

Arborist Analysis Report Standards

Note: Arborist analysis is only required if requested by the city and is not a standard submittal item on development projects or as part of a Tree Removal Application. The applicant may choose to provide an arborist analysis at his or her discretion, in advance of a potential request by the city.

An arborist analysis report is required to make a more detailed assessment of an individual tree's suitability for preservation or assessment of a proposed design near an existing tree. The report shall be prepared by an Arborist, certified by the ISA (International Society of Arboriculture) and approved by the City of Fremont. The City will require a deposit (estimated amount) from the applicant in order to cover the cost of the arborist report. If the applicant uses their own approved Arborist, the deposit may be required for a peer review of the Arborist report. Any unused amount of the deposit will be returned to the applicant.

The arborist report will include, at a minimum, the following factors in the evaluation of suitability for preservation:

***Tree health**

Healthy, vigorous trees are better able to tolerate impacts such as root injury, demolition of existing structures, changes in soil grade and moisture, and soil compaction, than are non-vigorous trees.

***Structural Integrity**

Trees with significant amounts of wood decay and other structural defects that cannot be corrected are likely to fail. Such trees will not be preserved in areas where damage to people or property is likely to occur.

***Species response**

There is a wide variation in the response of individual species to construction impacts and changes in the environment.

***Tree age and longevity**

Old trees, while having significant emotional and aesthetic appeal, sometimes have limited physiological capacity to adjust to an altered environment. Young trees are better able to generate new tissue and respond to change. Older trees may require modifications to the development proposal, to achieve preservation.

***Other evaluation as identified by the City**

Each project has unique features that may impact trees. The analysis will explore innovative alternatives in design that promote preservation of quality trees. The City may choose to require tree appraisals on complex projects where significant development may occur near trees to be preserved. Tree appraisals will provide a basis of penalties for destruction of trees during construction and may be used to assess mitigation on projects with significant tree removal.

Give each tree a rating for suitability for preservation based upon its age, health, structural condition, and tree's ability to exist safely within the development environment.