

EVALUATION OF OAK TREES AT
BUENA VISTA
19001 TONNER CANYON ROAD IN
BREA, CALIFORNIA

SUBMITTED TO

CYNTHIA MACDERMOTT
PROPERTY SPECIALIST
SPRINT PCS
4683 CHABOT DRIVE, SUITE 100
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PREPARED BY

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OCTOBER 13, 2002

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CONSULTING
ARBORIST

October 13, 2002

Cynthia MacDermott
Property Specialist
Sprint PCS
4683 Chabot Drive, Suite 100
Pleasanton, California 94588

**Re: Oak Tree Report
Buena Vista
LA54XC265C
19001 Tonner Canyon Road
Brea, California 92822
Los Angeles County**

Dear Ms. MacDermott,

The following report is submitted in response to your request for arboricultural consulting services.

SUMMARY

The proposed plans for trenching in the vicinity of two mature coast live oak trees (*Quercus agrifolia*) in Tonner Canyon are not expected to significantly damage roots nor affect the trees' present health. The construction techniques and preservation measures recommended are sufficient to protect the subject trees as well as proximate native trees.

INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND

Sprint PCS is proposing to install telecommunications facilities adjacent to an existing 128 foot Southern California Edison transmission tower and associated equipment on a 24 foot by 24 foot poured concrete pad beneath the tower, which is located on a ridgeline north of Tonner Canyon Road and within the Tonner Canyon/Chino Hills SEA (significant ecological area). Approximately 50 feet of power cable, encased in 3 inch PVC conduit, will be installed in a 3 foot deep by 6-8 inch wide trench between the tower and adjacent SCE power pole. (See enclosed site plan).

SEATAC's (Significant Ecological Areas Technical Advisory Committee) description of the site is as follows:

"Tonner Canyon is one of three areas in the hilly region of eastern Los Angeles County that still supports relatively undisturbed stands of southern coast live oak woodland, chaparral, coastal sage scrub, and riparian woodland complexes that were once common throughout south California but have been converted largely to agricultural and urban uses.

The vegetation in Tonner Canyon supports heavily forested areas of California walnut (*Juglans californica*) and coast live oak. Coast live oaks are uncommon outside Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, and have one of its major populations in this portion of Los Angeles County. Tonner and Brea

Canyons are of sufficient size, and in close enough proximity to the other designated SEA's in this region, that they should be able to continue to support relatively healthy wildlife populations if preserved."

ASSIGNMENT

I was retained by Sprint PCS to prepare an oak tree report in accordance with the Los Angeles County Oak Tree Ordinance. I was given a site plan prepared by Velocitel (dated September 20, 2001), which identifies the locations of the two oak trees. I designated the trees as '1' and '2' and indicated these numbers on the site plan. Photographs accompanying this report illustrate the tree vigor, site context, and the approximate location of the proposed trench.

I met with Ryan Shields from Pyramid Network Services, LLC, and Eric Manual, Project Manager, Southern California Edison, on Friday, October 11. I evaluated the two subject oak trees with respect to the proposed construction activities, and established the most ideal route for the proposed trench. I chose the course that would minimize root damage and be the least invasive to the trees.

LIMITS OF ASSIGNMENT

This report is limited to documenting the conditions of the trees on October 11, 2002, and providing recommendations for protection during construction. My visual examinations were limited to the observation of trees from the ground, without further dissection, excavation, probing, or coring. There is no warranty or guarantee, expressed or implied, that structural problems or deficiencies of plants or property may not arise in the future.

PURPOSE AND USE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to satisfy the requirements set forth by the Los Angeles County Oak Tree Ordinance. The use of this report is to educate the property owners, project designers, and contractors regarding the health and care of oak trees.

OBSERVATIONS AND DISCUSSION

Individual tree information is provided on the attached field data sheets, and in summary, the two subject trees are in very good to excellent condition. Tree number '1' shows signs of previous fire damage in the trunk, but has compartmentalized the associated wood decay well.

