### PICUS SONIC TOMOGRAPH TEST (ST) SUMMARY REPORT.

COMPLETED FOR: MARIBYRNONG CITY COUNCIL

LOCATION: BUNBURY STREET, FOOTSCRAY

DATE: 12<sup>TH</sup> & 13<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2022



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## **A BASIC KEY TO ANALYSING PICUS SONIC TOMOGRAPH REPORTS**

The following points will assist when you visually assess the test results against the tree.

- a) Sensor one is always located to the northern side of the tree unless specified. This may vary slightly depending on where sensor point one is located on the trunk.
- b) The test height is always measured at sensor one unless specified.
- c) The red line in the photograph of the tree demonstrates the approximate height at which the test was conducted.
- d) The red ring in the test result (2-dimensional picture) when included is the t/R ratio. The t/R ratio red line is set at 15 percent unless otherwise stated.
- e) In some test results the degree measurement may be included; this could be the open section of a wound or hollow, or it may be an area of active fungus. These areas are always identified with blue lines.
- f) In some test results other measurements may be mentioned; this will be an approximate measurement of the depth of decay or fungus. This is shown with a red arrow.
- g) In some cases, depending on the genus and species of the fungus, the active fungus wood area may not be visible to human eyes if sectionalised.
- h) In <u>most</u> cases, depending on the genus and species of the fungus, the incipient wood affected area will not be visible to human eyes if sectionalised.
- The PICUS Sonic Tomograph is mostly accurate with the colour coding produced; at times the test image produced may vary to what will be visually observed when the test area is exposed. It is important that only trained professionals make comments and recommendations regarding any test result cross examinations.
- j) In some test results there will be an overlay of lines from sensor to sensor; where the lines actually cross one and other is the accurate point of the test result, and the colour reading should be taken from this point.
- k) The rating system for the tree's condition at the test point is based on sound wood percentages in the test result:

Excellent	Very Good	Good	Average	Further Management
Above 90%	60 - 89%	40 - 59%	20 - 39%	<20%

The PiCUS Sonic Tomograph test was conducted by:

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## **Tree Locations**

Twelve trees in Bunbury Street, Footscray were tested with Sonic Tomography. The aerial map below shows the Tree ID numbers and their locations along Bunbury Street.



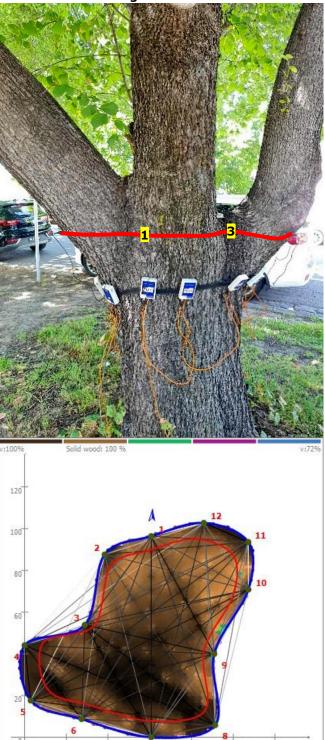
The Sonic Tomograph test result indicates that approximately 100% of the test area is sound (high density) wood, and there is less than 1% of incipient wood (wood being altered by the fungus). The test result shows no active fungus and decayed (low density) wood at the test height.

The tree has multiple trunks with unions traversing the test height from sensor 3 to sensor 6, and from sensors above 9-10 through to sensors 12-1. The test result shows that there is no degradation to the structural integrity of the trunk at the test height.

The test result shows some minor incipient wood in the sapwood between and around sensors 9 and 10. It is likely that these spots are minor imperfections in the sapwood caused by insects etc. These spots of incipient wood were not assessed as a structural issue and will likely compartmentalise.

It is observed that new wood growth increments are occurring at sensors 2, 4, 5, 8, 11 and 12.

The timeframe allowed before the tree is unsafe and removal is the only option will be determined by the rate of spread of the fungus. Roadside reserve – 70 Bunbury Street 1 *Ulmus x hollandica* Dutch Elm 1250mm above ground level at sensor one 3405mm at test height



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#### CONCLUSION

The tree displays health and vigour that is typical for the species and the test result provides evidence that the tree is in excellent condition and is structurally sound at the test height.

