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November 18, 2019

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

Re: Communication from Leticia Anderson
C.I. File No. 1068-2019-2031

Dear Council Members:

We return the enclosed document which has been filed with the City Clerk and ask that it be introduced and referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Legislation with the following recommendation.

Ms. Leticia Anderson alleges that on July 14, 2019 her 2012 Toyota Camry was parked outside her residence at 2146 N. 52nd Street. She alleges that City forestry workers were cutting down trees. It was during this time period, that she claims several branches fell upon her Camry causing damages. She has filed a claim against the City for \$8000.00 for damages to her vehicle, time off work, and the cost of a rental vehicle.

The Forestry Section of the City conducted and concluded their investigation of this matter. On July 7, 2019, the Forestry Section received a request to remove a broken branch from a vehicle at 2144 N. 52nd Street. A Forestry crew responded to this request and found a 4" diameter, 20' long branch had broken and fallen from a 26" diameter Green Ash street tree located at 2144 N. 52nd Street onto Ms. Anderson's vehicle causing damages.

On July 7, 2019, the City experienced wind gusts reaching 31mph. As a result, the Forestry Section responded to multiple requests regarding broken and downed branches. The broken branch in question was alive and did not exhibit any signs of decay at the point of failure. The cyclical pruning of all trees in this geographical area was completed in March 2019.

In conclusion, the Forestry Section has received no other complaints or service requests regarding any defects, potential hazards, or decay in the tree located at 2144 N. 52nd Street for the six years preceding this incident. The Forestry Section has determined that no reasonable or prudent action on their part could have foreseen nor prevented this damage from occurring. Also, there were no Forestry crews working in the area of 2144




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and 2146 N. 52nd Street on July 14, 2019 as alleged by Ms. Anderson. Therefore, we recommend that this claim be denied.

Very truly yours,



GRANT F. LANGLEY
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Enclosure

C: Randy Krouse (Urban Forestry District Manager)
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