

20 June 2005

To: Members of the Oak Park Municipal Advisory Committee (MAC)

From: Subcommittee to the MAC for the oversight of Quercus Ilex on Kanan Road, (the committee).

Subject: Recommendations for MAC Action:

1. Establish a new standing committee to oversee all landscape maintenance funded by CSA 4.
2. During fiscal 2005-2006, perform the following on the west side of Kanan Rd. between Conifer St. and Tamarind Ave:

- remove declining trees
- remove non-oaks
- treat soil as necessary for fungus (as is planned for the east side of Kanan Rd.)
- replace removed trees (including those removed in prior years) with 15 gal *Q. ilex*.

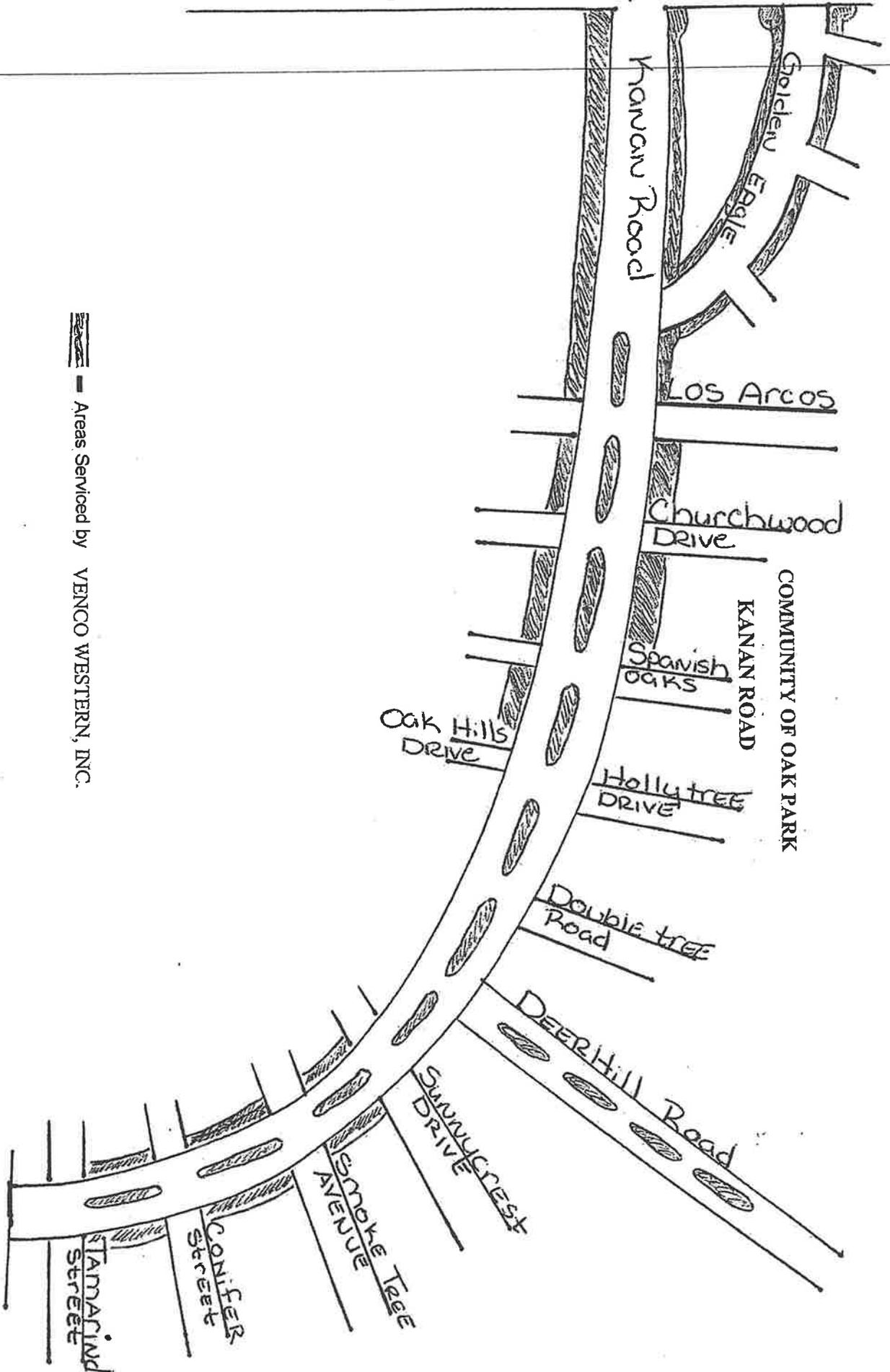
If the CSA 4 cannot cover the expense of these actions in fiscal 2005-2006, notify the Public Works Agency to include this expense in the 2006-2007 budget.

