

Magai Arboriculture

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International Society of Arboriculture
Certification #PN-1157

Re. Rapp Road Development Corporation's Proposed Development on 46 Acres of the Pine Bush.

To whom it concerns,
on April 30, 2020 I walked on and near the lands slated for development, as follows.

Walking along the road on the mall side of site 1, I noticed more diversity of tree species than I remember the DEIS stating. I observed Red Maple, Silver Maple, Norway Maple, Box Elder, Cottonwood, Callery Pear and Weeping Willow.

Similarly, site 2 contained Red Oak, Red Maple, American Elm, Silver Maple, Box Elder, Black Cherry, White Pine and Pitch Pine. As mentioned in the DEIS, other cultivated species were in the maintained areas surrounding houses. Among the houses a wooded area contained several mature Pitch Pines.

On the undeveloped side of Site 2, most of these trees had been felled recently, and most appeared to me to have been in good condition at the time of felling. On the Rapp road side of this area, the as-yet uncut, elevated area contained several Pitch Pines. Nearby these, at the edge of a dropoff were two or three pitch pines which were felled during the recent clearing. One of these was clearly alive and well prior to being felled. Photos of these are provided with this statement.

The Pitch Pines in both of these parts of Site 2 exhibit no signs of having been planted, and are doing reasonably well despite the competition from faster-growing species. These may be compelling empirical data to support the case for it being an area conducive to supporting this species, contrary to assertions based on soils analyses in the DEIS.

I hope this information is of use.

Sincerely,

May 3, 2020

Jack Magai

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CONSULTING HIGHLIGHTS

Inventory and Risk Assessment, Chadwick Square Homeowner's Association,
Glenmont, NY 2018

Consultant, Street Tree Inventory, Village of Menands, NY, 2018

Inventory and Risk Assessment, St. Peter's Cemetery, Troy, NY
2017-18

Valuations provided to attorneys and homeowners' insurance companies,
of trees removed or damaged: Saugerties & Vestal, NY 2018, Albany, Glenmont,
Delmar & Rotterdam, NY 2017, Wynantskill & Altamont, NY 2016

Expert Witness testimony, City Court, Albany, NY 2017

Tree Protection Plan and construction oversight
for University at Albany Building #25 renovations 2016-17

Minimally-invasive advanced inspections of oak trees
using sonic tomography and Resistograph, Menands, NY 2017, Delmar, NY 2016

Evaluation of trees for landscape lighting projects, Marras Illumination, Greg Yale, Janet
Lennox Moyer & Tom Williams, Troy, NY, Greenwich, CT, Lake George, NY, Setauket,
NY, Bahamas, 2002-present

Inventory and advanced Risk Assessments, Saratoga Lake Sailing Club, Saratoga
Springs, NY 2016 & 2017

Assessment of trees, Mountain Ridge Adventure Zip Line Park, Glenmont, NY 2016

Tree Protection Plan, contracts and on-site management of residential foundation excavation, Niskayuna, NY 2013

Member of City of Troy Urban Forestry Advisory Board, 2013-present

Risk Assessment, Emma Willard School, Troy, NY 2008

Street Tree Damage Assessment, Town of Coeymans, NY 2007

Street Tree Inventory and Risk Assessment, Village of Cobleskill, NY 2006

Tree Inventory and management plan, Riverstone Manor banquet facility, Glenville, NY 2005-17

Preservation Planning of Great Oak, George Landis Arboretum, Esperance, NY 2003

Tree Inventory, Washington Park, Troy, NY 2001 & 2016

Tree protection plan for construction of office building, Abossein Engineering, Bellevue, WA 1998

SPEAKING & TEACHING HIGHLIGHTS

Guest speaker to the NYS Forest Owners Association annual meeting, Menands, NY 2017

Teacher, Landscape Lighting Institute, Spiegletown, NY 2009-14

Lecturer on root morphology, function and health;
The Landscape Architects training program,
Cooperative Extension of Albany County, NY 2012

Guest Lecturer: Landscape Patterns: From Region to Site
(ARCH 4967.01) RPI, Troy NY, 2008

Planting Demonstrations, Capital District Community Gardens, Troy, NY 2002-present

Speaker, Spring Garden Day, Cooperative Extension of Rensselaer Co., NY 2005 & 2009

Pruning classes, Cooperative Extension of Rensselaer Co., NY 2003

TREE HOUSE CONSTRUCTION

6' x 12' Design and construction oversight of suspended [treehouse](#), Niskayuna, NY
2015

TREE CARE BUSINESS HISTORY

Tree care and consulting for homeowners, estates, municipalities and institutions
Seattle 1991-99, Troy 1999-present

CREDENTIALS

Member, American Society of Consulting Arborists (ASCA), 2018 - present

International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Certified Arborist 1997 - present
Certification #PN1157A

Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ) of the ISA, 2014, 2018

Business Registered in Rensselaer County, NY and State of Vermont

EDUCATION

American Society of Consulting Arborists (ASCA) Academy, 2018

Conferences of the International Society of Arboriculture, 2002, 2004, 2012, 2017

Tree Biomechanics workshop with Frank Rinn, 2016

Tree Risk Assessment Training, ISA at the University of Vermont, 2014;
Oyster Bay, NY, 2018

Botany 116B, SUNY Cobleskill, 2008

International Tree Failure Database (ITFD) training, UMass Amherst, 2008

Tree Risk Assessment Workshop, New York State Arborists, Albany, NY 2006

Insects and Diseases of Forest Trees, Cooperative Extension of Warren Co., NY 2005

The Body Language of Trees and Visual Tree Assessment, with Dr. Claus Mattheck
1999 and 2002

Urban Forestry for the New Millennium, with Nina Bassuk, University of Vermont 1999

BA Bennington College 1991