The tree has an estimated life expectancy of greater than 50 years at the test point. It is recommended that the tree is retested in 10 years to assess the structural integrity of the trunk at the test height.

The Sonic Tomograph test result indicates 79% of the test area is sound (high density) wood. There is 18% of incipient wood (wood being altered by the fungus). The remaining 3% is active fungus and decayed (low density) wood.

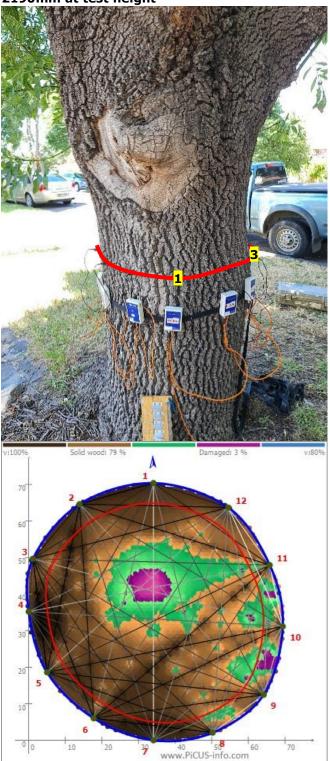
The incipient and dysfunctional wood in the test result in the centre of the trunk, has likely entered the centre pith of the tree through the root plate. Pith is composed of soft, spongy parenchyma cells, which store and transport nutrients throughout the plant. In trees pith is present in young growth, and as the tree matures the pith gets replaced by xylem leaving the pith to dry out and degrade creating an opportunity for soil borne fungi to enter the trunk. The pathogen can then move up the trunk via the centre pith. This type of centre pith wood degradation is a common event in the lifecycle of trees.

The test result shows some minor pockets of incipient and dysfunctional wood in the sapwood on the eastern side of the trunk between sensors 8 and 11. It is likely that these spots are minor imperfections in the sapwood caused by insects/ past wounds etc. At the time of the test, these areas of incipient and dysfunctional wood were not assessed as structural issues and will likely compartmentalise.

The test result shows that there is sufficient sound wood to maintain structural support for the tree at the test height. Additionally, it is observed that new wood growth increments are occurring at sensors 3, 4, 6 and 7.

The timeframe allowed before the tree is unsafe and removal is the only option will be determined by the rate of spread of the fungus.

## Roadside reserve – 64 Bunbury Street 3 *Fraxinus excelsior* European Ash 1000mm above ground level at sensor one 2190mm at test height



## CONCLUSION

The tree displays health and vigour that is typical for the species and the test result provides evidence that the tree is in very good condition and is structurally sound at the test height.

The tree has an estimated life expectancy of greater than 30 years at the test point. It is recommended that the tree is retested in 3 years to assess the progression of the pathogen and to re-evaluate the structural integrity of the trunk at the test height.

#### Tree Number Botanical Name Common Name Test Height Tree Circumference

The Sonic Tomograph test result indicates 25% of the test area is sound (high density) wood. There is 17% of incipient wood (wood being altered by the fungus). The remaining 58% is active fungus and decayed (low density) wood.

The tree has been pollarded in the past above the test height at approximately 3.5 metres above ground level. Decay was observed in some of the old pruning wounds at the old pollarding points (red arrows in picture in yellow box indicate decay in some of the old pruning wounds). It is likely that the decay causing pathogen has spread into the trunk from the old pollarding points resulting the incipient and dysfunctional wood shown in the test result.

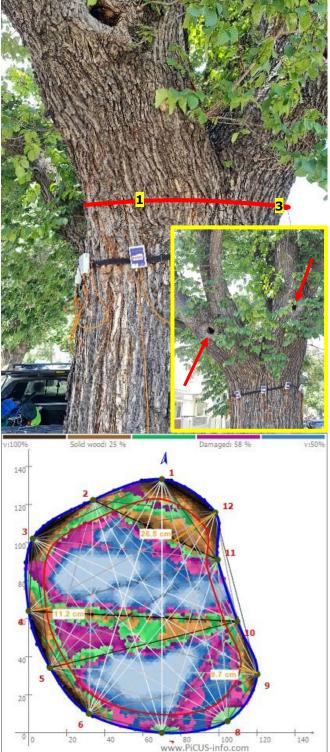
The primary union of the pollard heads traverses the test point from sensor 2 through to sensor 7. The test result shows that the pathogen has caused significant degradation to the structural integrity of the primary union.