3. Contrary to the arborist's recommendations, allow turf within the root zones of oaks on Kanan Rd between Conifer St. and Tamarind Ave. within the drip zone but with a 6-foot clearance for mature trees.
 - The clearance — mulched to keep the soil cool and discourage weeds — is required so turf maintenance equipment will not come close enough to tree trunks to injure them.
 - Irrigation must be set for a compromise between the needs for turf and the needs for the trees, with weighting favoring the trees. This means deep watering less frequently instead of frequent turf watering.
4. Repairs not covered within the base contract for landscape maintenance should require prior MAC approval.
5. Review the budget and expenditures for landscape maintenance to ensure that ongoing activities that are required by the base contract (e.g., feeding, pruning) are covered by the budget for that contract and are not billed as additional items to be covered by funds designated for repairs.

Respectfully submitted by the oversight committee

Dean Burnett, Janna Orkney, David Ross

LINDERO CANYON

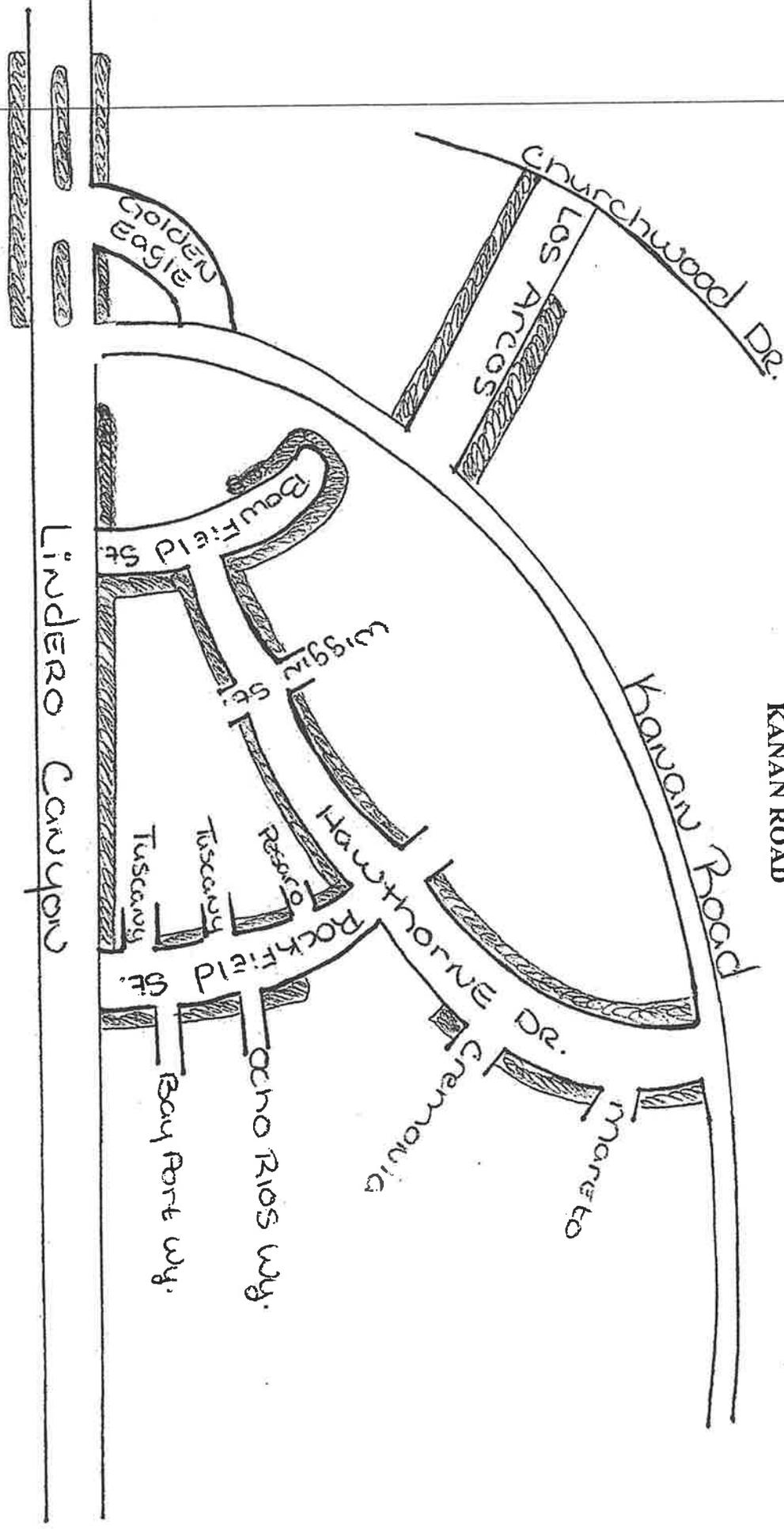


Areas Serviced by VENCO WESTERN, INC.

COMMUNITY OF OAK PARK

KANAN ROAD

Areas Serviced by VENCO WESTERN, INC.





PACIFIC HORTICULTURE

DIVISION OF DELTA-PACIFIC HORTICULTURE, INC.

LANDSCAPE AND AGRONOMY CONSULTANTS

December 17, 2004

Venco Western, Inc.
2400 Eastman Avenue
Oxnard, California 93030

Attention: Heather Melton

Subject: Quercus Ilex on Kanan Road, Oak Park

Dear Heather:

