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Dear Jessica:

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Arboricultural Statement Regarding Trees at 115-119 Camden High Street, Camden Town, London

As part of the proposed development at 115-119 Camden High Street, three street trees owned by Camden Borough Council, located on Delancey Street (A503) are to be removed to facilitate construction works and replaced thereafter. These trees are 1x Bird cherry (*Prunus padus*), 1x Norway maple (*Acer platanoides*) and 1x Swedish whitebeam (*Sorbus x intermedia*); identified as T1,T2 and T3 respectively in the 8479 Arboricultural Report.

It is suggested that the replacement trees be of a species that tolerates the urban environment and have a narrow crown to reduce the cost of post development maintenance. Such trees may include:

- Carpinus betulus 'Nord' Grows to a height of 10m, has a narrow pyramidal/ovoid
- Tilia cordata 'Green Spire' Grows to a height of 15m, has a narrow upright crown, tolerates a range of soil conditions and the urban environment, is less prone to honeydew than regular lime varieties, produces lightly fragrant flowers in July and golden yellow foliage in autumn.
- Corylus colurna Grows to a height of 20m, has a pyramidal crown, tolerates compacted soils with pavement cover and produces fruit in the autumn.
- Ginkgo biloba Grows to a height of 20m, has a narrow columnar growth habit, ornate autumn foliage, tolerates pollution, resistant to pests and diseases and is suitable for most soils.

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Acer platanoides 'Columnare' – Grows to a height of 20m but is slow growing, has a compact oval form, requires virtually no pruning, grows well in all soil types, tolerant to air pollution & drought and produces a butter-yellow foliage in autumn.

To provide instant impact, as is usually required for city street trees, a Selected Standard (3-3.5m) or greater, should be chosen as this will allow the specimens to have already been formatively pruned, minimising the risk to damage to lower limbs whilst the trees become established. It is also recommended that all three replacement trees be of the same species and size to fully maximise their appearance and impact as amenity street trees.

Maintenance for the newly planted replacement trees should follow London Borough of Camden Council's guidance, requiring three seasons of young tree maintenance including:

- Staking. Newly planted trees will require staking to minimise movement of the root plate to allow the development of fine root fibres which will eventually provide natural anchorage. Traditional above ground stakes are only recommended for up until the end of the second growing season after planting, after which they can be a hinderance to the development of the tree (Arboricultural Research Note 40 Issued by the Arboricultural Advisory & Information Service). Tree stakes and ties will need to be adjusted during this time and eventually removed. Alternatively, below ground tree anchor systems such as the Playipus Tree Anchoring System, can be used to enhance visual amenity and provide instant impact.
- Watering. Regular watering for the first two summers after planting is important. New trees should be watered in and then 20 litres (at the height of summer, this number can be slowly built up to in spring and gradually decreased in autumn) should be administered slowly to each tree, every other day, from the point of bud burst until the leaves have fallen in autumn. The easiest way to achieve this is with a Tree Hydration Bag, attached to the base of the stem which slowly releases water over the course of a few hours, reducing the need to manually water from every 2 days to 3-5 days.
- Weeding. To reduce competition for water and nutrients, the tree pits should be kept clear of weeds whilst the new trees become established in their three years of young tree maintenance.



Pruning. Limited pruning would be required, as species that exhibit narrow crown profiles have been suggested. If these specimens have been formatively pruned at the nursery prior to planting, this will also limit the need for future pruning maintenance works. However, some form of ongoing pruning maintenance will undoubtedly be required, but this will not be an additional burden to London Borough of Camden Council's current maintenance schedule.

If you have any queries regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Peter Pavies

Peter Davies

Arboriculturist