Additionally, the test result shows that the dysfunctional wood has encroached into the t/R ratio (set at 15%). The t/R ratio is only used as a guide to evaluate the sound wood/dysfunctional wood ratio and should not be used as an index of trunk failure potential. However, there is very limited structural wood, particularly on the southern and eastern sides of the test point, with a very high percentage of the trunk area assessed as non-functional wood.

Although the test result shows new wood growth increments are occurring at sensors 1, 3, 4, 6, 9 and 12, the extent of the dysfunctional wood at the test height was assessed as a structural defect in the trunk.

## CONCLUSION

The test result provides evidence that the structural integrity of the trunk at the test height has been substantially compromised by the spread of the pathogen from the old pollard heads pruning points. Roadside reserve –Bunbury Street frontage of 63A Cowper Street 10 *Ulmus x hollandica* Dutch Elm 2500mm above ground level at sensor one 4170mm at test height



The tree is recommended for removal because of its poor canopy management history and reduced life expectancy due to the extent of trunk decay.

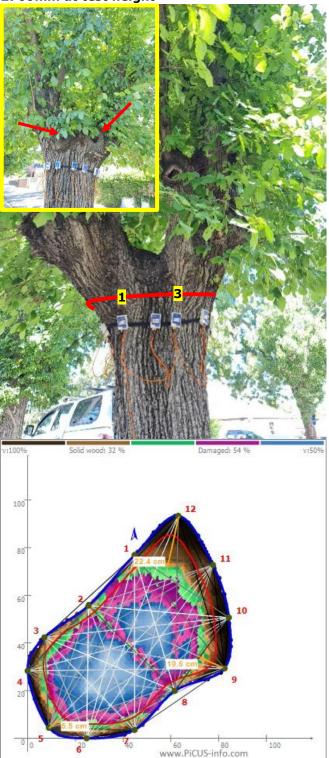
The Sonic Tomograph test result indicates 32% of the test area is sound (high density) wood. There is 14% of incipient wood (wood being altered by the fungus). The remaining 54% is active fungus and decayed (low density) wood.

The tree has been pollarded in the past above the test height at approximately 3.5 metres above ground level with the primary union of the pollard heads traversing the test point from sensor 2 through to sensor 8. Decay was observed in some of the old pruning wounds at the old pollarding points and it is likely that the pathogen has spread into the trunk from the old pollarding points. Additionally, decay was observed in old pruning wounds close to the primary union on the southern side of the tree (red arrows in picture in yellow box indicate decay in some of the old pruning wounds). The test result shows that the pathogen has spread through the heartwood on the trunk reaching the outer trunk wall between sensors 1 and 2; and between sensors 7 and 8.

Of concern is the degradation to the structural integrity of the tension wood in the primary union caused by the decay and dysfunctional wood. In angiosperms (flowering plants/trees), reaction wood is formed in the tension wood in response to load. The test result shows that the tension wood of the primary union is virtually completely degraded, and the limited compression wood of the primary union and pollard heads is providing some structural support for the union. At the test height, the test result shows at sensor 5 there is 5 cm of sound compression wood; and at sensor 12 there is 22 cm of sound compression wood. The pathogen reaching the outer trunk wall around sensors 2 and 8 has significantly reduce the potential for the tree to develop reaction wood in the tension wood of the primary union; this was assessed as a structural defect.

## CONCLUSION

The test result provides evidence that the structural integrity of the trunk at the test height has been substantially compromised by the spread of the pathogen from the old pollard heads pruning points. Roadside reserve – 36 Bunbury Street 14 *Ulmus x hollandica* Dutch Elm 2100mm above ground level at sensor one 2760mm at test height



The tree is recommended for removal because of its poor canopy management history and reduced life expectancy due to the extent of trunk decay.

The Sonic Tomograph test result indicates 61% of the test area is sound (high density) wood. There is 18% of incipient wood (wood being altered by the fungus). The remaining 21% is active fungus and decayed (low density) wood.