Pursuit to our conversation and receipt of the site map, a field inspection of the seventeen (17) *Quercus ilex* (Holly Oak) on the south east side of Kanan Road between Tamarind and Conifer Streets was completed on December 15, 2004.

All of the specimens are located in a 15'-0" parkway planter and are generally surrounded with turfgrass. Although six (6) of the trees have mulched areas at the base of the trunks, the size of the area is inadequate to be effective.

Four (4) of the trees would be rated excellent, 5 are in good condition and 8 specimens are in fair to poor condition.

Enclosed is a sketch that identifies the approximate tree location and number utilized for discussion purposes herein.

Following is a brief tree by tree condition analysis. The trunk diameters were measured at 4 ½' above natural grade while the heights and spreads were estimated. Ratings are based on a 100 scale, with higher numbers indicating better specimens.

Tree Number 1 In turf.

9 ½" trunk diameter with a height and spread of 24' x18'.

Exposed and dead roots. Sparse foliage, dieback, epicormic growth, deadwood, branches cut back and previous aphid damage. Rate vigor

Venco Western, Inc.
Holly Oaks on Kanan Road
December 17, 2004

pp 2

and health at 25 out of scale of 100.

Tree Number 2 In turf.

11" trunk diameter with a height and spread of 24' x 22'. Surface damaged roots. Top dieback, deadwood and sparse foliage. Rate vigor and health at 40 out of scale of 100.

Tree Number 3 In turf.

New tree with height and spread of 7' x 6'. Trunk buried, sparse foliage. Need to remove nursery stake. Vigor and health at 95.