Tree number '2' has many small cankers on the three main trunks—the associated bleeding is fairly common on coast live oaks, and may be related to stress from root disturbance when the road was constructed many years ago. The trunks were not buried with soil, however, and besides infestation from insect pests common to coast live oaks, the tree appears to be healthy otherwise.

The proposed trench, as mentioned, will be 3 feet in depth and between 6 and 8 inches wide. It will be about 5 feet in depth under the existing dirt road. The road is well outside of the tree protection zone¹. The trench is proposed to be dug with a "Ditch Witch". The trench will be under the protection zone of both trees, but minimally and with negligible consequences. No pruning is authorized nor is necessary.

¹ The Protected Zone is a specifically defined area totally encompassing an oak tree within which work activities are strictly controlled. When depicted on a map, the outermost edge of the protected-zone will appear as an irregular shaped circle that follows the contour of the dripline of the oak tree.

CONCLUSION

Native oaks in native settings are often the most sensitive to disturbances caused by grading, change in hydrology, soil compaction, and root severance. None of these circumstances are a consequence of this project.

Trees that are in optimal health better withstand affects of construction damage: The two subject trees are in satisfactory health, and in my professional opinion they will sustain little, if any, damage because of trenching activities.

Both Mr. Shields and Mr. Manual understand and concur with the proposed route of the trench. I am available for construction monitoring, although I don't believe that it is necessary.

Please feel welcome to contact me if you have any questions or if I can be of further assistance.

Respectfully submitted,



Cy Carlberg
Consulting Arborist
ISA Certified Arborist # WC575A

Cc: Ryan Shields, Pyramid Network Services

Tree Species: Coast Live Oak—*Quercus agrifolia*

Tree Number: 1

FORM/SIZE

Trunk Diameter (measured at 4.5' above existing grade)	28.6"
Height (approximated)	33'
Spread (approximated)	50'
Age Class (Young, Mature, Overmature, Senescent)	Mature
Number of Trunks	2 trunks are fused together at ~2'

SITE CONTEXT

Irrigated/Unirrigated	Unirrigated
Slope Degree	0-10 %

PHYSIOLOGICAL CONDITION (HEALTH)

Overall Vigor (see Explanation of Codes)	Very Good
Drought Stressed	No
Insect Damage	No
Exudation	Minimal bleeding in crown
Epicormic Growth	No
Twig/Branch Dieback (other than normal)	No

STRUCTURE

Trunk Cavity(s)	Yes; west side due to fire damage
Branch Cavity(s)	No
Exposed Roots	No
Leaning	No
Fire Damage (i.e., loss of strength, decay)	Yes
Weak Main Crotches	Yes
Dieback in Main Stem	No
Fruiting Bodies (i.e., decay, fungus)	No

RATINGS

Physiological Condition (Health)	Very Good
Structure	Very Good
Aesthetics and Conformity	Excellent
Balance/Symmetry	Excellent

DISPOSITION

To be removed	
To be preserved	X

TREATMENT

Remove deadwood	
Safety prune	
Fertilization	
Supplemental Irrigation	
Cable/Brace	
Pest/Disease Control	
Potential Hazard/Remove	
Other	

Tree Species: Coast Live Oak—*Quercus agrifolia*

Tree Number: 2

FORM/SIZE

Trunk Diameter (measured at 4.5' above existing grade)	8.8", 9.9", 10.1"
Height (approximated)	25'
Spread (approximated)	30'
Age Class (Young, Mature, Overmature, Senescent)	Mature
Number of Trunks	3

SITE CONTEXT

Irrigated/Unirrigated	Unirrigated
Slope Degree	0-10%

PHYSIOLOGICAL CONDITION (HEALTH)

Overall Vigor (see Explanation of Codes)	Very Good
Drought Stressed	No
Insect Damage	Moderate infestation of oak twig girdler
Exudation	Yes, on all three trunks
Epicormic Growth	No
Twig/Branch Dieback (other than normal)	No

