prevent further costs/damage RLS is in agreement to remove the Fig trees.

If you would like to discuss or require clarification, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Regards,

Senior Trees and Landscapes Services Officer
City Operations
Redland City Council

I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the
lands and seas where I work. I pay my respects
to Elders, past, present and future

From: [REDACTED]@redland.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, September 25, 2024 6:52 AM
To: [REDACTED]@redland.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Fw: URGENT pls - tree issue

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From: [REDACTED]@redland.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, September 24, 2024 5:58 pm
To: [REDACTED]@redland.qld.gov.au>
Subject: URGENT pls - tree issue

Hi [REDACTED]

As per my sms – and without doing a chronology - can you pls answer some questions (either with attached documents or comments to the following questions)

- Regarding below, what was the original trigger eg report of property damage by the house owner – pls attach a copy of the original complaint or complaints
- I am assuming an arborist report was carried out – either internally or externally or both –
 - to substantiate the position that cutting the roots would destabilise the trees.
 - Any other related issues
 - If so can you pls provide those reports
- Any infield notes by the team that goes to the decision to remove
- What documentation accompanied the risk assessment
 - Photos report etc
 - Pls provide
- Prior to removing the trees had there been an opportunity to implement any mitigation measures – had we done inspections and anticipated property damage or is that not feasible
- [REDACTED]
- Any other information to support the decision

Many thanks

Regards [REDACTED]

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for the meeting on site and for the follow up photos.

During the site visit it was evident that the root systems from the three Fig trees on Council land have penetrated [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] The root system is already impacting [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] causing damage. There are also roots located [REDACTED]

RLS understands that cutting the roots to prevent further damage [REDACTED] will significantly de-stabilise the trees. Additionally, the trees are located directly opposite Mount Cotton Primary School where there is significant pedestrian and vehicle traffic.

It should be noted that cutting the roots and de-stabilising the trees, will introduce an additional risk of tree/limb failure that has the potential to cause harm or injury in a high risk location.

Based on the consequences that the additional risk will introduce to the community and to prevent further costs/damage [REDACTED] RLS is in agreement to remove the Fig trees.

If you would like to discuss or require clarification, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Right to Information Release

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@redland.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, September 25, 2024 1:11 PM

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@redland.qld.gov.au>; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@redland.qld.gov.au>

Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@redland.qld.gov.au>; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@redland.qld.gov.au>

Subject: Fw: URGENT pls - tree issue

Thanks [REDACTED]

Great work.

[REDACTED] As requested regards [REDACTED]

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@redland.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, September 25, 2024 12:11:33 PM

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@redland.qld.gov.au>

Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@redland.qld.gov.au>

Subject: FW: URGENT pls - tree issue

Hi [REDACTED] as requested.

The original work request (WR) was initiated [REDACTED] on 12th February 2024 due to the root systems of Ficus trees causing infrastructure damage [REDACTED]. The inspection revealed significant damage, including [REDACTED] a telecommunications pillar [REDACTED].

Discussion and onsite inspection held on the 18th of March 2024 between Senior Arborist and P&C Manager [REDACTED] we would investigate all aspects of the tree issues and advise of outcome.

An onsite meeting with the Council's Risk and Liability department was held to assess the situation. The Ficus trees, known for their large buttress root systems, had roots growing [REDACTED] due to unsuitable conditions under the nearby road. This growth pattern caused extensive damage and made parts of the road reserve unsafe for pedestrians.

Root severance was not a viable solution as it would cause excessive root loss, destabilizing the trees and failing to resolve all issues. Consequently, the decision was made to remove the Ficus trees to manage the risk effectively.

[REDACTED] that the tree would be removed due to there being no option to retain [REDACTED] from the invasive roots of the trees.

The community was notified through QR code-equipped signs linking to the Council's Tree Update Website. Residents who contacted the Council were informed about the decision

process, which was positively received. A communication plan was followed, and stakeholders were notified.

