

Jeremy Marsette, PE

Director of Public Works

PHONE 508-647-6550

EMAIL jmarsette@natickma.org



LOCATED AT

Department of Public Works

75 West Street

Natick, Massachusetts

01760

Arthur Goodhind, MCA, MQTW

*Tree Warden, Land Facilities and Natural
Resources Division Supervisor*

PHONE 508-647-6558

EMAIL agoodhind@natickma.org

Town of Natick • Public Works

Natick Select Board

13 East Central Street

Natick MA 01760

RE: Public Shade Tree Hearing Objection Appeal

Tuesday July 13th, 2021

Dear Select Board,

This letter is written to notify the Select Board that I received a request to appeal a Public Shade Tree removal objection for trees in the vicinity of 4 Elmwood Ave and 120 South Main Street. On June 30th in accordance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 87, a Public Tree Hearing was held regarding the removal of four Public Shade Trees in the vicinity of 4 Elmwood Ave and 120 South Main Street. The petitioners were the abutting property owners concerned with sidewalk damage caused by roots of the trees and an overall concern for the health, size of the trees and the proximity of the trees to their property. After performing a validation inspection I found no qualifying defect(s) that would exempt the four trees in this vicinity from a public hearing in accordance with the law. After notifying the petitioners of the objection, they have chosen to appeal.

Having received the appeal request from the petitioner I would like to respectfully request that the Select Board hear this Public Shade Tree removal appeal. Attached to this letter please find a synopsis of the tree inspections, photos and documents from the hearing to assist with the appeal process. Please note I do have one conflict on Monday July 26th where I am scheduled to attend a meeting with the Natick Historic District Commission and I would be unavailable the week of Monday August 16th.

Thank you.

A blue ink signature of Arthur Goodhind, consisting of a stylized, flowing line that starts with a large loop and ends with a smaller loop.

Arthur Goodhind

Tree Inspection Information (from Tree Inventory Database)

Tree #1

ID#1161

Date: 12/12/2018

Vicinity of 4 Elmwood Ave

Size: 37 inches diameter breast height

Condition: Good

Observations: Co-dominant stems, included bark, dead branches >2", wound-root

Risk Rating: Low

Recommendation: Prune

Tree#2

ID#1162

Date: 12/12/2018

Vicinity of 4 Elmwood Ave

Size: 40 inches diameter breast height

Condition: Good

Observations: Co-dominant stems, included bark, pavement/curbing damage, wound-root, decay-branch, cavity-stem

Risk Rating: Low

Recommendation: Prune

Tree #3

ID#1163

Date: 12/12/2018

Vicinity of 120 South Main Street

Size: 32 inches diameter breast height

Condition: Good

Observations: Co-dominant stems, girdled roots, wound, lean

Risk Rating: Low

Recommendation: Prune

Tree #4

ID#1164

Date: 12/12/2018

Vicinity of 120 South Main Street

Size: 29 inches diameter breast height

Condition: Fair

Observations: Co-dominant stems, broken branch, dead branch <=2", uneven crown, lean

Risk Rating: Low

Recommendation: Prune















Jeremy Marsette, PE

Director of Public Works

PHONE 508-647-6550

EMAIL jmarsette@natickma.org



LOCATED AT
Department of Public Works
75 West Street
Natick, Massachusetts
01760

Arthur Goodhind, MCA, MQTW

*Tree Warden, Land Facilities and Natural
Resources Division Supervisor*

PHONE 508-647-6558

EMAIL agoodhind@natickma.org

Town of Natick • Public Works

Petitioner correspondence

Petitioner #1

Joe Indresano

Met onsite on 05/17/2021 to discuss tree concerns

Petitioner #2

Attached here. Was approached by petitioner on 05/17/21 at time of validation while speaking with petitioner #1, received written request to follow up verbal request.



Arthur Goodhind <agoodhind@natickma.org>

Trees on Elmwood Avenue

2 messages

Kristen Martell <klwmartell@yahoo.com>

Tue, May 18, 2021 at 9:43 AM

To: "agoodhind@natickma.org" <agoodhind@natickma.org>

Hi Mr. Goodhind,

My name is Kristen Martell and I live at [122 South Main Street](#). It was great speaking with you yesterday. I appreciate you stopping to address the issues we have with the trees on Elmwood Ave.