The pathogen in the test result has likely entered the tree through the pruning wounds from the past pollarding of the tree. The incipient and dysfunctional seen in the test result has been caused by the spread of the pathogen from the pollard heads above the test point.

The primary union of the pollard heads traverses the test height from sensor 2 through to sensor 8. The test result shows that the pathogen is largely contained to the northern area of the tension wood of the union behind sensor 2. However, the pathogen is progressing in an easterly direction reaching the outer trunk wall between sensor 10 and 11.

The test result shows that pathogen has caused some minor degradation to the structural integrity of the primary union; however, there is sufficient sound compression wood to maintain structural support for the union. At the test height, the test result shows at sensor 6 there is 32 cm of sound compression wood; and at sensor 12 there is 14 cm of sound compression wood.

The timeframe allowed before the tree is unsafe and removal is the only option will be determined by the rate of spread of the fungus. Roadside reserve – 32 Bunbury Street 15 *Ulmus x hollandica* Dutch Elm 2300mm above ground level at sensor one 2485mm at test height



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## CONCLUSION

The tree displays health and vigour that is typical for the species and the test result provides evidence that the tree is in very good condition and is structurally sound at the test height.

The tree has an estimated life expectancy of greater than 20 years at the test point. It is recommended that the tree is retested in 3 years to assess the progression of the pathogen and to re-evaluate the structural integrity of the trunk at the test height.

#### Tree Number Botanical Name Common Name Test Height Tree Circumference

The Sonic Tomograph test result indicates 51% of the test area is sound (high density) wood. There is 16% of incipient wood (wood being altered by the fungus). The remaining 33% is active fungus and decayed (low density) wood.

The tree has been pollarded in the past above the test height at approximately 3 metres above ground level. Additionally, it appears that a scaffold limb/pollard head on the western side of the tree has been removed in the past (indicated by red arrow in photograph). The wound has occluded, and it could not be determined at the time of the assessment whether the removal of this part of the tree was due to a failure or tree management.

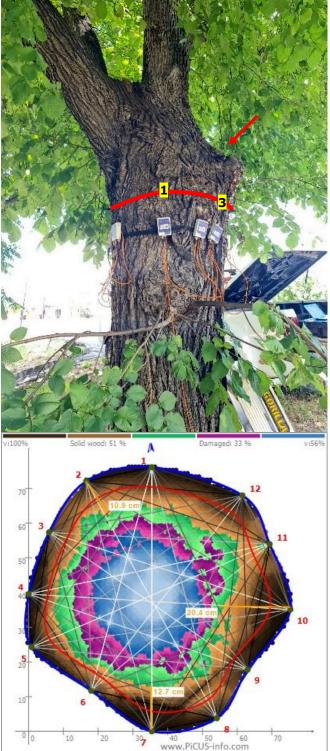
It is likely that the pathogen has entered the tree via old pruning wounds in the pollard heads and the incipient and dysfunctional seen in the test result is associated with this pathogen spreading from the wounds.

The test result indicates that the pathogen is contained to the heartwood of the trunk at the test height causing some degradation to the structural integrity of the trunk at the test height. However, the test result shows that there is sufficient sound wood to maintain structural support for the tree at the test height. At the test height, the test result shows at sensor 2 there is 10 cm of sound wood; at sensor 7 there is 12 cm of sound wood; and at sensor 10 there is 20 cm of sound wood. Furthermore, it is observed that new wood growth increments are occurring in the trunk at sensors 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12.

The timeframe allowed before the tree is unsafe and removal is the only option will be determined by the rate of spread of the fungus.

#### CONCLUSION

The tree displays health and vigour that is typical for the species and the test result provides evidence that the tree is in good condition and is structurally sound at the test height. Roadside reserve – Bunbury Street frontage of 11 Whitehall Street 26 *Ulmus x hollandica* Dutch Elm 2300mm above ground level at sensor one 2450mm at test height



The tree has an estimated life expectancy of greater than 20 years at the test point. It is recommended that the tree is retested in 3 years to assess the progression of the pathogen and to re-evaluate the structural integrity of the trunk at the test height.