STRUCTURE

Trunk Cavity(s)	No
Branch Cavity(s)	No
Exposed Roots	No
Leaning	No
Fire Damage (i.e., loss of strength, decay)	No
Weak Main Crotches	No
Dieback in Main Stem	No
Fruiting Bodies (i.e., decay, fungus)	No

RATINGS

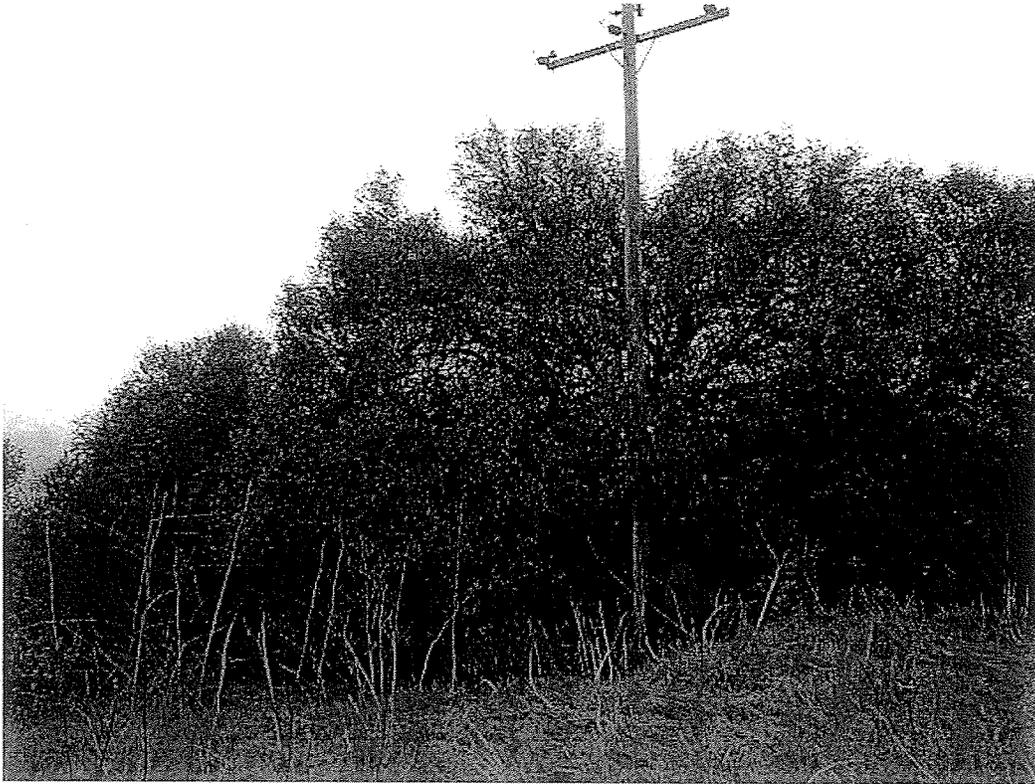
Physiological Condition (Health)	Good
Structure	Very Good
Aesthetics and Conformity	Very Good
Balance/Symmetry	Good—shaded by Tree # 1

