

**MOBILE TREE COMMISSION
STAFF REPORT****Date: January 27, 2013****APPLICANT NAME**Grebe, LLC
Attention Mike Rogers**LOCATION**

East side of North Lawrence Street, 65'± North of St Michael Street

REQUEST

Remove 30" DBH Pecan Tree.

**CITY COUNCIL
DISTRICT**

District 2

PRESENT ZONING

SD-WH

HEALTH OF TREE

Declining

**CONTRIBUTING
FACTORS**

Damaged/Destroyed Sidewalk

**ENGINEERING
COMMENTS**

No Comment

**TRAFFIC ENGINEERING
COMMENTS**

Removal of the tree will allow connection of the existing ends of the sidewalk and provide for a continuous sidewalk on the block

URBAN FORESTRY**COMMENTS**

Based upon a site visit and examination of the 30" Pecan tree referenced within the application, the applicant is requesting to remove the tree for construction of new sidewalk, curb, gutter and drainage improvements. Approximately one third of the back side of the trunk of the tree is located on the private adjacent property. The tree has multiple dead limbs and branches with the largest 10" limb over the road. This limb has also been hit by tall vehicles traveling down St Lawrence Street. There is evidence of Hypoxylon Canker facing the South side of the trunk halfway up from the ground. Hypoxylon Canker is described by Marylee Gowans as being "Caused by the fungus Hypoxylon atopunctatum, hypoxylon cankers attacks hardwood trees such as oaks and pecans. It causes infected bark to slough off the pecan tree revealing a powder-like reddish substance on the wood. Infected wood will develop a brownish black crusty growth while infected trunks and limbs die. Water-stressed trees are susceptible to this fungal disease and -- once infected -- there is no control available". For a new sidewalk, curb and gutter to be installed, there would be a negative impact to the root system of the Pecan Tree. For these reasons Urban Forestry recommends to approve the removal of the Pecan tree.

PLANNING
COMMENTS

With the renovation of the Buick Building, which is adjacent to the North, provision of sidewalks along this portion of Lawrence Street is vital to redevelopment and pedestrian access within this area. While removal of trees from right-of-way is generally not desirable, in this instance the benefit of the construction of new sidewalk, curb, gutter and drainage improvements outweighs the benefit of this particular tree, which is in declining health.

MAWSS

No Comment

ANALYSIS

The application was filed by neighboring property owner, who has obtained permission from the property owner adjacent to the tree and on whose property the tree appears to be partially located. The applicant is renovating the old Buick Building, which is located at 451-455 St Louis Street, and is bounded by St Louis, N Lawrence, St Michael, and N Hamilton Streets. The site is also within the recently adopted Downtown Development District, which provides form based regulations for development.

The renovation of the Buick Building is anticipated to be the catalyst for many redevelopment projects in the St Louis Street area, revitalizing an underutilized and underserved area within downtown. The goal for many of these properties is to be some level of mixed use that will encourage pedestrian traffic to and from the already established Dauphin Street corridor.

The removal of the tree in question would allow for the construction of new sidewalk, curb, gutter and drainage improvements that would complete the sidewalk and curbing for this block. Given the narrow “neutral ground” area, tree plantings in this area are not feasible. As the tree is in declining health, the requirement of replacement trees would not be appropriate based on Tree Commission rules and policies.

RECOMMENDATION

Based on the preceding, it is recommended that this application be approved.



APPLICATION FOR PERMIT

CITY OF MOBILE
MOBILE TREE COMMISSION

Application No. _____
Date: 12-18-14

1. Applicant:

Name: Grebe, LLC attn: Mike Rogers

Address: 3005 Mill Street

Mobile, AL Zip Code: 36607

E-mail: mrogers@rogerswillard.com

Telephone Number: 479-2675

2. Owner (if different from applicant):

Name: _____

Address: _____

Zip Code: _____

E-mail: _____

Telephone Number: _____

3. Location of Tree: Lawrence Street at St. Michael City Council District: _____

4. Type of Tree: Pecan Trim: _____ Remove: X

5. Approximate Diameter four (4) feet from the ground: 32" Height: 50'

6. Reason for Removal or Trimming as Requested: Tree is in poor health and
preventing replacement of sidewalk

Michael C. Rogers
Applicant

Owner – if different from applicant

Application Fee - None

Applicant must be present at meeting to represent request.