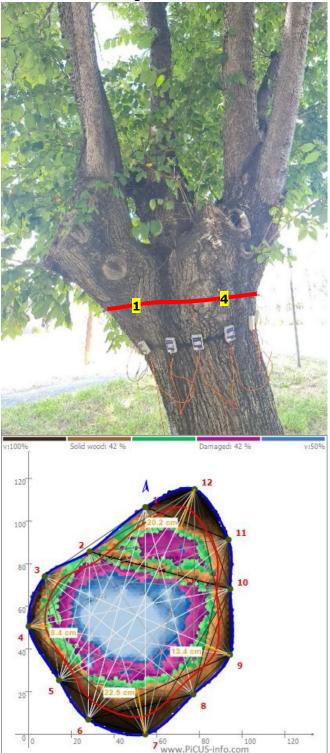
#### Tree Number Botanical Name Common Name Test Height Tree Circumference

The Sonic Tomograph test result indicates 42% of the test area is sound (high density) wood. There is 16% of incipient wood (wood being altered by the fungus). The remaining 42% is active fungus and decayed (low density) wood.

The tree has been pollarded in the past above the test height at approximately 2.5 metres above ground level. Decay was observed in some of the old pruning wounds of the pollard heads. It is likely that the pathogen has entered the tree through these old pruning wounds and the incipient and dysfunctional seen in the test result is associated with this pathogen spreading from the old pruning wounds.

The primary unions of the pollard heads intersects with the outer trunk at sensors 2, 8 and 10. Although, the test result shows that the pathogen is largely contained to the heartwood of the trunk at the test point, the pathogen has caused degradation to the tension wood of the primary unions of the pollard heads. However, there is sound wood in the compression wood of the unions/pollard heads providing structural support for the unions. At the test height, the test result shows at sensor 7 there is 22 cm of sound wood; at sensor 9 there is 13 cm of sound wood; and at sensor 12 there is 20 cm of sound wood. Furthermore, it is observed that new wood growth increments are occurring at sensors 4, 5, 6, 7, 9 and 12.

The timeframe allowed before the tree is unsafe and removal is the only option will be determined by the rate of spread of the fungus. Roadside reserve – on Bunbury Street frontage at corner of Bunbury Street & Moreland Street 27 *Ulmus x hollandica* Dutch Elm 1900mm above ground level at sensor one 3275mm at test height



#### CONCLUSION

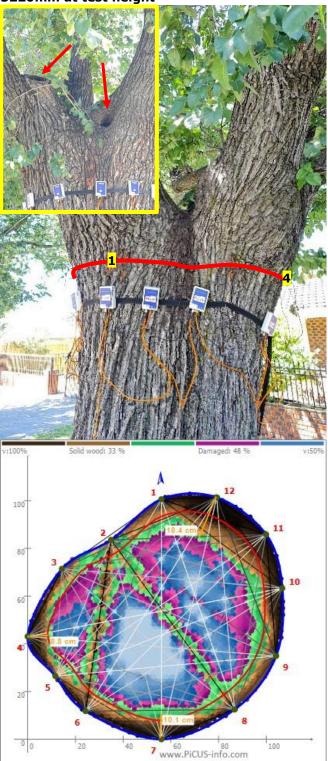
The test result provides evidence that the tree is structurally sound at the test height. The tree has estimated life expectancy of less than 10 years at the test point. It is acknowledged that the tree could be retained in the short-term, but its removal may be warranted because of its poor canopy management history and reduced life expectancy due to the extent of trunk decay effecting the structural integrity of the primary unions.

The Sonic Tomograph test result indicates 33% of the test area is sound (high density) wood. There is 19% of incipient wood (wood being altered by the fungus). The remaining 48% is active fungus and decayed (low density) wood.

The tree has been pollarded in the past above the test height at approximately 3.5 metres above ground level. Furthermore, the tree has been routinely pruned for line clearance. Decay was observed in some of the old pruning wounds (red arrows in photo in yellow box indicate some of the decay in old pruning wounds). The incipient and dysfunctional seen in the test result is associated with the pathogen spreading from the old pruning wounds above the test height.

The primary union of the pollard heads traverses the test height from sensor 2 through to sensors 8-9. Although, the test result shows that the pathogen is largely contained to the heartwood of the trunk at the test point, the pathogen has caused degradation to the tension wood of the primary unions of the pollard heads. However, there is sound compression wood of the unions/pollard heads providing structural support for the unions. At the test height, the test result shows at sensor 4 there is 8 cm of sound wood; at sensor 7 there is 10 cm of sound wood; and at sensor 12 there is 18 cm of sound wood. Furthermore, it is observed that new wood growth increments are occurring at sensors 4, 7, 9 and 12.