There was no formal tree report undertaken Senior Arborists assesment

From an arboricultural perspective, Ficus tree typically have a large radiating buttress root system due to their naturally occurring shallow soiled rainforest environments, therefore these Ficus have behaved as expected when planted in reserve adjacent a hard surfaced road. The root systems have been hindered in developing southwards under the road due to the non viable growth environment under a road with compacted, dry and nutrient deficient soil. Therefore as would be expected the trees roots systems have predominantly grown northwards [REDACTED] and down the slope [REDACTED] (exposed roots in excess of 15m away from the trees were visible, and undoubtedly there is a prolific sub surface root system as well). The buttress roots also made parts of the road reserve surface unsafe for pedestrian movement.

The potential option of root severance being performed [REDACTED] could not be performed within arboricultural best practice and Australian Standards AS4970. AS4970 provides the required unaffected distances for root growth without causing tree health or stability issues. In the case of these Ficus as the root systems of these trees was asymmetrical due to the roads proximity, root severance along the [REDACTED] would cause in excess of 30% root loss. AS4970 provides that 10% of a root system can be potentially affected provided remedial measures and careful arboricultural management is performed. In this instance the 30% root severance required to resolve the root ingress [REDACTED] would create large wounds allowing for pathogen attack on the retained tree and would destabilise the tree given the huge reduction in the root system torsional force within the soil profile. Additionally the issues related to the unsafe road reserve surface and risk to telecommunications infrastructure would not be resolved.

R&L response after site meeting

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for the meeting on site and for the follow up photos.

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Based on the consequences that the additional risk will introduce to the community and to prevent further costs/damag [REDACTED] RLS is in agreement to remove the Fig trees.

Assetic chronology and notes of WR88126 and following WO226299

Job completed to rcc specifications
[REDACTED] - 24/09/2024 15:10:56

Assigned to contractor to discuss with Senior supervisor and complete in school holidays as per quotation
[REDACTED] - 08/08/2024 12:31:17

Tree removal required of 4 x Ficus trees as marked in attached photo.

Removal required of 4 x Ficus trees and stump grinding required on [REDACTED] council [REDACTED] o RCC specifications.

Community Consultation required - [REDACTED] to arrange quotation.
[REDACTED] - 24/05/2024 14:54:35

Correction 4 x 'Ficus species' are being removed.
WR88126 - [REDACTED] 24/05/2024 14:50:14

3 x Ficus trees located at marked location on attached map have met removal criteria. Trees require removal due to having an Arboriculturally responsible way of preventing future damage [REDACTED] without resulting in structural damage to the tree. Trees will require removal as approved by Senior supervisor Trees / service manager following meeting with Risk and Liability.
WR88126 - [REDACTED] - 24/05/2024 14:40:45

Arranged onsite meeting with R&L [REDACTED] for 4 April 2024 @ 11am
WR88126 - [REDACTED] - 22/03/2024 09:31:53

FIR - Request inspected and further investigation required prior to outcome
decision

Discuss with [REDACTED]

Exposed roots [REDACTED]

WR88126 - [REDACTED] - 18/03/2024 10:11:18

[REDACTED] 2-10 Sanctuary Drive Mount Cotton Qld 4165
[REDACTED] urgent inspection and remedial action for root ingress from
ficus trees planted [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

