



EXHIBIT

"A"

2/12/2021

City of Round Rock
City Council Members
221 East Main Street
Round Rock, TX 78664

RE: 300 West Anderson Street– CD Fulkes Middle School Rebuild; Justification Letter for Approval of Monarch Tree Designation Removal

Dear City Council Members,

As the Round Rock community at large is aware, the Round Rock Independent School District has passed a bond to construct a replacement Middle School for the CD Fulkes Middle School on West Anderson. The ISD is committed to providing public education in the downtown area and the CD Fulkes Middle School and the Claude Berkman Elementary school campus is the central pillar of this commitment. Many members of the community have passed through its doors be it as Dragons or Lizards, so maintaining that continuity of service and pride will be the cornerstone of the new campus. At the heart of the new campus will be the existing auditorium. Its wood trusses and rough stone exterior preserved for future student and community use.

However, maintaining the existing enrolled students while constructing a new building will be no easy task on such a small and constrained site. The only available area on the site for construction is the existing football field. This limited area requires a 3-story facility where a 2-story middle school would be the preference of the ISD. But RRISD has accepted that the only workable solution is a 3-story facility to limit the building footprint. Once the facility is complete, the existing MS can be demolished to provide supporting parking and athletic field.

Due to the site constraints on the north with the proposed trail, the athletic field and track layout had to be modified to follow a European style track that is shorter and wider so that it would fit within the available space. Due to the site constraint on the north, it required the wider track which resulted in new impervious cover on Tree 744. We made every attempt to reduce impact to any of the protected or Monarch trees, but due to the site constraints, it was challenging to be able to protect all of them. The new football field has been the most difficult feature to fit within the existing site. Unfortunately, the site does not provide enough space to separate the throwing events, and CD Fulkes will not be able to host one day track and field event meets at this campus.

The property currently includes 14 monarch trees within the limits of construction. Of those, the final development would require approval of the Monarch Tree Designation removal of 7 of the monarch trees. The attached Monarch Trees - Proposed Encroachment Exhibit indicates the locations of all 14 Monarch trees.

Listed below are the Monarch trees that we would like to request City Council approval for the removal of the Monarch tree designation, 7 total Monarchs, 6 of which will be removed to accommodate the proposed construction and 1 which will be retained but will be impacted by disturbance within the critical root zone that is in excess of what is permitted within the Code. Please see detailed list below:

Request for City Council Approval of a Monarch Tree Designation Removal, 7 total:

1. Tree 703; 25" DBH Post Oak – We would like to request Removal of the Monarch Tree Designation due to the fact that this tree falls within the new parking lot and needs to be removed.
2. Tree 718; 28" DBH Post Oak – We would like to request Removal of the Monarch Tree Designation due to the fact that this tree falls within the new parking lot and needs to be removed.
3. Tree 721; 25" DBH Post Oak – We would like to request Removal of the Monarch Tree Designation due to the fact that this tree falls within the new parking lot and needs to be removed.
4. Tree 742; 41" DBH Live Oak – We would like to request Removal of the Monarch Tree Designation due to the fact that this tree falls within the new football field and needs to be removed.
5. Tree 744; 41" DBH Live Oak – We would like to request Removal of the Monarch Tree Designation due to the fact that this tree falls within the new track. The existing encroachment within the critical root zone is 5%. The proposed encroachment within the critical root zone is 28% with new impervious cover of 23% thus increasing the encroachment by 23%. Due to the increased encroachment, we would like for the Monarch Tree Designation to be removed. We have provided mitigation for this tree at 300% but will preserve the tree in hopes that it will survive the impact.
6. Tree 820; 26" DBH Post Oak – We would like to request Removal of the Monarch Tree Designation due to the fact that this tree falls within the turnaround lane for fire access and needs to be removed.
7. Tree 821; 36" DBH Live Oak – We would like to request Removal of the Monarch Tree Designation due to the fact that this tree falls within the new track and needs to be removed.

As a means to ensure the Monarch trees within the parking lot endure the least amount of impact as possible, RRISD hired an Arborist that will provide recommendations to the contractor to follow during construction. The arborist will perform periodic site visits to ensure the recommendations are being followed and to monitor the overall health of the trees during construction. The bulleted items shown below are written recommendations provided by the Brent Frazier, an arborist with Legacy Arbor Care.