DISPOSITION

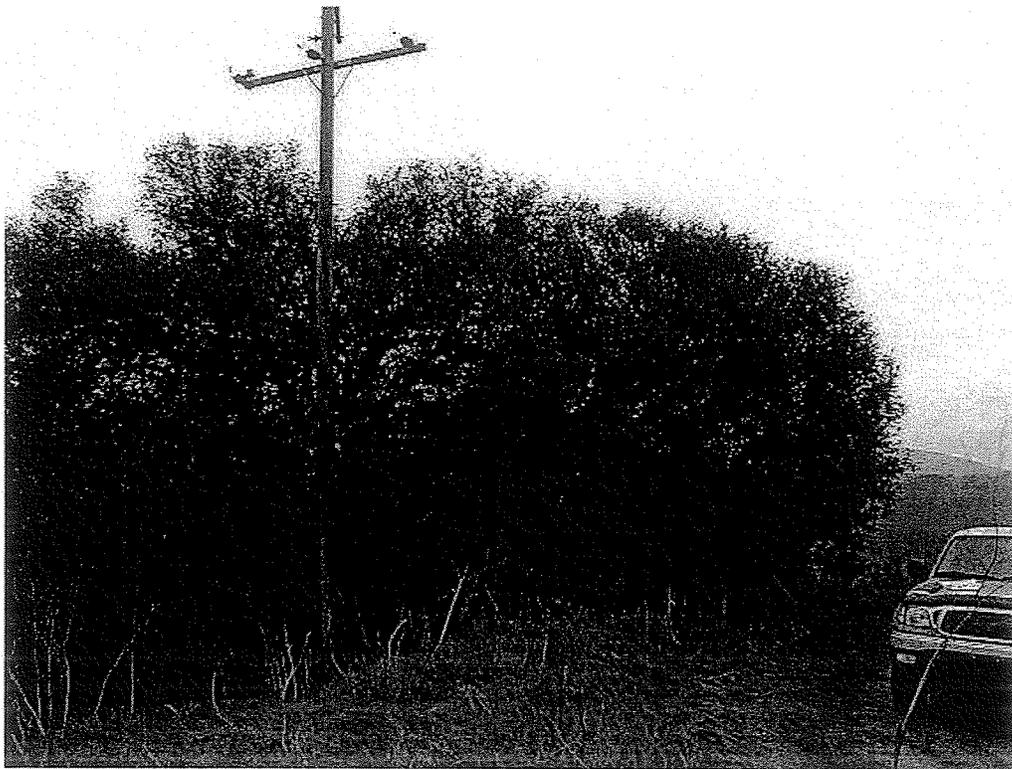
To be removed	
To be preserved	X

TREATMENT

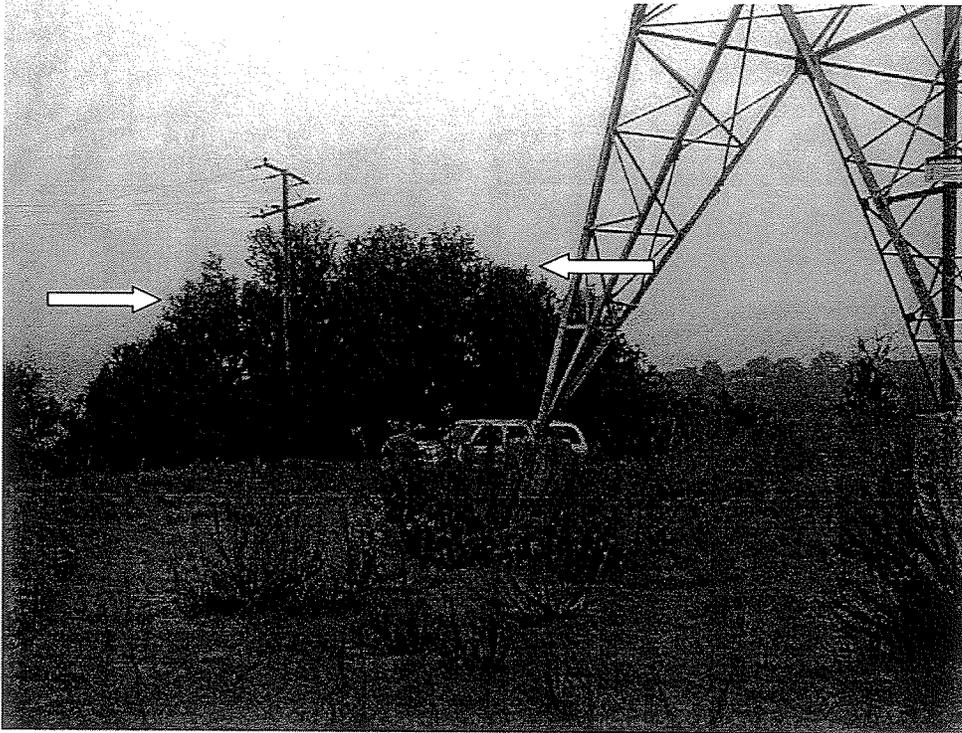
Remove deadwood	
Safety prune	
Fertilization	
Supplemental Irrigation	
Cable/Brace	
Pest/Disease Control	
Potential Hazard/Remove	
Other	



