

**MOBILE TREE COMMISSION
STAFF REPORT****Date: March 17, 2020**

<u>APPLICANT NAME</u>	22 nd State Bank
<u>LOCATION</u>	51 Saint Joseph Street (Northwest corner of Saint Francis Street and Saint Joseph Street)
<u>REQUEST</u>	Removal of one maple tree on Saint Francis Street.
<u>CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT</u>	District 2
<u>PRESENT ZONING</u>	T-6, Mixed Use - High Intensity
<u>HEALTH OF TREE</u>	
<u>CONTRIBUTING FACTORS</u>	Urban condition of a street tree, with limited root area.
<u>HISTORIC DISTRICT</u>	Lower Dauphin Street Historic District.
<u>ENGINEERING COMMENTS</u>	None
<u>TRAFFIC ENGINEERING COMMENTS</u>	None
<u>URBAN FORESTRY COMMENTS</u>	The tree appears to be in good overall health. The tree would have to be aggressively topped once the proposed balcony is installed.
<u>PLANNING COMMENTS</u>	None
<u>ANALYSIS</u>	The applicant is requesting approval remove one (1) maple tree from the right-of-way along Saint Francis Street. The tree is approximately 6 inches, DBH, and 25 feet tall.

The applicant states that the tree “impedes sight lines of new balcony.”

The applicant has offered the following for mitigation:

1. Replant smaller shrub;
2. Replant tree at Bienville Square or other downtown park;
3. Sponsor \$750 worth of beautification projects in downtown.

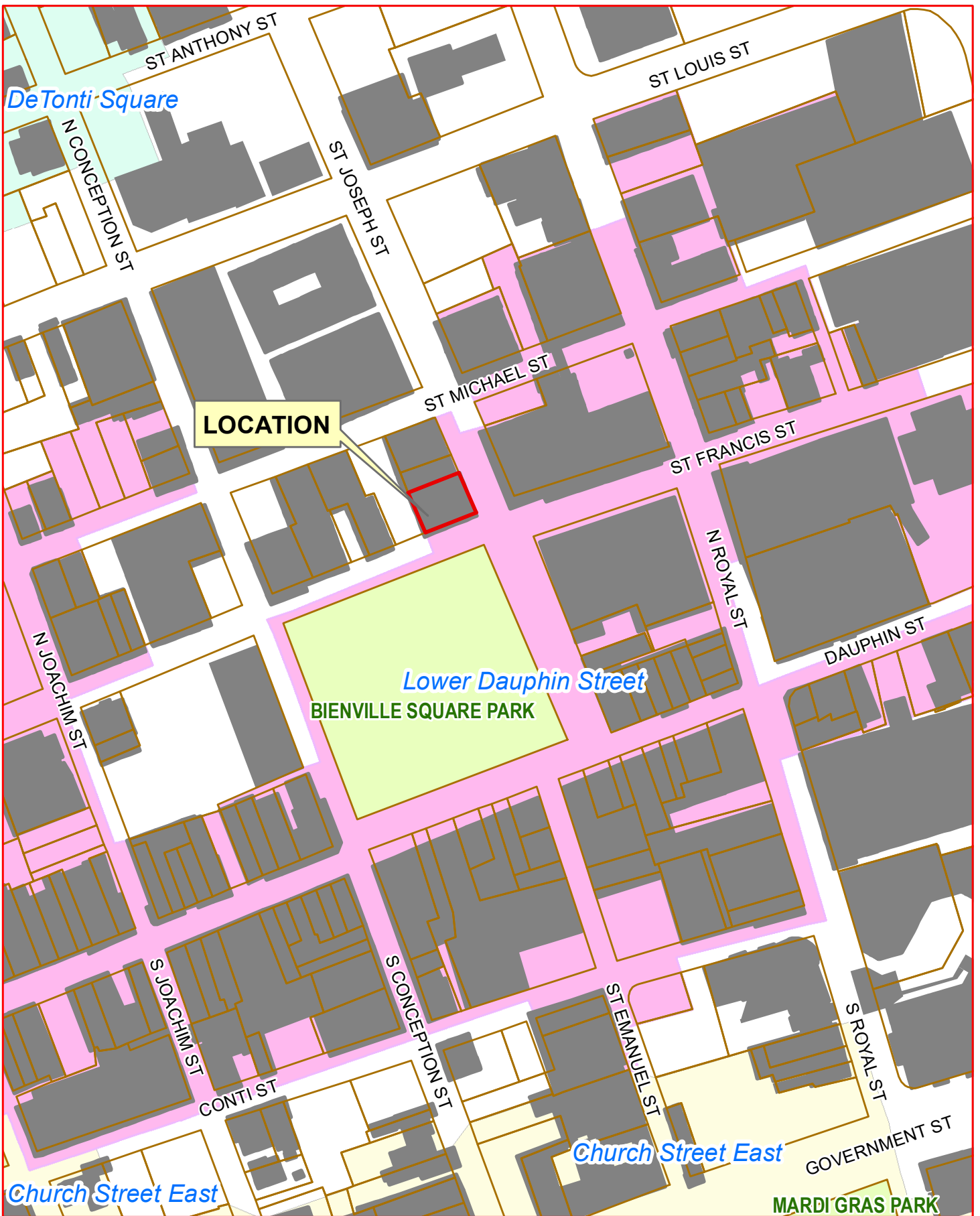
The tree is located in front of a two-story building undergoing renovation, including the addition of a balcony to the facade of the building nearest the tree. The tree is in a tree grate located in the sidewalk.

