Town of Cary Tree Champion Tree Assessment for the Cary Towne Center Site Cary, Wake County, North Carolina

S&EC Project No. 13832.W1

Prepared for: McAdams Co

Prepared by: Steven Ball N.C. Registered Forester # 1723

June 4, 2019
TOWN OF CARY CHAMPION TREE EVALUATION FOR THE CARY TOWNE CENTER SITE

McAdams Co engaged S&EC to conduct an evaluation of on-site trees at the specified location utilizing their on-staff Registered Forester. This report was updated on June 4, 2019 per Town Staff comments. Code regulations per Section 7.2.5 of the Town of Cary Land Development Ordinance (LDO) concerning the presence of Champion Trees state that a Champion Tree is:

- 40” pine or greater
- 32” upper story trees or greater other than pines
- 12” dogwood, horticultural cherry, redbud, silverbell, and serviceberry

SUMMARY

- Presence of Potential Champion Trees were reviewed across the entire site; within the property boundaries

All of the above described and located should display a root zone, canopy and limb structure characteristic of the particular species, and is in good health and vigor.

These sections are in keeping with the Tree Survey Requirements defined within the Town of Cary LDO Tree Survey Requirements under 7.2.5. The term “tree survey” as used herein is generic in nature and intended to describe the identification, measurement, and evaluation of trees under the direction of a registered forester/certified arborist as described and/or required by local development ordinance(s).

CHAMPION TREE

Per Section 7.2.5 of the Town of Cary Land Development Ordinance, a Champion Tree is described as: Any single tree that measures: (a) forty (40) caliper inches or greater for pines; (b) thirty-two (32) caliper inches or greater for all upper story trees other than pines; or twelve (12) caliper inches or greater for dogwood, horticultural cherry, redbud, silverbell, and serviceberry. A tree that meets the indicated size above but is dead or dying from a disease, or has an abnormal form that is not characteristic of its species, should not be considered a Champion Tree.

Ten (10) trees onsite meet the size criteria for Champion Trees. Descriptions of each are located below. Photos of all trees denoted are attached.

Tree 1: 34.6” Willow Oak- This tree was reviewed again per Town Staff request. When originally reviewed before Spring leaf out, there were evidence of broken/dying limbs, and
pruning scars that had not healed properly. Upon further inspection under current conditions, the tree appears to contain a fairly balanced crown that does not appear to be suffering from those factors noted. It’s believed this tree would meet the criteria for a Champion Tree.

**Tree 2: 16.2” Ornamental Cherry** - This understory tree appears healthy at the base, however substantial pruning due to overhead power lines have taken approximately 30% of the crown. It is no longer well rounded, and some limb scars have not healed well. This tree does not meet the criteria for a Champion Tree.

**Tree 3: 14.8” Ornamental Cherry** - This tree is very similar to Tree 2. Heavy pruning due to the overhead powerline has taken much of canopy. Many of the limb scars have not healed well and exhibit decay. This tree does not meet the criteria for a Champion Tree.

**Tree 4: 40” White Oak** – This tree was reviewed again per Town Staff request. The tree diverges into two main stems at approximately 4’. At this divergence point, there is an evident seam that shows included bark. The seam runs very faintly toward the ground as if this were previously two trees. The seam has merged together fairly well, and the tree could likely be considered one main stem. The north side of the canopy has also been pruned fairly heavily for overhead power lines running along Cary Towne Blvd, however upon inspecting this tree under current conditions, the tree does not appear to be suffering, and is mostly healthy. The imbalance previously noted in the crown appears to be lessened now that the growing season is in full swing. This tree would likely meet the criteria for a Champion Tree.

**Tree 5: 33.2” Willow Oak** - is a single stemmed tree along the frontage of Cary Towne Blvd. There are many exposed roots along the root collar. The north side of the canopy has also been pruned heavily creating an imbalance to the south. This tree does not meet the criteria for a Champion Tree.

**Tree 6: 34.2” Willow Oak** - This tree appears healthy at the base and for the most part into the crown. A few small dead limbs exist, but the overall health of the tree appears acceptable and will likely meet the criteria for a Champion Tree.