We have some concerns regarding safety. I have 3 children who play outside and also use the bus stop at the end of Elmwood Ave. The trees have become a safety issue as there are always large limbs falling especially in storms. Often times I will have pretty large branches on my yard and at times, I have seen them on my roof. The trees lean towards my house and I am fearful that they will end up damaging something in the future.

Also, the roots on these trees are starting to raise and some have even travelled into my neighbors back yard towards his house. The sidewalks are unsafe as a result of growth in the roots. We are concerned that there may be some disease in the trees. You will notice that even though the leaves have not even fully bloomed, there are many that are dead already.

The change in traffic as a result of growth and construction is bound to affect the trees too.

I appreciate the opportunity to make you aware of our concerns. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Kristen Martell
[122 S Main St.](#)
[Natick, MA 01760](#)
508-361-5419
klwmartell@yahoo.com

Arthur Goodhind <agoodhind@natickma.org>

Wed, May 19, 2021 at 3:35 PM

To: Kristen Martell <klwmartell@yahoo.com>

Thank you Kristen,

I will get the public process started for a hearing.

Thanks,
Art
[Quoted text hidden]

Arthur Goodhind, MCA, MQTW
Supervisor, Tree Warden
Division of Land Facilities and Natural Resources
Department of Public Works
Natick, Massachusetts

"In every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks." - John Muir

Jeremy Marsette, PE

Director of Public Works

PHONE 508-647-6550

EMAIL jmarsette@natickma.org

Arthur Goodhind, MCA, MQTW

*Tree Warden, Land Facilities and Natural
Resources Division Supervisor*

PHONE 508-647-6558

EMAIL agoodhind@natickma.org



LOCATED AT

Department of Public Works

75 West Street

Natick, Massachusetts

01760

Town of Natick • Public Works

Correspondence
received prior to or at
public hearing



Arthur Goodhind <agoodhind@natickma.org>

Petition - Elmwood Ave Silver Maples

2 messages

Maggie Whitehead <mgwhitehead1290@gmail.com>

To: agoodhind@natickma.org

Mon, Jun 21, 2021 at 10:55 AM

Cc: Matthew Whitehead <matthew.d.whitehead@gmail.com>

Dear Mr. Goodhind,

We were very upset to see the signs for removal on the four beautiful Silver Maples at the end of Elmwood Ave by S. Main St. I have attached our letter in support of saving these trees and hope to attend the hearing on June 30th. We hope you will take the sound protection, shade, aesthetic and environmental benefits these trees provide us and our neighborhood under consideration in your decision.

Thank you,

Maggie and Matt Whitehead

18 Elmwood Ave, Natick, MA 01760

Petition Elmwood Ave Maples - Whitehead.pdf

20K

Arthur Goodhind <agoodhind@natickma.org>

To: Maggie Whitehead <mgwhitehead1290@gmail.com>

Mon, Jun 21, 2021 at 2:51 PM

Hello Maggie and Matt,

Thank you for your email, your attachment was received. Your letter will be entered into the record as an objection to the Public Tree removals as described per Massachusetts General Law Chapter 87.

Regards,

Art

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Arthur Goodhind, MCA, MQTW

Supervisor, Tree Warden

Division of Land Facilities and Natural Resources

Department of Public Works

Natick, Massachusetts

"In every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks." - John Muir



Arthur Goodhind <agoodhind@natickma.org>

Elmwood Ave- Concerned Resident

2 messages

sarahorr11@gmail.com <sarahorr11@gmail.com>
To: agoodhind@natickma.org

Thu, Jun 17, 2021 at 1:15 PM

To whom it may concern,

We were made aware of the plan to remove the mature trees lining our street, Elmwood Ave. We are adamantly opposed to this for many reasons. First, the rationale for the removal is stated to be for 'walkway improvements'. As a frequent walker of this street, we can say we see no value in adding a sidewalk to that side/section of the street. We have never been concerned with the current state nor heard of any concerns from any neighbor or frequent walker. Second, those trees greatly contribute to the aesthetic of this street as they are the last remaining mature trees, and allow the street to be considered 'tree lined', a highly sought after attribute. Additionally, the trees contribute greatly to the reduction of noise pollution to many residents, which we find to be very crucial given the proximity of the main road. To remove them would be an injustice to the landscape. Lastly, we have always viewed Natick to be a town with deep rooted values in the environment and our impact on it. To unnecessarily remove these trees would directly contradict those values.

