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February 26, 2016

To the Honorable Common Council
Of the City of Milwaukee
Room 205 – City Hall

Re: C.I. File No. 1068-2015-2297
Communication from: STATE FARM INSURANCE, by its representative
Jessica Kellerhals
P.O. Box 106172
Atlanta, GA 30348-6172

Dear Council Members:

State Farm Insurance alleges that on July 13, 2015 a City tree branch broke and fell on their insured's car at 1616 North 51st Street. Claimed damages total \$11,673.14.

Forestry Section records indicate that on July 13, 2015 they responded to a call to remove a tree branch which had fallen on a car at 1615 N. 51st Street. Upon arrival, their crew found that a 19-inch diameter, 30-foot branch from a 24-inch diameter Norway Maple at 1609 N. 51st Street had fallen on a car. The tree was alive with visible decay. The Section removed the branch; the remainder of the tree was removed on a later date.

Thunderstorms moved through Milwaukee on July 13, 2015, with a peak wind speed of 51 MPH.

Forestry reviewed their records for the previous five years and found no other service requests for this location. The trees in this area are on a regular pruning schedule and were last pruned in January 2014.



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There is no legal basis for City liability. Therefore, we recommend that this claim be denied.

Very truly yours,

GRANT F. LANGLEY
City Attorney

PATRICIA A. FRICKER
Assistant City Attorney

PAF:cdr

Enclosure

c: Jeffrey Kluslow (Forestry)

1068-2015-2297/225926