Tree Number 4 In turf.

10" trunk diameter with height and spread of 27' x 26'. Exposed and damaged roots. Dead root. Branch cavity, epicormic growth, dieback and deadwood. Vigor and health rating at 30 out of 100.

Tree Number 5 In turf.

10" trunk diameter with height and spread of 25' x 24'. Exposed roots, dieback, deadwood, poor healing of pruning cuts, basal decay konk. Vigor and health rating at 40 out of 100.

Tree Number 6 In turf.

9 1/2" trunk diameter. Height and spread 25' x 27'. Damaged and exposed roots. Deadwood, minor dieback. Vigor and health rating at 75 out of 100.

Tree Number 7 Mulch area at base- 9' from trunk.

14" trunk diameter. Height and spread 32' x 40'. Exposed and damaged roots. Dieback, deadwood and basal trunk decay. Vigor at 80, health rated at 70 out of 100.

Tree Number 8 Mulch area at base - 9' from trunk.

18" trunk diameter. Height and spread 35' x 40'. Some deadwood. Very healthy and vigorous tree with a rating of 95 out of 100.

Tree Number 9 Mulch area at base. 6 1/2' from trunk.

16" trunk diameter. Height and spread 25' x 40'. Some deadwood. Prior aphid damage evident. Vigor and health rating 90 out of 100.

Tree Number 10 Mulch area at base - 6 1/2' from trunk.

Venco Western, Inc.
Holly Oaks on Kanan Road
December 17, 2004

pp 3

- 19" trunk diameter. Height and spread 35' x 40'. Some deadwood.
Nice tree with a vigor and health rating at 90 out of 100.
- Tree Number 11 Mulch area at base - 6' from trunk.
14' trunk diameter. Height and spread of 35' x 35'. Sparse foliage,
dieback, deadwood, basal decay, exposed and damaged roots. Vigor
and health rating at 40 out of 100.
- Tree Number 12 In turf.
17" trunk diameter with height and spread of 30' x 32. Leans south
with damaged exposed roots. Dieback and deadwood evident. Vigor
and health rating 75 out of 100.
- Tree Number 13 Mulch area at base - 6' from trunk.
Trunk diameter 8" with height and spread of 20' x 25'. Leans south,
sparse foliage, poor structural form, girdled root, dieback, deadwood
and epicormic growth. Vigor and health rating of 40 out of 100.
- Tree Number 14 In turf.
16" trunk diameter with a height and spread of 35' x 40'. Exposed
and damaged roots, sparse foliage, epicormic growth, dieback and
deadwood. Adjacent to metal covered manhole. Vigor and health
rating of 40 out of 100.
- Tree Number 15 In turf
Multi trunk specimen - 9" & 9". Height and spread 27' x 30'.
Three trunk cavities. Weak structure, dieback, deadwood, and sparse
foliage. Vigor rated at 70 and health at 55 out of 100.
- Tree Number 16 In turf.
11" trunk diameter with a height and spread of 25' x 25'. Trunk
damage, twig and branch dieback, and deadwood. Vigor and health
rated at 80 out of 100.
- Tree Number 17 In turf.
21" trunk diameter. Height and spread 35' x 40'. Minor dieback, and
deadwood. Vigor and health rating at 90 out of 100.

Venco Western, Inc.
Holly Oaks on Kanan Road
December 17, 2004

pp 4

All of the trees exhibit previous aphid damage, although no insects were found currently active on the foliage. Epicormic growth are trunk and branch sprouts that indicate stress and/or decline. Most of the trees have branch tip dieback and deadwood throughout, although several specimens appear to have been recently pruned.

It should be noted that these oaks are not protected under the County of Ventura Oak Tree Protection Ordinance.