The timeframe allowed before the tree is unsafe and removal is the only option will be determined by the rate of spread of the fungus. Roadside reserve – 7 Bunbury Street 30 *Ulmus x hollandica* Dutch Elm 2200mm above ground level at sensor one 3220mm at test height



## CONCLUSION

The test result provides evidence that the tree is structurally sound at the test height. The tree has estimated life expectancy of less than 10 years at the test point. It is acknowledged that the tree could be retained in the short-term, but its removal may be warranted because of its poor canopy management history and reduced life expectancy due to the extent of trunk decay effecting the structural integrity of the primary unions.

#### Tree Number Botanical Name Common Name Test Height Tree Circumference

The Sonic Tomograph test result indicates 93% of the test area is sound (high density) wood. There is 5% of incipient wood (wood being altered by the fungus). The remaining 2% is active fungus and decayed (low density) wood.

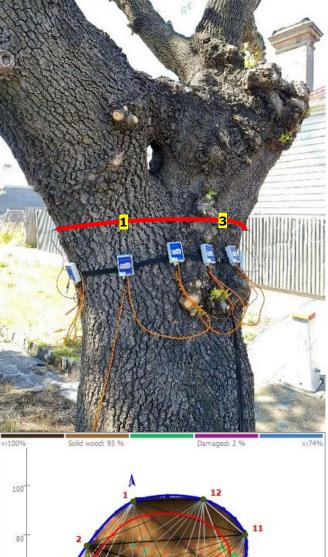
The tree has routinely been pruned for line clearance leading to latent bud proliferation on the trunk and scaffold branches.

The test result shows that there is negligible degradation to the structural integrity of the trunk at the test height.

The test result shows some minor incipient wood in the sapwood between sensors 2 and 4; and between sensors 8 and 11. It is likely that these spots of low-density wood are areas of latent buds' activity (between sensors 2 and 3) and minor imperfections caused by old wounds (sensors 8 to 11) etc. These spots of incipient wood were not assessed as structural issues and will compartmentalise.

It is observed that new wood growth increments are occurring in the compression wood of the scaffold branches at sensors 1, 5, 6, 8, 11 and 12.

The timeframe allowed before the tree is unsafe and removal is the only option will be determined by the rate of spread of the fungus. Roadside reserve – Bunbury Street frontage of 35 Whitehall Street 34 *Fraxinus excelsior* European Ash 1600mm above ground level at sensor one 2970mm at test height



#### CONCLUSION

The tree displays health and vigour that is typical for the species and the test result provides evidence that the tree is structurally sound at the test height.

The tree has an estimated life expectancy of greater than 40 years at the test point. It is recommended that the tree is retested in 5 years to assess the progression of the pathogen and to structural integrity of the trunk at the test height.

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#### Tree Number Botanical Name Common Name Test Height Tree Circumference

The Sonic Tomograph test result indicates 89% of the test area is sound (high density) wood. There is 9% of incipient wood (wood being altered by the fungus). The remaining 2% is active fungus and decayed (low density) wood.

The tree has been routinely pruned for line clearance leading to latent bud proliferation on the trunk and scaffold branches.

The test result shows some minor areas of incipient and dysfunctional wood in the sapwood between sensors 1 and 9. The test result shows that some of this of incipient and dysfunctional wood has encroached into the heartwood (sensor 6 to sensor 8) at the test height. It is likely that these areas are minor imperfections in the wood caused by old wound, insects etc.

Although these areas of incipient and dysfunctional wood are located in the tension wood of the trunk, they were not assessed as structural issues and will likely compartmentalise. Additionally, the test result shows that there is sound structural wood in the compression wood (sensor 10 to sensor 3) providing support for the trunk at the test height.

It is observed that new wood growth increments are occurring in the tension wood at sensors 6, 7 and 9; and in the compression wood at sensors 11, 12, 1 and 2.

The timeframe allowed before the tree is unsafe and removal is the only option will be determined by the rate of spread of the fungus.