WR88126 - Integration CRM - 12/02/2024 16:01:15

Right to Information Release

Please see below as requested photos from WR88126 / WO226299



Right to Information Release



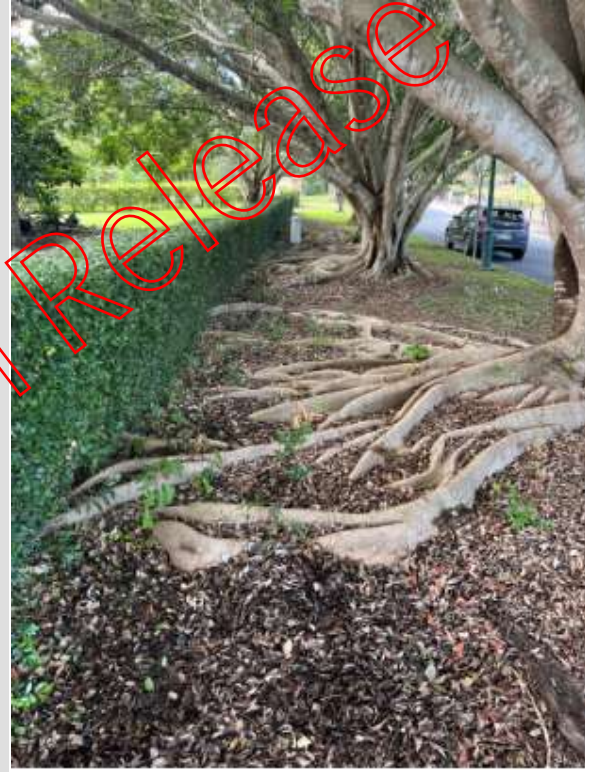
Right to Information Release



Right to Information Release

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From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@redland.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, September 24, 2024 5:58 pm
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@redland.qld.gov.au>
Subject: URGENT pls - tree issue

Hi [REDACTED]

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 - Any other related issues
 - If so can you pls provide those reports
- Any infield notes by the team that goes to the decision to remove
- What documentation accompanied the risk assessment
 - Photos report etc
 - Pls provide
- Prior to removing the trees had there been an opportunity to implement any mitigation measures – had we done inspections and anticipated property damage or is that not feasible
- [REDACTED]
- Any other information to support the decision

Many thanks

Regards [REDACTED]

Right to Information Release

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Ridgewood Downs Estate - Tree Removal
Date: Wednesday, 2 October 2024 1:52:05 PM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[Fw URGENT pls - tree issue .msg](#)

Hey [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] But I can answer some of them from as these are generally all answered in the previous email from [REDACTED] I will ask the team about the heritage listing of the trees.

There was no formal tree report undertaken Senior Arborists assessment

From an arboricultural perspective, Ficus tree typically have a large radiating buttress root system due to their naturally occurring shallow soiled rainforest environments, therefore these Ficus have behaved as expected when planted in reserve adjacent a hard surfaced road. The root systems have been hindered in developing southwards under the road due to the non viable growth environment under a road with compacted, dry and nutrient deficient soil. Therefore as would be expected the trees roots systems have predominantly grown northwards [REDACTED] and down the slope [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] exposed roots in excess of 15m away from the trees were visible, and undoubtedly there is a prolific sub surface root system as well).

The buttress roots also made parts of the road reserve surface unsafe for pedestrian movement.

The potential option of root severance being performed [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] could not be performed within arboricultural best practice and Australian Standards AS4970. AS4970 provides the required unaffected distances for root growth without causing tree health or stability issues. In the case of these Ficus as the root systems of these trees was asymmetrical due to the roads proximity, root severance along [REDACTED] would cause in excess of 30% root loss. AS4970 provides that 10% of a root system can be potentially affected provided remedial measures and careful arboricultural management is performed. In this instance the 30% root severance required to resolve the root ingress [REDACTED] would create large wounds allowing for pathogen attack on the retained tree and would destabilise the tree given the huge reduction in the root system torsional force within the soil profile. Additionally the issues related to the unsafe road reserve surface and risk to telecommunications infrastructure would not be resolved.

R&L response after site meeting and infrastructure damaged (see below)

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for the meeting on site and for the follow up photos.

During the site visit it was evident that the root systems from the three Fig trees on Council land have penetrated [REDACTED] The root system is already impacting [REDACTED] causing damage. There are also roots located [REDACTED]

RLS understands that cutting the roots to prevent further damage [REDACTED] will significantly de-stabilise the trees. Additionally, the trees are located directly opposite Mount Cotton Primary School where there is significant pedestrian and vehicle traffic.

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Based on the consequences that the additional risk will introduce to the community and to prevent further costs/damage [REDACTED] RLS is in agreement to remove the Fig trees.

Thanks

[REDACTED]
General Manager
Infrastructure & Operations
Redland City Council

P [REDACTED]
M [REDACTED]



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