Discussion and Recommendations

Eight (8) of the trees would be recommended for removal and replacement with new specimens. These include numbers 1, 2, 4, 5, 11, 13, 14 and 15. The condition of these specimens is below acceptable standards and they exhibit numerous defects. The potential for development into desirable trees is extremely low and not worthy of generating expenditures and time toward rehabilitation. All of these trees have sparse foliage, dieback and cavities are present in trees number 5, 11 and 15. Number 13 leans.

The remaining specimens are in good to excellent condition and worthy of preservation. All of these trees would benefit from deadwood removal and some minor pruning to thin out and shape the canopy.

The trees to be preserved should be deep root fertilized this spring. In addition, the trees should be monitored this spring for potential insect activity, especially since there are signs of previous aphid damage.

All of the trees should have the mulched area extended 5' past the canopy dripline. The current mulched area under the trees is inadequate. It would be recommended that the entire parkway turf be eliminated and consideration be given to planting low water use shrub masses. This could be aesthetically pleasing and would only require minor modification of the existing irrigation system. The existing irrigation could also be converted to

All oaks
are
protected

Venco Western, Inc.
Holly Oaks on Kanan Road
December 17, 2004

pp 5

drip which would provide considerable water savings as well as direct the irrigation directly to the plantings. The entire planter area could then be mulched. If turf is to be maintained between the trees, a second irrigation system needs to be installed for the trees. Lawn watering requirements are not compatible with tree needs.

In summary, nine (9) of the existing Holly Oak are worthy of preservation with some management modifications required. Eight (8) of the trees should be considered for removal and replacement with new tree specimens. These latter 8 trees are beyond efforts toward reviving into good trees.

Should you have any questions or should you require additional information, do not hesitate in calling me direct.