All supporting information must be submitted with the application (Four Copies) by filing date.

Appeals must be made in writing to the City of Mobile Planning Commission within 15 days of the meeting.

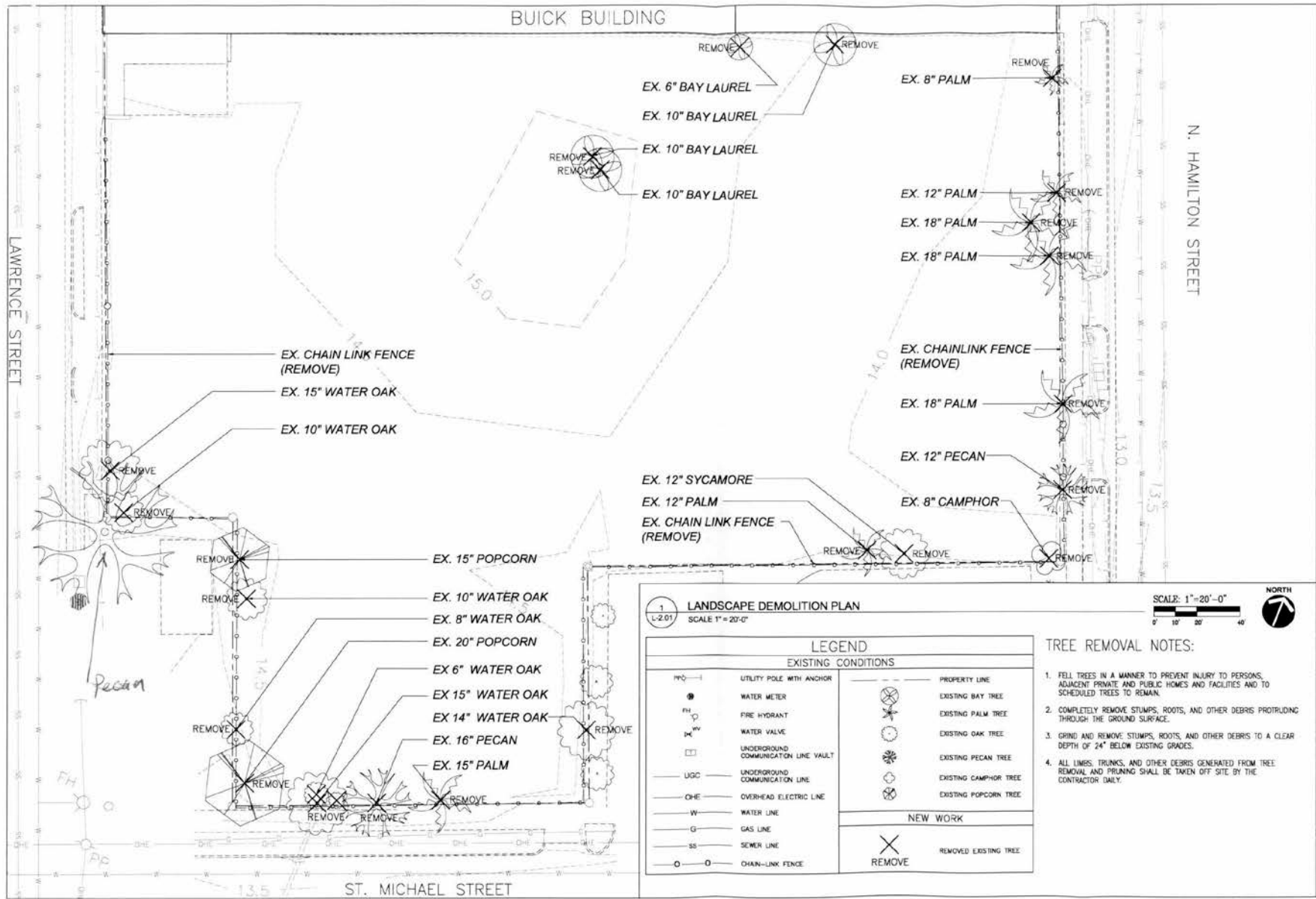
Major projects involving multiple trees may be held over to the following month's agenda
due to the time required by staff to investigate.