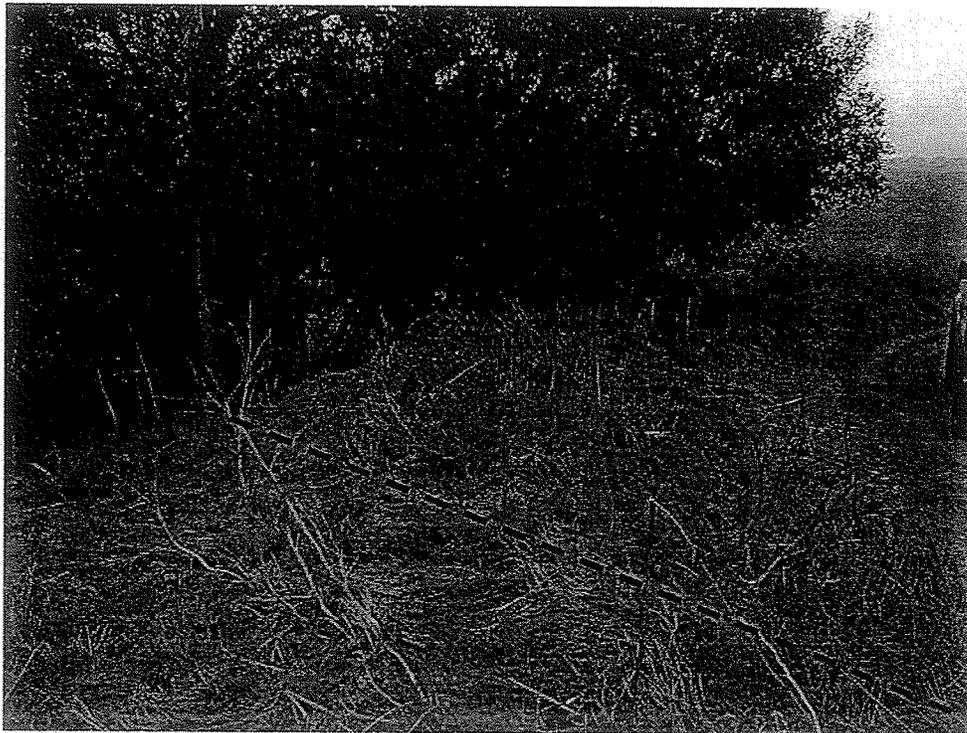
Tree # 1, facing northwest. Power pole is in foreground.



Tree # 2, facing north. Power pole is in foreground.



Facing northwest, showing Trees # 1 (left-pointing arrow) and # 2 (right-pointing arrow).



Photograph was taken facing north; Tree # 2 is on the right. Dashed line shows approximate location of the proposed trench.

QUALIFICATIONS, ASSUMPTIONS, AND LIMITING CONDITIONS

Any legal description provided to the consultant is assumed to be correct. Any titles or ownership of properties are assumed to be good and marketable. All property is appraised or evaluated as though free and clear, under responsible ownership and competent management.

All property is presumed to be in conformance with applicable codes, ordinances, statutes, or other regulations.

Care has been taken to obtain information from reliable sources. However, the consultant cannot be responsible for the accuracy of information provided by others.