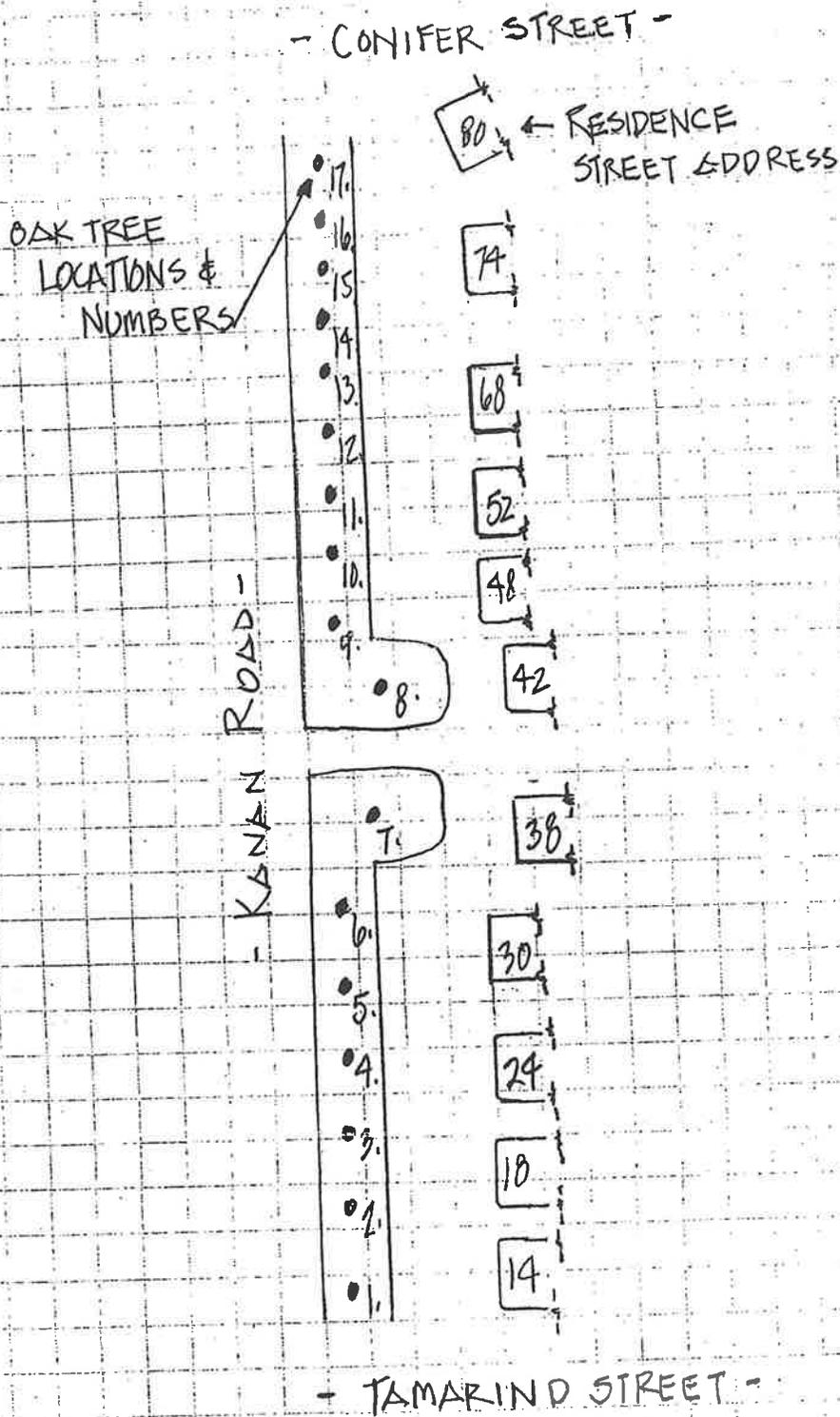
Respectfully Submitted,



Donald F. Rodrigues
Horticulture Consultant
ISA Certified Arborist 272

QUERCUS ILEX STUDY AREA

KANAN ROAD, OAK PARK



by
PACIFIC HORTICULTURE CONSULTANTS
Ventura, CA.
12-7-04

N.T.S.



INFORMATIONAL
BULLETIN
#4

Native California Plants Suitable for Growing Under Oaks

Coast Live Oaks (*Quercus agrifolia*) are one of California's signature trees, defining the landscape of the coastal plains, valleys, and foothills. Of considerable economic value, they can also be tremendous assets in our gardens. Cooled by their shade, humbled by their venerable character, and connected to nature by the habitat they provide for many other creatures, we benefit immeasurably from these wonderful trees. To safeguard their health, use this bulletin and IB #5 for planting ideas and maintenance practices.

Trees that have matured in sync with our Mediterranean climate of cool wet winters and warm dry summers are susceptible to both crown rot and oak root fungus, soil-borne diseases that are favored by moisture and warm temperatures. Therefore, it is advisable to keep summer irrigation in and around establish trees to a minimum. (See diagram below.) On the other hand, very young oaks on your property or ones you plant from nursery stock will be much more resistant to these pathogens and tolerant of summer watering, but why irrigate trees that don't need it?

The following lists consist of native California plants that are suitable for planting under Coast Live Oak or Valley Oak (*Q. lobata*) trees. None of these understory species should be planted within six feet of the trunk, however. Although all will perform well under shaded and drought conditions, their appearance will improve with once-monthly summer watering and increased light resulting from pruning dead or diseased branches in the oak tree canopy.

It is important to evaluate the quality of shade under your oak tree. Shade is a relative term. Plants closer to the edge of the canopy will probably receive more light than those nearer the trunk. When planting, consider on which side of the tree the plant will be located. If on the south side, for example, it will receive more light than if planted on the north side. One should expect that with increasing shade, flowering will decrease for some species. And realize that as your oak grows, you may need to change the plantings under and around the canopy.

Valley Oaks are much more resistant to oak root fungus (*Armillaria mellea*) than Coast Live Oaks and can therefore tolerate some summer watering. Although mature Valley Oaks do not need summer water, their disease resistance allows for the use of more thirsty species when landscaping beneath the canopy. Also, since Valley Oaks are winter deciduous, understory plantings will receive essentially full sun during winter months.