P. O. Box 1827 – Mobile, Alabama 36633-1827

Telephone: 251/208-5895

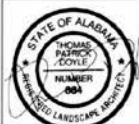
Fax: 251/208-5896

e-mail: olsen@cityofmobile.org



BUICK BUILDING RENOVATION
455 St Louis Street, Mobile, AL
LAS PROJECT # 1835

LASOUTH, INC.
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE, URBAN DESIGN, PLANNING
354 DAUPHIN STREET, MOBILE, AL
334PM P. 251.431.7174



STAMP

Revisions/Sets

Rev No	Date

Permit Review

DESCRIPTION

12-15-2014

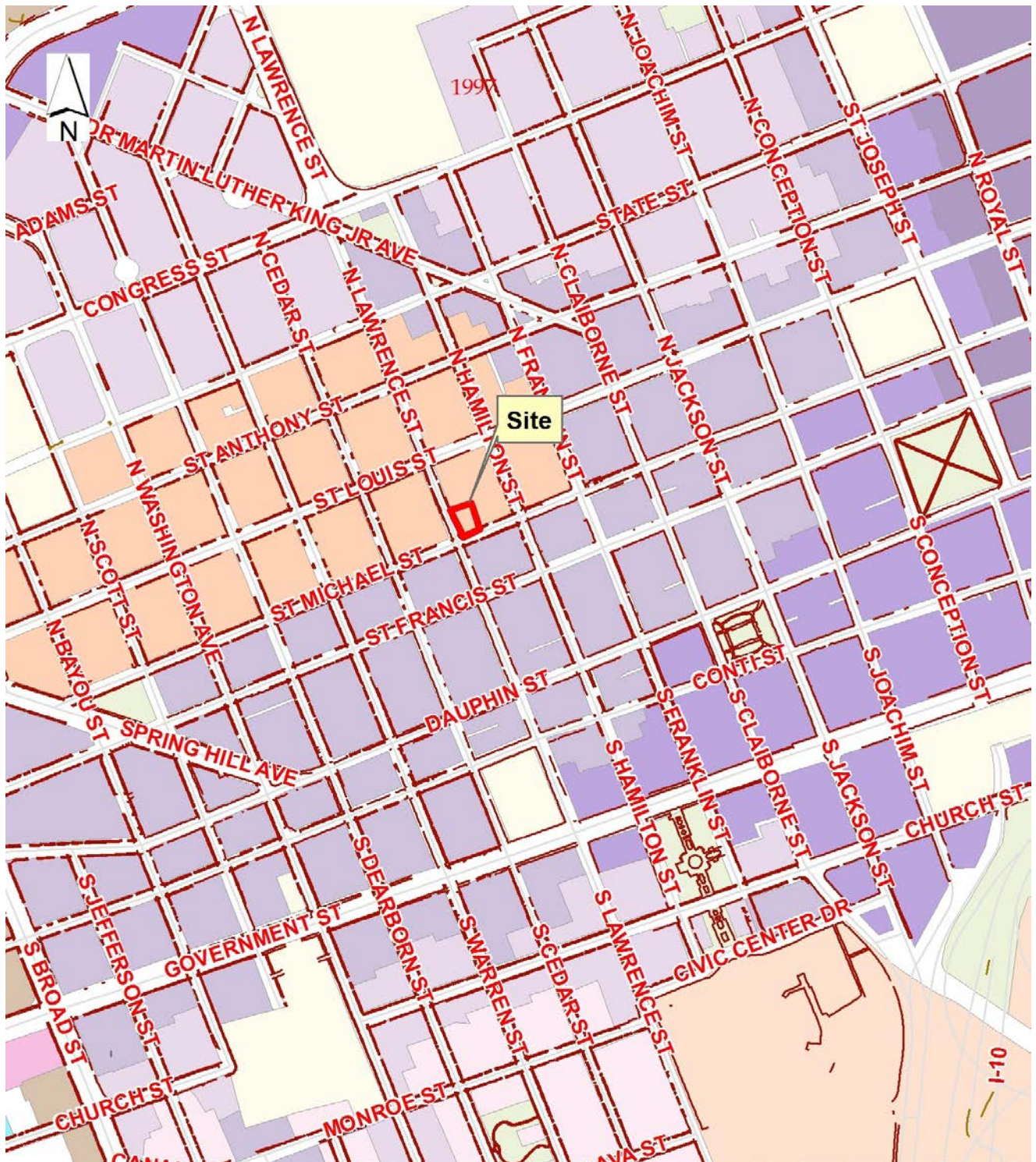
ISSUE DATE

LANDSCAPE DEMOLITION PLAN

SHEET

L-2.01

Mobile Tree Commission



Application P-2015-004 Date January 27, 2015
Location East side of North Lawrence Street, 65'+ North of St Michael Street
Request Removal of a 30" Pecan tree