The consultant shall not be required to give testimony or to attend meetings, hearings, conferences, mediations, arbitrations, or trials by reason of this report unless subsequent contractual arrangements are made, including payment of an additional fee for such services.

This report and any appraisal value expressed herein represent the opinion of the consultant, and the consultant's fee is not contingent upon the reporting of a specified appraisal value, a stipulated result, or the occurrence of a subsequent event.

Sketches, drawings, and photographs in this report are intended for use as visual aids, are not necessarily to scale, and should not be construed as engineering or architectural reports or surveys. The reproduction of information generated by architects, engineers, or other consultants on any sketches, drawings, or photographs is only for coordination and ease of reference. Inclusion of said information with any drawings or other documents does not constitute a representation by Cy Carlberg as to the sufficiency or accuracy of said information.

Unless otherwise expressed: a) this report covers only the examined items and their condition at the time of inspection; and b) the inspection is limited to visual examination of accessible items without dissection, excavation, probing, or coring. There is no warranty or guarantee, expressed or implied, that structural problems or deficiencies of plants or property may not arise in the future.

CERTIFICATION OF PERFORMANCE

I, Cy Carlberg, certify:

- That I have personally inspected the tree(s) and/or the property referred to in this report, and have stated my findings accurately. The extent of the evaluation and appraisal is stated in the attached report and the Terms of Assignment;
- That I have no current or prospective interest in the vegetation or the property that is the subject of this report and have no personal interest or bias with respect to the parties involved;
- That the analysis, opinions, and conclusions stated herein are my own.
- That my analysis, opinions, and conclusions were developed and this report has been prepared according to commonly accepted arboricultural practices;
- That no one provided significant professional assistance to the consultant, except as indicated within the report;
- That my compensation is not contingent upon the reporting of a predetermined conclusion that favors the cause of the client or any other party.

I further certify that I am a member of the American Society of Consulting Arborists, and that I acknowledge, accept, and adhere to the ASCA Standards of Professional Practice. I am an International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist, and have been involved in the practice of arboriculture and the study of trees for over twenty-five years.

Signed: *Cy Carlberg*

Date: *October 13, 2002*

CY CARLBERG
 387 North Baldwin Avenue
 Sierra Madre, California 91024
 (626) 355-0271

- Education B.S., Landscape Architecture, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, 1985
 Graduate, Arboricultural Consulting Academy, American Society of Consulting Arborists, Chicago, Illinois, February 2002
- Experience Consulting Arborist, 1998-present
 Manager of Grounds Services, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, 1992-1998
 Director of Grounds, Scripps College, Claremont, 1988-1992
- Certificates Certified Arborist (WC-0575), International Society of Arboriculture, 1990

Areas of Expertise

Ms. Carlberg is accomplished in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) mapping and Microsoft Access database customization. She is experienced in the following areas of tree management and preservation:

- Tree inventory and risk assessment
- Evaluation of trees for preservation
- Tree protection on construction sites
- Pest and disease identification
- Guidelines for oak preservation
- Selection of appropriate tree species
- Planting, pruning, and maintenance specifications
-