- All guidelines within the official construction documents shall be followed specifically the section of Tree Protection Notes and Protection Details. The information outlined in these plans are industry standard and should be a base guideline when operating around these trees. Any deviation from these guidelines should not be performed without consulting a certified arborist and the City of Round Rock arborist.
- There are areas within the project that will require pruning of protected and monarch trees. Any required pruning shall be performed under the direction of a certified arborist and must not occur without prior notice to the city representative. Specific areas of note as it related to pruning will be around tree 725 in order to remove an existing light pole, near trees 744, 746, 747, 748 to open for retaining wall construction. Tree 744 is currently in noticeable stress prior to construction and will require monitoring throughout and following this project.

- Within this project, there are several areas where concrete will be removed in and around the Critical Root Zone of the protected trees. It is extremely important for the survival of these trees to preserve as much of the root zone as possible. Any concrete that needs to be removed from the Critical Root Zone shall be done with extreme care and is suggested to be done with hand tools. Large machinery can be used to haul off heavy pieces of concrete but shall not be used to rip or fracture large pieces. The ½ Critical Root Zone of any protected tree with construction disturbance shall be aerated via air spade, compost, and fertilized by a certified arborist. If any roots larger than 3" in diameter are exposed while removing any existing impervious cover, the contractor shall consult with the certified arborist prior to any cutting of roots. This could be via phone call, text, or site visit.
- It is important to protect the root zone of all protected trees on this site during Phase I construction. We suggest leaving any impervious cover in place around any protected trees in phases to occur at later date. This impervious cover will act as a layer of protection. Any tree that may experience disturbance, even if located in a later phase of construction, should have tree protection in place consistent in the Tree Protection Details.

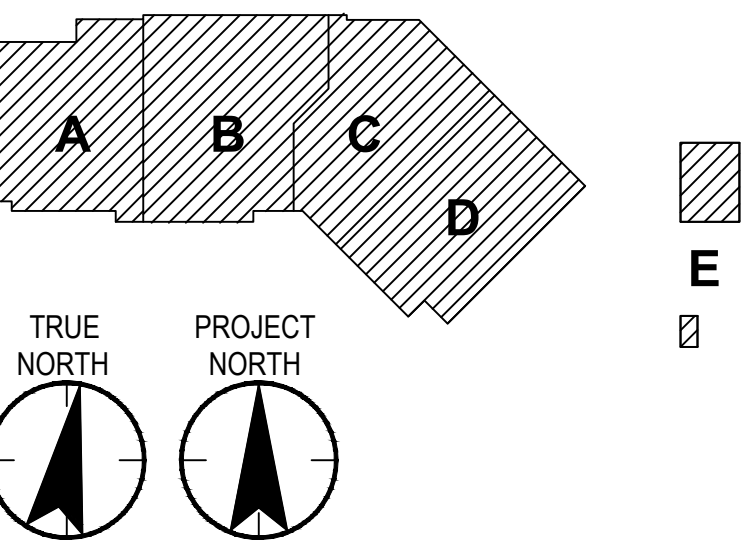
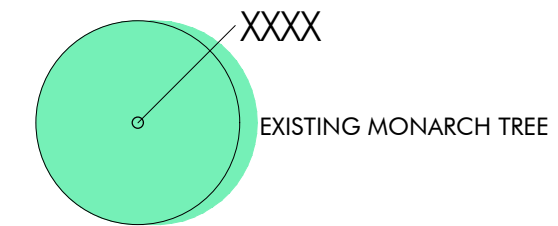
Stantec and RRISD understand the importance of the Monarchs, and given the opportunity, we would preserve every one of them. We have done our best to weave the parking around the existing trees and offset the new entrance to maintain the majority of them. The new facility will serve the community for the next 50 years, and in that time and with proper care, several other non-monarch trees are expected to develop into monarchs. In fact, a Cedar Elm and a Live Oak that we are not disturbing are a mere inch away from also being monarchs. The replacement school not only provides a downtown neighborhood school for future CD Fulkes Lizards but also a site for future Monarchs!

Thanks,

Jonathan Loiselle
Sr. Project Manager
512-552-9448

Attached:

Monarch Trees - Existing Encroachment Exhibit
Monarch Trees - Proposed Encroachment Exhibit
CD Fulkes Middle School – Legacy Arbor Care

[illegible]

Permit/Seal



Client/Project Logo



Client/Project
ROUND ROCK ISD

CD Fulkes Middle School

300 West Anderson Avenue
Round Rock Texas 78664

MONARCH TREES -
EXISTING ENCROACHMENT EXHIBIT

Project No.	Scale
214000721	AS INDICATED
Revision	Drawing No.