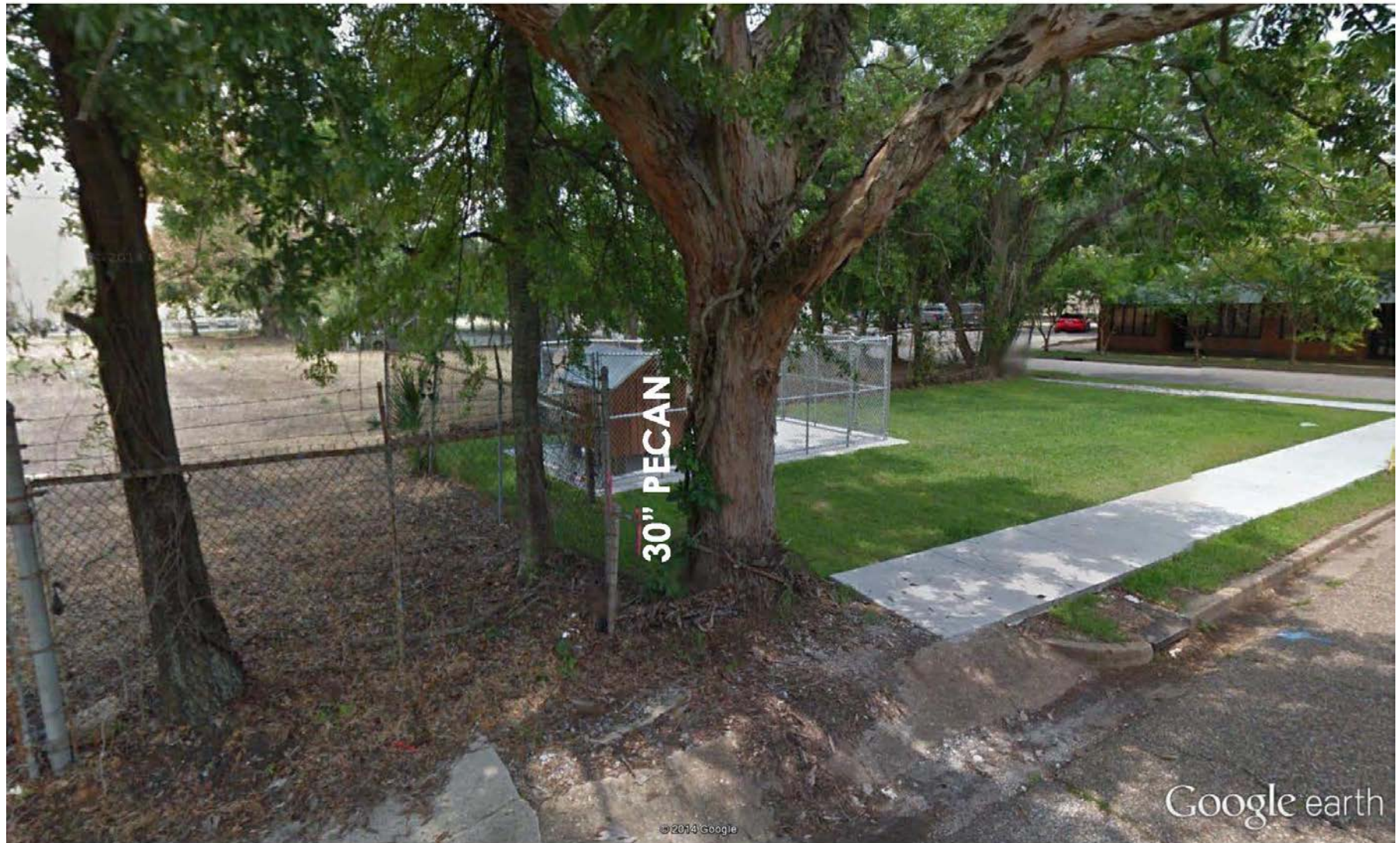


Mobile Tree Commission

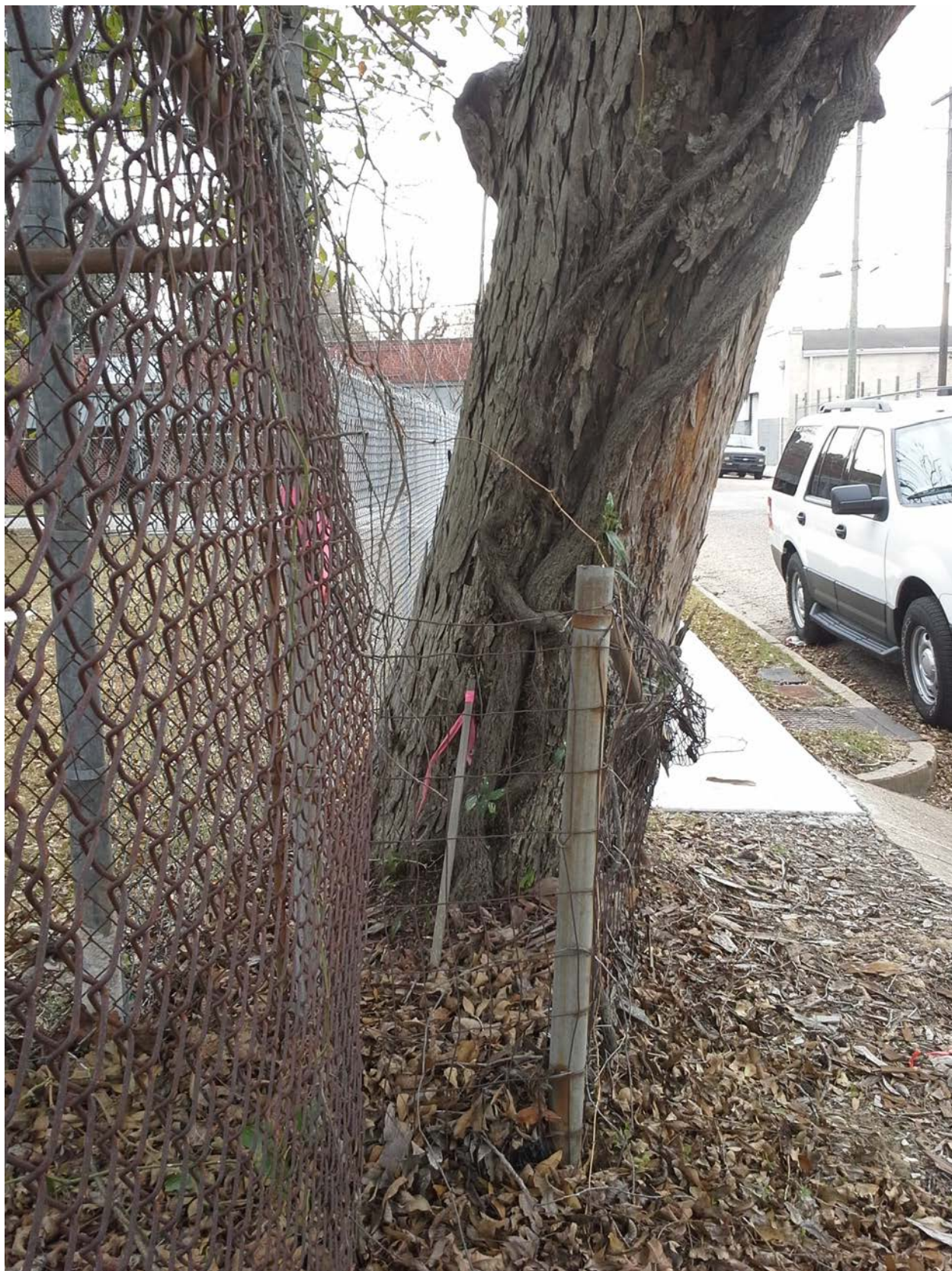


Application P-2015-004 Date January 27, 2015
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From N Lawrence St Looking SouthEast.



Looking South at Tree and Property Line Marker.



Hypoxylon Canker



Dead Wood and Damaged Limb