Previous Consulting Experience

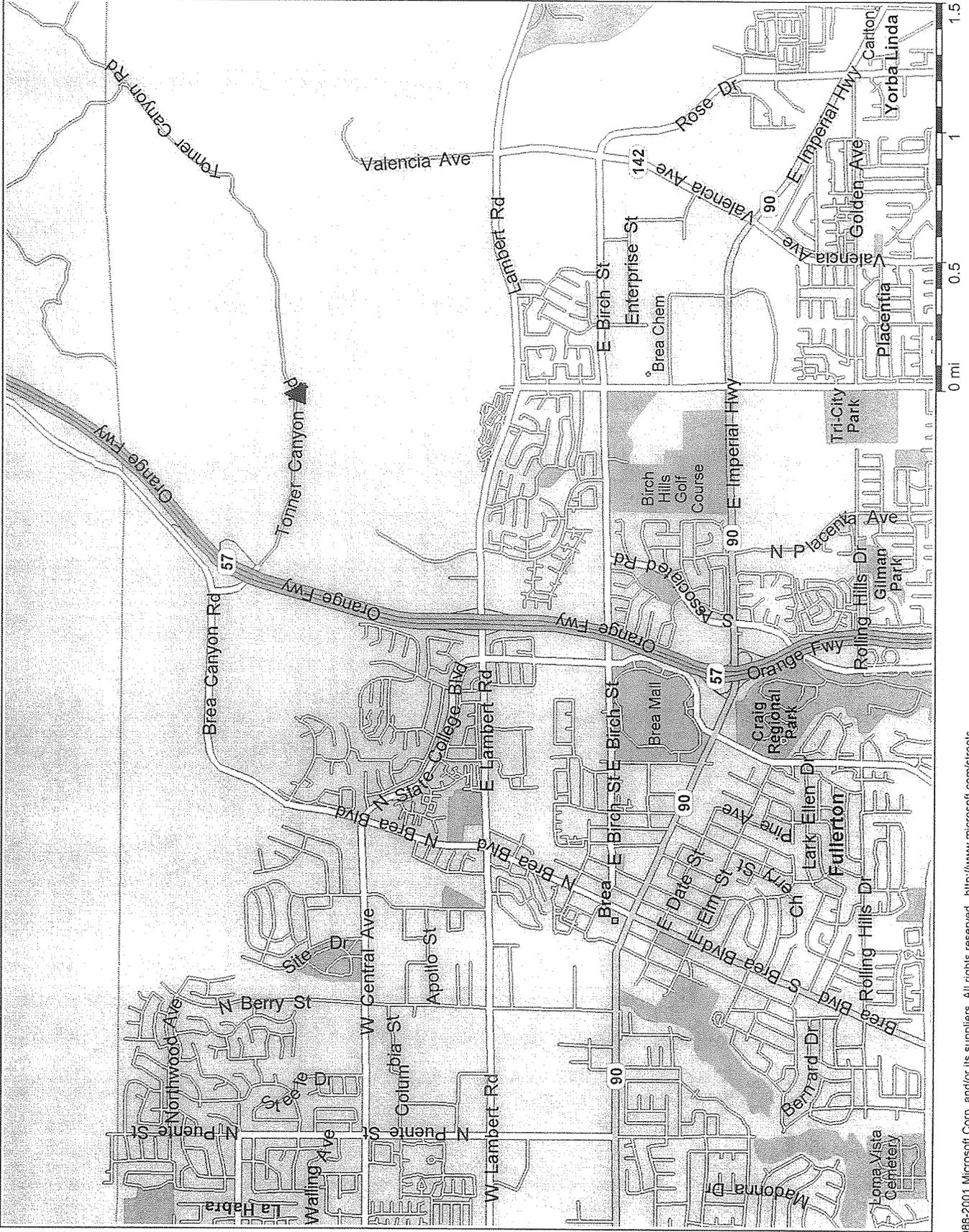
Ms. Carlberg has overseen residential and commercial construction projects to prevent damage to protected and specimen trees. She has twenty-five years of experience in arboriculture and horticulture, and has performed tree health evaluation and risk assessment for government agencies, cities, school districts, and colleges. Representative clients include:

- The Los Angeles Zoo
- Occidental College, Los Angeles
- Pitzer College, Claremont
- Scripps College, Claremont
- Claremont McKenna College
- Pomona College, Claremont
- Harvey Mudd College, Claremont
- The Claremont Unified School District
- The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
- The Long Beach Unified School District (over 20,000 trees)

Ms. Carlberg serves with the following state and community professional organizations:

- California Urban Forest Council, Board Member, 1995-present
- Tree Advisory Commission, City of Sierra Madre, Chair, 1999-present
- Urban Forest Advisory Commission, City of Pasadena, Commissioner, 1995-present

California, United States, North America



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