PEERS BROWN MILLER LTD

Arboricultural & Environmental Consultants

SECTION 92 RESPONSE FOR 160 KAPITI RD, PARAPARUMU

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cc: Kay Panther Knight, Forme Planning
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DATE: 20.8.21

1.0 Introduction

An application for consent to undertake the following works has been lodged with Kapiti Coast District Council;

- *Undertake earthworks that do not meet the permitted activity standards for the construction and operation of a retail activities within the Industrial/Service Zone that does not meet the permitted activity standards for vehicle movements, signs, access design and landscaping*

The application is referenced;

- 210151

A Section 92 letter (dated 27.7.21) from Kapiti Coast District Council requests further information with regards to the following matters;

- *Open Space/Biodiversity*
  17. There are two existing Pohutukawa trees on Kapiti Road which are affected by the new driveway proposal. These are established trees which form part of a wider collection of Pohutukawa of consistent height and form along Kapiti Road. They are a Council owned asset which will require approval to modify. To support this we require an assessment of the trees is provided by a suitably qualified arboricultural consultant to:

  a) provide a financial estimate of value for these trees for which compensation may be sought if removed.

  b) provide an assessment of feasibility, methodology and cost for the trees to be relocated within the public road frontage in line with the landscape concept plan at the applicants cost.

2.0 Tree Details

Tree No.	Species	Height (m)	DBH (cm)	Crown Spread Radius (m)	Condition	Age	Remarks
1	Pohutukawa *Metrosideros excelsa*	6	42 (based on 7 stems)	2.9	Good	SM	Good vigour and foliar density. Areas of new shoot-tip growth noted – 5cm+. Some areas of mechanical damage noted on stems, footpath side of tree. GIS maps indicate stormwater services located within root zone of tree.
2	Pohutukawa *Metrosideros excelsa*	7	45 (based on 10 stems)	3.8	Good	SM	Good vigour and foliar density. Areas of new shoot-tip growth noted – 5cm+. Some areas of mechanical damage noted on stems, footpath side of tree. Lamp post standing within root zone of tree. GIS maps indicate stormwater services located within root zone of tree.

3.0 Arboricultural response

3.1 Financial Estimate of Value

The valuation methodology utilised by the Auckland Council Urban Forest Specialist Team when assessing activities impacting trees on Council-owned land, has been used in the valuation of the subject Pohutukawa street trees.

The method is as follows;

- The DBH of the tree being removed is quantified,
- DBH is divided by three
- Result is multiplied by the cost of tree purchase, planting and three years maintenance (currently $508)

3.2 Tree 1

DBH	42 cm
DBH/3	14 x
Replacement $	508
Total Value	**$7112**

3.3 Tree 2

DBH	45 cm
DBH/3	15 x
Replacement $	508
Total Value	**$7620**

3.4 Feasibility, methodology and cost for the trees to be relocated within the public road frontage

The following methodology is based on a best practice tree transplantation methodology. Costings are approximate and based on the transplanting of trees in similar circumstances. They do not include any additional lifting and planting costs which may arise with the requirement for interruption or relocation of existing services i.e. in this instance the existing stormwater line and lamp post/ electrical service lies, and any other services that may currently be present at the site.

3.4.1 Transplanting Methodology

(a) Lifting and Containerisation

- Isolate work zone by erecting cones and barriers.
- Prepare storage area (pallets and tree anchors).
- Spray tree with vapour guard to reduce transpiration rates.
- Excavate suitable root ball, wrap in hessian and attach tree lifting frame.
- Extract tree with large hiab.
- Transport tree on site to storage area.
- Off load and secure.
- Containerise tree and secure.
- Install irrigation.

Approximate cost per tree $14,000

(b) Re-planting of the tree into a similar position as the original extraction site.

- Excavate planting position.

- Prepare tree for lifting
- Load tree, transport the small distance to planting position.
- Lift and place tree into planting pit.
- Install underground staking.
- Backfill around root ball with extracted soil blended with 'Nutrasoil'.
- Install mulch at base of tree
- Remove and dispose of generated spoil.

Approximate cost per tree $8,000

(c) Husbandry

Maintenance of trees for an undefined period of time whilst the tree is in storage

Approximate cost per tree per month $100

(d) Aftercare

Maintenance of the trees for a period of 1 year (per month).

Approximate cost per tree per month $100

4.0 Summary

4.1 Financial Estimate of Value of Trees

- Tree 1 - $7112
- Tree 2 - $7620

4.2 Feasibility, methodology and cost for the relocation of trees

From an arboricultural perspective it is feasible to relocate the subject trees. The methodology for moving the trees would be in accordance with accepted transplanting practice as detailed in Section 3.4 of this report.

The approximate cost of relocating both trees would upwards of $40,000. This does not include aftercare or maintenance costs. Nor does it include additional costs should services be encountered at both the site where the trees stand and potential new planting site along the existing road reserve that bounds the site.

5.0 Conclusion

From an arboricultural perspective the transplantation of the trees is not warranted due to the costs involved. While the trees are good specimens that contribute positively to the existing urban forest in the area they are not significant in terms of species, age or form.

The potential costs of relocation greatly outweigh the assessed value of the subject trees.

Resources might be better allocated to the planting of a number (e.g. 4 – 6) new larger grade – 160 litre – Pohutukawa trees within the existing road reserve. The new planting pits for these trees could likely work around existing services that may be in situ.

Please contact Peers Brown Miller Ltd if any further arboricultural input is required.

Simon Miller
Peers Brown Miller Ltd

Appendix 1 Tree Location Plan

Appendix 2 Site Photographs

Tree 1

Tree 2