To close, we would be very disappointed if the town were to move forward with this plan, the cost both monetarily and environmentally far outweigh any foreseen possible benefit.

Respectfully,
Greg & Sarah Doane
16 Elmwood Ave

Arthur Goodhind <agoodhind@natickma.org>
To: sarahorr11@gmail.com

Mon, Jun 21, 2021 at 7:09 AM

Hello Greg and Sarah,

Thank you for your email.

This message will be considered an objection to the removals and recorded as such per Massachusetts General Law Chapter 87 and will be entered into the record during the hearing scheduled for June 30th, 2021.

Regards,
Art

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Arthur Goodhind, MCA, MQTW
Supervisor, Tree Warden
Division of Land Facilities and Natural Resources
Department of Public Works
Natick, Massachusetts

"In every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks." - John Muir

Jeremy Marsette, PE

Director of Public Works

PHONE 508-647-6550

EMAIL jmarsette@natickma.org

Arthur Goodhind, MCA, MQTW

*Tree Warden, Land Facilities and Natural
Resources Division Supervisor*

PHONE 508-647-6558

EMAIL agoodhind@natickma.org



LOCATED AT

Department of Public Works

75 West Street

Natick, Massachusetts

01760

Town of Natick • Public Works

Correspondence
received after
public hearing

Objections cannot be part of June 30th
record, but may be considered for
appeal at Select Board discretion



Arthur Goodhind <agoodhind@natickma.org>

Objection: Tree removal at Elmwood and South Main St2 messages

Holly Finneran <hollysanfin@gmail.com>

Wed, Jun 30, 2021 at 4:30 PM

To: "agoodhind@natickma.org" <agoodhind@natickma.org>

Hello,

I am writing to express objection to the tree removal notice attached below.

I live at 112 S Main Street and walk by this intersection daily. These trees are beautiful and add so much to our neighborhood. It would be a shame to see them removed, when that area does not appear to have a functional sidewalk.

I hope that some solution other than removal can be agreed upon.

I was unable to attend the hearing in person today, but please let me know if I can take any further action to protect these trees from removal.

Sincerely,

Holly Finneran
650-996-7216
hollysanfin@gmail.com

NOTICE

In accordance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 87 Section 3, a public hearing will be held regarding the removal of four (4) Public Shade Trees, all Silver Maples measuring a total of 138 inches DBH in the vicinity of 4 Elmwood Ave and 120 South Main Street in Natick MA. The hearing will take place Wednesday June 30th at 3PM at the Department of Public Works, 75 West Street Natick Massachusetts.

The petitioners are the abutting property owners and the Department of Public Works for the purpose of walkway improvements. All interested parties are invited to attend. Letters for the record may be sent to the Office of the Tree Warden.



Arthur Goodhind <agoodhind@natickma.org>
To: Holly Finneran <hollysanfin@gmail.com>

Thu, Jul 1, 2021 at 7:38 AM

Hello Holly,

Thank you for your email. Please note that this objection has been received after the public hearing on June 30th and cannot be recorded as part of that hearing.

At the hearing on June 30th, other objections to the tree removal were received and recorded. The petitioner may choose to appeal the objections to the Selectboard. If the Selectboard chooses to hear the appeal, your objection received here may be recorded for that public process. If the Selectboard hears an appeal I can notify you and let you know the date of the appeal.

Thank you,
Art

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Arthur Goodhind, MCA, MQTW
Supervisor, Tree Warden
Division of Land Facilities and Natural Resources
Department of Public Works
Natick, Massachusetts

"In every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks." - John Muir



Arthur Goodhind <agoodhind@natickma.org>

Trees on Elmwood

2 messages

Kali Joseph <kaliajo@gmail.com>
To: agoodhind@natickma.org
Cc: Chris Vasich <chris.vasich@gmail.com>

Wed, Jun 30, 2021 at 4:43 PM

To whom it may concern:

I just wanted to write to voice my opinion about the plans to cut down the trees at the Elmwood. I hope that a solution can be found where the trees remain. They are so beautiful and provide shade for the neighborhood walkers. They don't appear to impede any walkways as the main sidewalk is on the opposite of the road and it is a one way road.