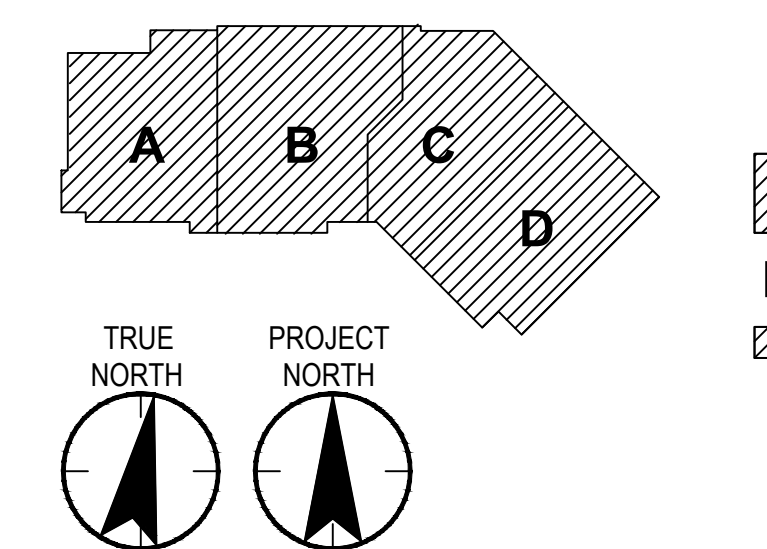
Copyright Reserved

The Contractor shall verify and be responsible for all dimensions. DO NOT scale the drawing - any errors or omissions shall be reported to Stantec without delay.

The Copyrights to all designs and drawings are the property of Stantec. Reproduction or use for any purpose other than that authorized by Stantec is forbidden.

Consultant

Notes

[illegible]