The tree was planted as part of a tree planting plan developed for the downtown area. The maple trees selected for the planting program do not appear to be well suited to very urban street tree situations, as many of the trees originally planted have shown varying levels of decline and have been removed elsewhere downtown. Many trees planted in extreme urban conditions do not have a long life, regardless of the species.

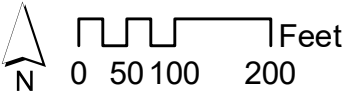
RECOMMENDATION

If considered for approval, staff recommends the following conditions:

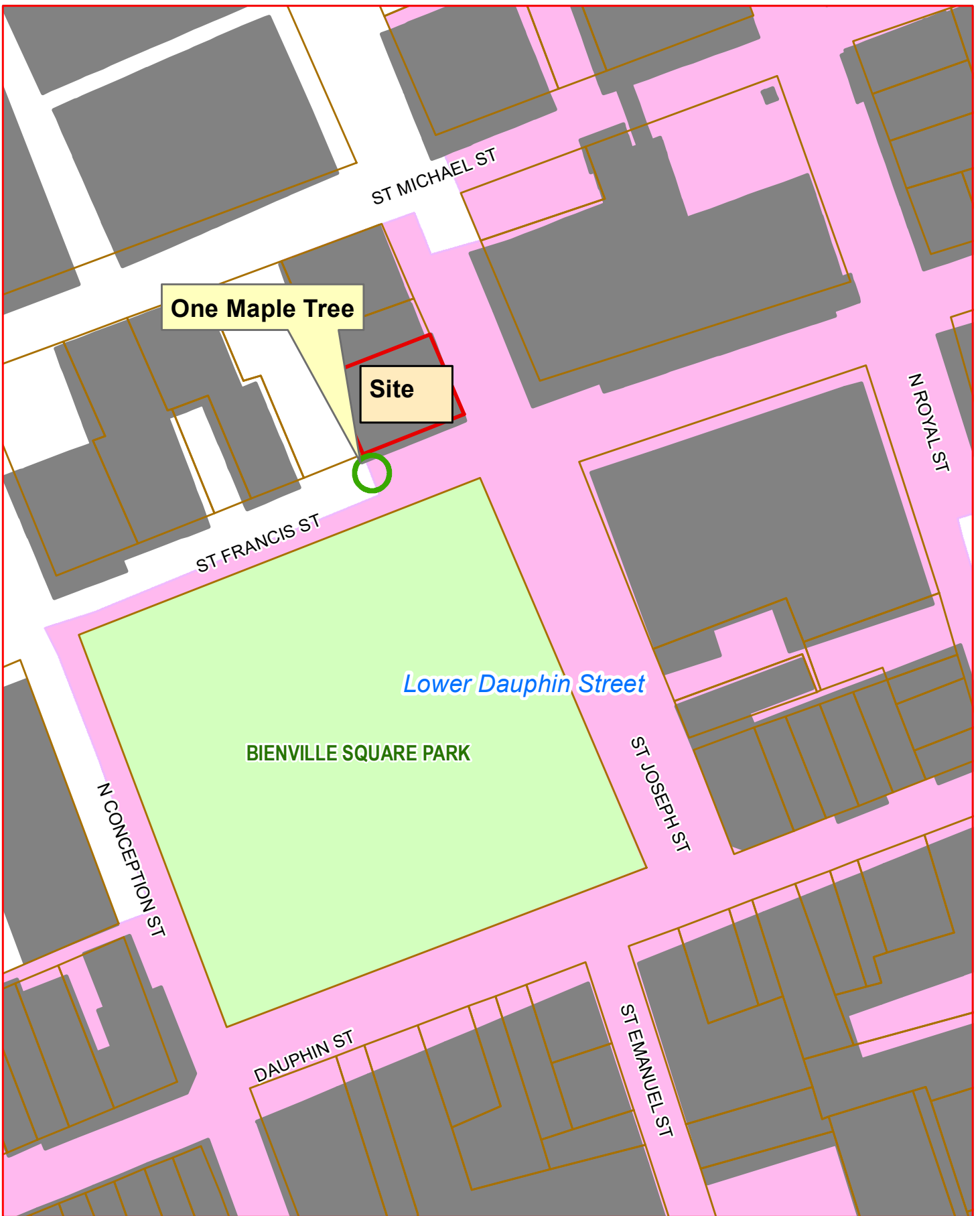
1. Replacement tree species and size to be approved by the Urban Forester, or donation of two trees to the Tree Bank, for a total of \$ 400.00;
2. Tree removal permit be issued to a certified arborist who is licensed and bonded to work in the City of Mobile; and
3. All work in the right-of-way, including tree removal and tree replanting, to be coordinated with Urban Forestry and the Permitting/Right-of-Way Division.



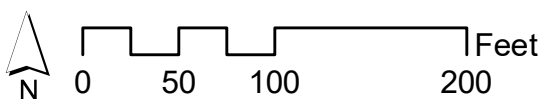
51 St Joseph Street / 22nd State Bank



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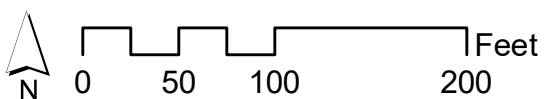
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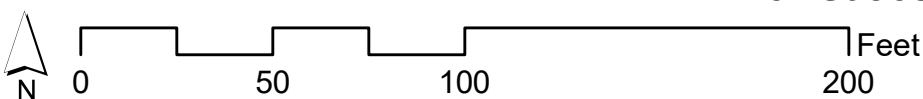
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