I suggest that Natick's resources be redirected to finishing the route 27 sidewalk project in a timely fashion. So many homes need landscaping and driveway repair after the construction crews passed through.

Thanks for your time and consideration,

Kali Joseph
[125 S Main St, Natick, MA 01760](#)

Arthur Goodhind <agoodhind@natickma.org>
To: Kali Joseph <kaliajo@gmail.com>
Cc: Chris Vasich <chris.vasich@gmail.com>

Thu, Jul 1, 2021 at 7:35 AM

Hello Kali,

Thank you for your email. Please note this objection has been received after the public hearing and cannot be recorded for the hearing that took place on June 30th 2021.

At the hearing on June 30th, objections were received and recorded. The petitioner may choose to appeal to the Selectboard. If the Selectboard hears the appeal your objection may be recorded for that public process and I can notify you if the appeal takes place and if so when.

Thank you,
Art

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Arthur Goodhind, MCA, MQTW
Supervisor, Tree Warden
Division of Land Facilities and Natural Resources
Department of Public Works
Natick, Massachusetts

"In every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks." - John Muir



Arthur Goodhind <agoodhind@natickma.org>

Petition - Elmwood Ave Silver Maples

2 messages

Laura Kazanovicz <laura.kazanovicz@gmail.com>
To: agoodhind@natickma.org
Cc: Jared Kazanovicz <jared.kazanovicz@gmail.com>

Mon, Jul 12, 2021 at 8:26 AM

Dear Mr. Goodhind,

We were made aware of the plan to remove the mature trees lining our street, Elmwood Ave. We are writing to you to petition against the removal of the four trees. We are strongly opposed to this for many reasons. First, the rationale for the removal is stated to be for 'walkway improvements'. As a frequent walker of this street, we can say we see no value in adding a sidewalk to that side/section of the street. We have never been concerned with the current state nor heard of any concerns from any neighbor or frequent walker. We have a school aged daughter who walks to Johnson and having the sidewalk on one side is more than sufficient, especially with the crosswalk now painted. Second, those trees greatly contribute the aesthetic of this street as they are the last remaining mature trees, and allow the street to be considered 'tree lined', a highly sought after attribute. Additionally, the trees contribute greatly to the reduction of noise pollution to many residents, which we find to be very crucial given the proximity of the main road. To remove them would be an injustice to the landscape. Lastly, we have always viewed Natick to be a town with deep rooted values in the environment and our impact on it. To unnecessarily remove these trees would directly contradict those values.

To close, we would be very disappointed if the town were to move forward with this plan, the cost both monetarily and environmentally far outweigh any foreseen possible benefit. Please feel free to be in touch with any questions or further ways we can advocate to keep these trees.

Best,
Laura & Jared Kazanovicz
[31 Elmwood Ave, Natick](#)

--

Laura Kazanovicz
Laura.Kazanovicz@gmail.com
978-828-7163

Arthur Goodhind <agoodhind@natickma.org>
To: Laura Kazanovicz <laura.kazanovicz@gmail.com>
Cc: Jared Kazanovicz <jared.kazanovicz@gmail.com>

Mon, Jul 12, 2021 at 10:18 AM

Hello Laura,

Thank you for your email.

The comment period for the Public Hearing held on June 30th 2021 has passed. The law requires that objections in writing be received prior to or at the Public Hearing. Unfortunately I cannot accept this objection for the June 30th hearing. At the June 30th hearing, objections were received. The trees cannot be removed unless the petitioner chooses to appeal to the Selectboard. The petitioner has chosen to appeal with a date to be determined. Your objection may be recorded for that discussion and meeting. Once a date and time is determined I can notify you of the Selectboard appeal.

Thank you,
Art

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Arthur Goodhind, MCA, MQTW
Supervisor, Tree Warden
Division of Land Facilities and Natural Resources

7/12/2021

Town of Natick Mail - Petition - Elmwood Ave Silver Maples

Department of Public Works
Natick, Massachusetts

"In every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks." - John Muir