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September 7, 2012

Mildred Mia Weston 3547 North 12th Street Milwaukee, WI 53206

RE: Mildred Mia Weston

C.I. File No.: 12-S-185

Dear Ms. Weston:

We have received your claim in the amount of \$2,576.00, relating to damage allegedly sustained to your vehicle on July 17, 2012 when a branch from a City tree fell onto it while it was parked at/near 38th and Elmhurst.

Our investigation reveals that the Forestry Section records indicate that on July 17, 2012 they received and responded to a service request to remove a broken branch down on a car at 4065 North Elmhurst Road. Upon arrival, their crew found that a 16-inch diameter 20 foot long branch had broken from a 26-inch diameter Norway Maple street tree and fallen onto a vehicle parked in front of 4076 North Elmhurst Road. The branch was alive and had signs of internal decay which was not visible from the outside. It was removed by them that day. The tree has been marked for removal due to the compromised crown and decay revealed from the loss of the large branch.

The Section also noted that the City experienced windy conditions on July 17, 2012 and that the peak wind speed was 46 miles per hour. They responded to numerous requests regarding broken branches and downed trees on that day. The Section reviewed their records for the last 5 years and found no complaints or requests for this tree. The trees in this area are on a regular pruning schedule and were last pruned in April, 2008.

There is no evidence that the City was negligent in this matter. As such, the City would not be liable. Therefore, we are denying your claim.

Mildred Mia Weston September 7, 2012 Page 2

If you wish to appeal this decision, you may do so by sending a letter within 21 days of the receipt of this letter to the Milwaukee City Clerk, 200 East Wells Street, Room 205, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202, requesting a hearing.

Very truly yours,

GRANT VALANGLEY

City Attorney

stevenm. Carini

STEVEN M. CARINI Investigator Adjuster

SMC:ms 1068-2012-1996:184355