

Summary

7/18/12 Letter to Ms. Sue Lamb and Ms. Canie Brown, City of Austin Cultural Arts Div.

Re: City of Austin Urban Forestry Board Recommendations for Locating Art in Public Places (AIPP) and Related Structures near Trees

The attached letter was approved unanimously by the City of Austin Urban Forestry Board (UFB) on July 18, 2012. The letter discusses two recent incidents of significant adverse impacts to heritage trees due to the placement of artwork and related structures by the City of Austin Cultural Arts Division. The impacted trees are located at the O'Henry Museum at Brush Square and at Barton Springs Pool.

Art in Public Places (AIPP) projects provide important amenities, but should not be placed within the critical root zone (CRZ) of protected and heritage trees. The UFB recommends that the AIPP Program take immediate steps to ensure that artwork and related structures not be built again within the CRZ of any tree. Furthermore, the UFB requests a briefing from AIPP on any future project that involves the CRZ of a protected size tree and larger.