**Tree 7: 33.5” White Oak** - This tree diverges into two main stems at approximately 8’. The tree appears healthy throughout and would meet the criteria for a Champion Tree.

**Tree 8: 41.8” Laurel Oak** - This large tree diverges into two main stems at approximately 5’. There is some included bark at this divergence. The tree appears mostly healthy, with only some dead limbs (only minor noted since growing season began). This tree would likely meet the criteria for Champion Trees.

**Tree 9: 32.3” Laurel Oak** - This tree contains one single stem. An infestation of English Ivy has taken over the tree throughout the main stem. It has begun reaching the crown and will likely take over the entire tree, outcompeting the tree for resources. This tree does not meet the criteria for a Champion Tree.

**Tree 10: 34.1” Red Oak** - Much like tree 9, this tree has been taken over by English Ivy. The tree also has a fairly severe lean toward the northwest as well as some larger dead limbs that have fallen out of the crown. This tree does not meet the criteria for a Champion Tree.
Note: A very large Laurel Oak is located close to the property line south of Tree 10. It was not included within the evaluation as it is believed to be just off property and located within an adjacent homeowners’ yard. The tree is not believed to meet the health standard, as it contains many dead limbs. If impacts are noted within this area, it is possible a more thorough review would be necessary.

Just outside of the northern property boundary on the Baptist State Convention Property, there are some larger Willow Oaks along the road frontage. These trees were not evaluated in detail as they were outside of the property boundary and adjacent to office buildings. If road upgrades are proposed in this area, it is possible further evaluation may be needed on this property.

**Limitations**

Our evaluations, conclusions, and recommendations are based on project and site information available to us at the time of this report and may require modification if there are any changes in the project or site conditions, or if additional data about the project or site becomes available in the future. This report is intended for use by McAdams Co on this project. These findings are not intended or recommended to be suitable for reuse on extensions of the project or on any other project. Reuse on extensions of this project or on any other project shall be done only after written verification or adaptation by SOIL & ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS, PA, for the specific purpose intended.

**CONCLUSION**

The Cary Towne Center property analysis was completed by S&EC in April and June of 2019. There are believed to be 5 trees onsite that meet the criteria for a healthy Champion Tree.

Please direct any questions to Steven Ball, RF, PWS; at 919-846-5900 or sball@sandec.com

**Attachments:**
- Map with Aerial Photograph
- Photos
A very large Laurel Oak is located close to the property line in this vicinity. It was not included in the evaluation as it was believed to be just off property and partially located within an adjacent landowner’s yard. The tree is not believed to meet the health standard for Champion Tree, but should be noted if impacts are proposed to this area.

A few large Willow Oaks are located on this property, but were not measured in detail due to being adjacent to business/buildings.

Legend
- Trees that meet the size criteria for Champion Tree, but are not believed to meet the health/form standard
- Trees that meet the criteria for a Champion Tree

Evaluation Limits

Trees that meet the size criteria for Champion Tree, but are not believed to meet the health/form standard

Trees that meet the criteria for a Champion Tree

*Per section 7.2.5 of Town of Cary LDO*

**Champion Tree**
Any single tree that measures: (a) forty (40) caliper inches or greater for pines; (b) thirty-two (32) caliper inches or greater for all other trees other than pines; or twelve (12) caliper inches or greater for a dogwood, horticultural cherry, redbud, silverbell, and serviceberry. A tree that meets the indicated size above but is dead or dying from disease, or has an abnormal form that is not characteristic of its species should not be considered a Champion Tree.

**Champion Tree Map**
Cary Towne Center
Wake Co., NC

**Soil & Environmental Consultants, PA**
8412 Falls of Neuse Road, Suite 134, Raleigh, NC 27615 • Phone: (919) 846-5900 • Fax: (919) 846-9467
sandec.com
Site Photos for the Cary Towne Center Champion Tree Evaluation
Cary, NC

Tree 1:
Tree 3:
Tree 4:

Tree 5:
Tree 5:

Tree 6:
Tree 6:

Tree 7:
Tree 7:
Tree 8:

Tree 9:
Tree 9:

Tree 10: