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Proposal to remove five trees from public right of way adjacent to our house. Arborist concluded that these trees have the potential to be hazardous within the next year. We would have already removed them but learned their location is not our property. Through the Planning Commission, we learned of the local tree ordinance as well as attempts to make changes to it. Because of this, we are pursuing this action through the proper channels and to cooperate with the city in finding a solution to this issue.

*Wrong Person, Wrong Trees, Wrong Place*

**Wrong Person:** 1st homeowner planted trees 25+ years ago. They were topped at 8 ft. years ago which has led to split trunks which is a hazard. There has been no care for them after all these years. Since pursuing the removal of these trees, we have learned they are actually on city property, yet, the city has notified us that the trees are our responsibility. This is troublesome in many aspects: liability, cost, deferred maintenance, etc.

**Wrong Trees:** The trees are long-needle pine and non-native to our area. After all the years of non-care of mis-management, they have become overgrown, unsightly, and potentially hazardous. They are blocking (3) smaller Maples that we would like to see flourish. The shade from these trees is effecting our yard, which we are trying to improve with a proper fence, landscaping, sprinkler system, etc. As a result of the topping years ago, the trees all have split trunks which weakening them. To mitigate the removal, we will plant 5-10 trees in our property which includes a riparian zone of Neacoxie Creek.

**Wrong Place:** The trees were planted directly on top of the water main of our street. If knocked down in windstorm, they could wipe out our entire yard and potentially damage our house. We live at the top of the dune and everything will flow downhill if the water main is damaged towards our home. If damaged, the water main will knock out water for the Summit and Fifer blocks. This is also a tsunami evacuation location which could be impacted in the event of a breakage. My understanding of the reason this is actually a city right of way is we are at the end of dead end street and the hammerhead is for a firetruck turnaround in the event of fire in our area. The removal of the trees will improve parking on the block. Having discussed this proposal with the two neighbors most directly effected by the trees, they have given us verbal okay for removal.

We would like to create a public/private partnership on who, how, and when can adjacent property owners manage trees on public land. Right now, Gearhart does not have a protocol in place for this issue. As the effected property owner, we have several issues with this arrangement and these trees in particular. We are trying to improve our property, add a proper fence, grow Maple trees already in yard, remove shrubby bushes, landscape, remove danger from thinned tree stand for falling and water main damage. We are willing to plant 5-10 trees to mitigate the removal, but are going to plant them in the proper place on our property and manage them.