Permit/Sec



Client/Project Logo



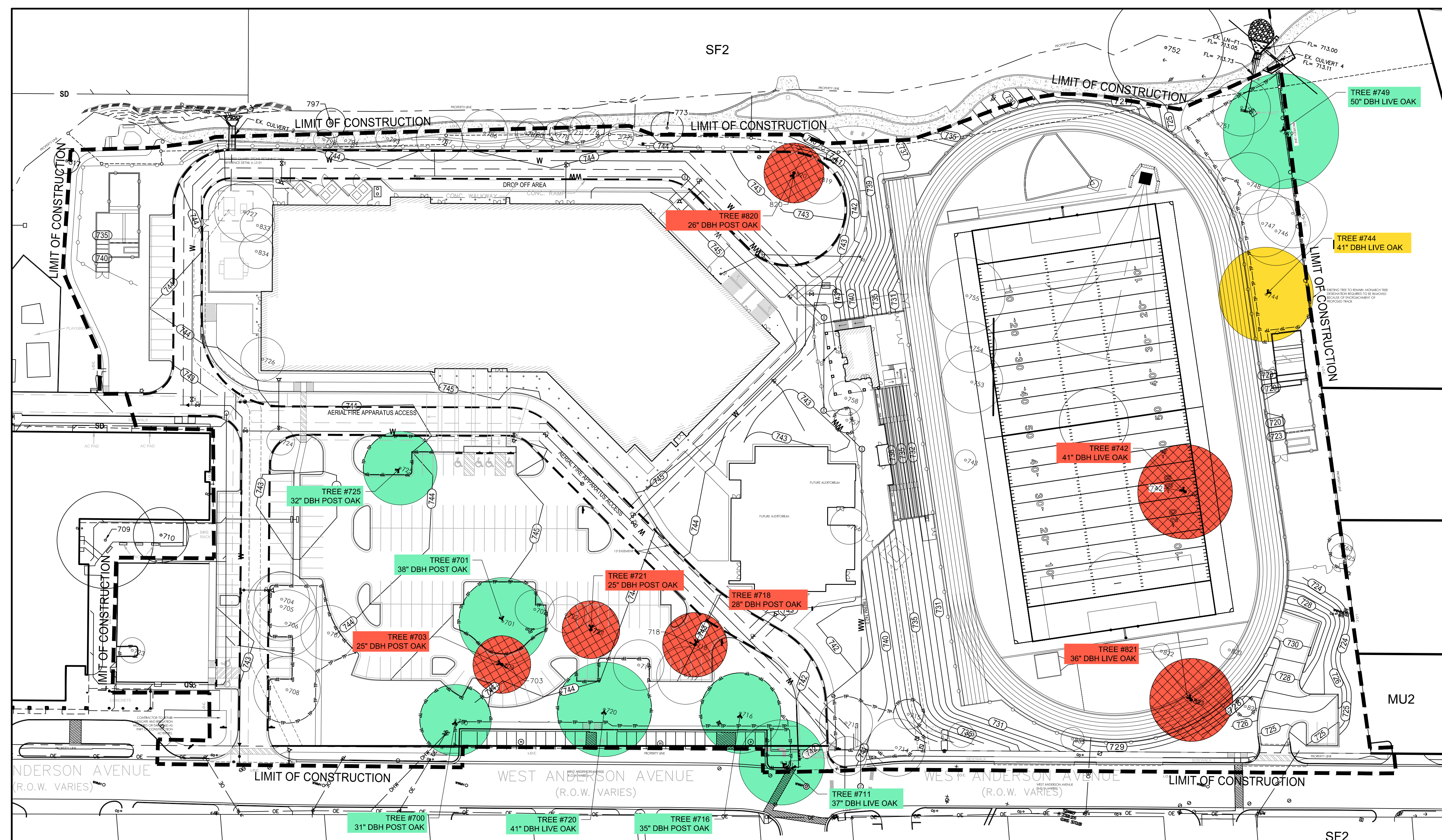
Client/Project
ROUND ROCK ISD

CD Fulkes Middle School

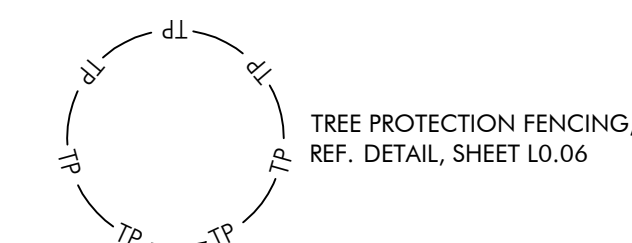
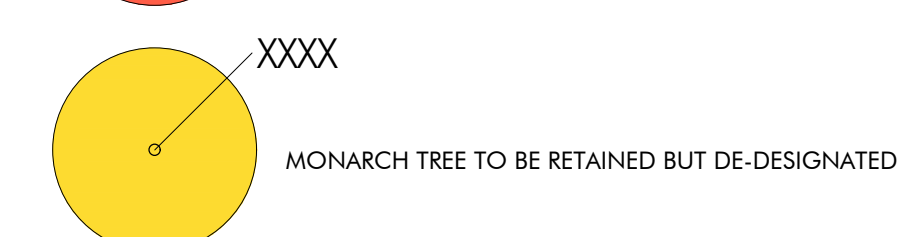
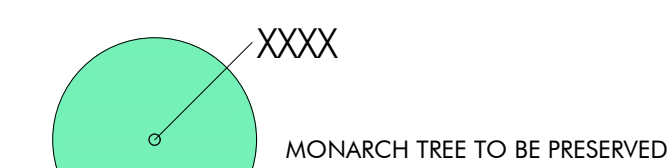
300 West Anderson Avenue
Round Rock Texas 78664

MONARCH TREES -
PROPOSED ENCROACHMENT EXHIBIT

Project No. 214000721	Scale AS INDICATED
Revision	Drawing No.

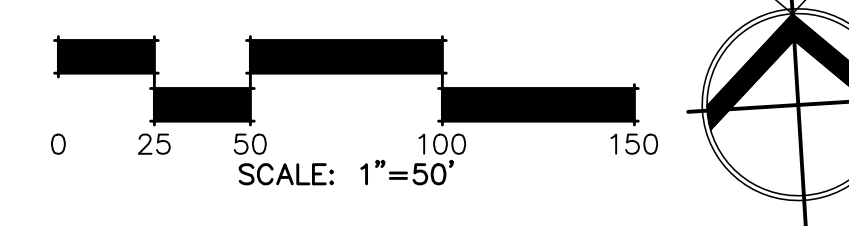


TREE PRESERVATION LEGEND



1 MONARCH TREE EXHIBIT - PROPOSED

SCALE: 1"=50'-0"



50 100 150
SCALE: 1"=50'

\\js1568-001\workgroup\2140\active\214000721\la_pla\07_cd\ref\214000721-landscape_monarch Tree Exhibit.dwg