

From: Bailey, Rick I. <RIBailey@bellevuewa.gov>

Sent: Friday, August 27, 2021 3:05 PM

To: Larry Franks

Cc: Bradley, Geoff <GBradley@bellevuewa.gov>; Kingham, Jammie <JKingham@bellevuewa.gov>;

Haworth, Marlene <MHaworth@bellevuewa.gov>

Subject: RE: City of Bellevue Poisoning of Plum Trees

Mr. Franks,

Thank you for taking the time to meet with us this past Monday to discuss this situation. We apologize for any lack of communication and actions that may have resulted in the death of your tree and we appreciate your cooperation in finding an amicable solution to resolve this situation.

As Geoff indicated during our site meeting, we have had discussions with our Risk Management staff regarding the best methodology to address and correct this unfortunate situation. To minimize further risk and potential liability, it was determined that it would be in the best interest for both parties to have you coordinate and pay for the removal of the tree and the purchase of a desirable replacement tree, and then utilize the City's claims process to have all your expenses reimbursed. We would like to assist and help facilitate this as much as we can from our end. As such, I have reached out to one of our most trusted tree vendors, Bruce Trelstad (Trelstad Tree Services), and have looped him in on the situation. Bruce removed the dead plum tree on the City's side of the property boundary earlier this year and is very familiar with the situation and will be able to schedule and expedite the removal of your tree very quickly. Bruce can be reached at 206-793-6658 and is anticipating your phone call. Although we recommend Trelstad Tree Services, please feel free to choose any tree vendor that you are most comfortable with.

Jammie will be reaching out to you soon to assist with any questions you may have regarding the selection of a desirable replacement tree that will be the most suitable for the site conditions in your backyard. Marlene Haworth (mhaworth@bellevuewa.gov) with our Risk Management Division will be contacting you sometime next week to assist with getting you started on the claims process and answer any questions that you may have.

Thank you again for working with us to correct this situation. If you have any other questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us. Thank you.

Rick Bailey

Forest Management Program Supervisor

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From: Larry Franks

Sent: Friday, August 20, 2021 4:32 PM

To: Shiosaki, Michael <MShiosaki@bellevuewa.gov>

Cc: Bailey, Rick I. <RIBailey@bellevuewa.gov>; Kingham, Jammie <JKingham@bellevuewa.gov>; parkboard <parkboard@bellevuewa.gov>

Subject: City of Bellevue Poisoning of Plum Trees

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Director Shiosaki:

We just learned from a neighbor that the plum trees that died next to our property in the park at Larsen Lake, including a mature tree we had planted decades ago, were intentionally killed because they were not native trees. We are very angry for several reasons:

1. City staff had consulted with our neighbor last year about killing all the plum trees but not us.
2. This Spring when we brought the issue of all the dead plum trees including the one in our back yard to the notice of city staff we were told to “wait, they may still leaf out”. Apparently lying to us about the intentional poisoning of the trees.
3. The dead plum trees on the park side of our fence were removed recently but no attention was give to our large tree that you were responsible for killing that has branches growing over the fence toward the park.

Since the city is responsible for the killing of the mature shade tree in our back yard we demand that you either remove it yourselves or compensate us for the removal. In addition, the loss of the mature shade tree must be replaced with something native and acceptable.

We are very unhappy with the city staff for not consulting or acknowledging their part in killing our tree. We expect better of park staff.

Larry Franks