Common Name

Scientific Name

ANNUALS

Farewell to Spring
Chinese Houses
California Gilia
Common Linanthus
Five-spot
Baby Blue Eyes
Phacelia
Fiesta Flower

Clarkia spp.
Collinsia heterophylla
Gilia achilleifolia
Linanthus parviflorus
Nemophila maculata
Nemophila menziesii
Phacelia parryi
Pholistoma racemosa

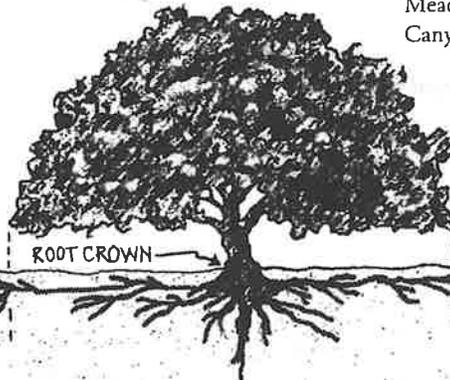
PERENNIAL HERBS

Golden Stars
Fairy Lanterns
Golden Fairy Lanterns
Parry's Larkspur
Shooting Star
Live-forever
Leafy Daisy
Sulfur Buckwheat

Bloomeria crocea
Calochortus albus
Calochortus amabilis
Delphinium parryi
Dodecatheon clevelandii
Dudleya spp.
Erigeron foliosus
Eriogonum umbellatum var.
polyanthemum
Fragaria vesca
Heuchera maxima
Iris douglasiana
Iris 'PCH'
Lilium humboldtii
Monardella villosa
Potentilla glandulosa
Ranunculus californicus
Salvia spathacea
Satureja douglasii
Sidalcea malviflora
Silene laciniata
Sisyrinchium bellum
Solidago californica
Stachys bullata
Thalictrum polycarpum
Venegasia carpesioides

Wood Strawberry
Island Alum-root
Douglas Iris
Pacific Coast Hybrid Iris
Humboldt Lily
Coyote Mint
Sticky Cinquefoil
California Buttercup
Hummingbird Sage
Yerba Buena
Checker Bloom
Southern Indian Pink
Blue-eyed Grass
California Goldenrod
Wood Mint
Meadow Rue
Canyon Sunflower

The most crucial area is within six feet of the trunk. Do not irrigate, plant, or disturb the soil in this area.



The drip line is an imaginary line on the ground and directly below the outermost tips of the branches. It roughly inscribes a circle around the tree.

The root protection zone (RPZ) is 1.5 times larger than the area from the trunk to the dripline. Minimize disturbance, irrigation, and planting in this area.

ROOT PROTECTION ZONE

Used with permission from 1993 "Care of California Oaks." Illustration by Nancy Tracy and California Oak Foundation, 1212 Braodway, Ste. 810, Oakland CA 94612, www.californiaoaks.org

**NEWBURY PARK
TREE SERVICE**

8/21/04

Venco Western
2400 Eastman Ave.
Oxnard, Ca 93030
Attention: Heather Melton

Subject: Oak Park Holley Oaks

Heather,

Last year the sixteen Holley Oaks (*Quercus ilex*) were inspected in the green belt on the East side of Kanan road one block north of Conifer St. The trees in question were most likely planted just after construction of the surrounding homes more than thirty years ago. Many of the trees were in a stressed condition due to various stages of root decay, conks (fruiting bodies of fungus) were observed at the base of one tree. The (*Quercus ilex*) is a non-native Oak, that is often planted in lawn areas, however it is susceptible to root decay. Recommendations to improve the health of these trees over the last year were: 1. Remove turf under the canopies and mulch. 2. Change overhead irrigation to drip irrigation if possible 3. Deep root feed and apply fungicide. Irrigation is still required especially at this time of year to avoid draught stress.

Please feel free to call, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Dean A. Lapping
(ISA Certified Arborist LIC# WE-2336A)