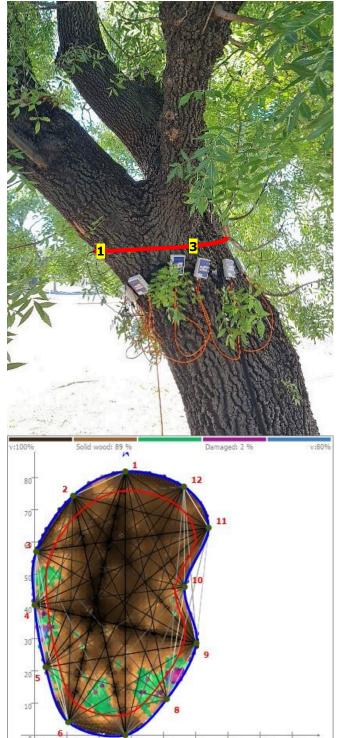
#### CONCLUSION

The tree displays health and vigour that is typical for the species and the test result provides evidence that the tree is in very good condition and is structurally sound at the test height.

The tree has an estimated life expectancy of greater than 40 years at the test point. It is recommended that the tree is retested in 5 years to assess the progression of the pathogen and to structural integrity of the trunk at the test height.

Roadside reserve – Bunbury Street frontage of 56 Whitehall Street 35

Fraxinus angustifolia subsp. angustifolia Desert Ash 2000mm above ground level at sensor one 2230mm at test height



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40 50 60 www.PiCUS-info.com

#### Tree Number Botanical Name Common Name Test Height Tree Circumference

The Sonic Tomograph test result indicates 30% of the test area is sound (high density) wood. There is 19% of incipient wood (wood being altered by the fungus). The remaining 51% is active fungus and decayed (low density) wood.

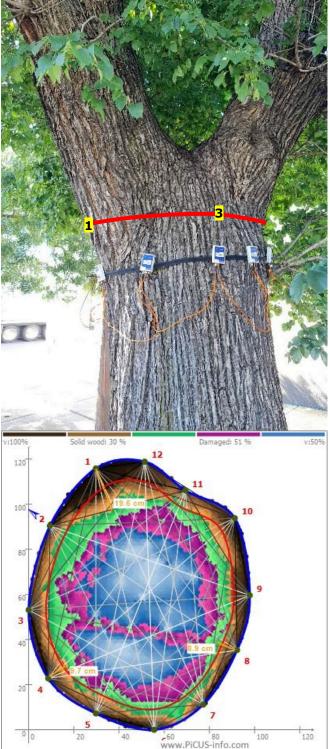
The tree has been pollarded in the past above the test height at approximately 3.5 metres above ground level. Furthermore, the tree has been routinely pruned for line clearance. Decay was observed in some of the old pruning wounds. The incipient and dysfunctional wood seen in the test result is associated with the pathogen spreading from the old pruning wounds above the test height. The primary union of the pollard heads traverses the test height from sensor 3 through to sensors 10. The pathogen has spread extensively through the heartwood of the trunk at the test height and is impacting upon the tension wood of the primary union of the pollard heads. However, the test result shows that there is some structural tension wood at sensor 3 and sensor 10 providing support for the union. Additionally, the scaffold limbs arising from the pollard heads have a largely upright habit, thus limiting the lateral load on the primary union.

The test result shows that there is sufficient sound wood to maintain structural support for the trunk and primary union in the short-term. At the test height, the test result shows at sensor 1 there is 19 cm of sound wood; at sensor 4 there is 9 cm of sound wood; and at sensor 8 there is 8 cm of sound wood. However, the progression of the pathogen is resulting in the incipient wood encroaching into the t/R ratio (set at 15%); the incipient wood.

The timeframe allowed before the tree is unsafe and removal is the only option will be determined by the rate of spread of the fungus.

## CONCLUSION

The test result provides evidence that the tree is structurally sound at the test height. The tree has estimated life expectancy of less than 10 years at the test point. Roadside reserve – Bunbury Street frontage of 56 Whitehall Street 36 *Ulmus x hollandica* Dutch Elm 2300mm above ground level at sensor one 3325mm at test height



However, it is acknowledged that the tree could be retained in the short-term, but its removal may be warranted because of its poor canopy management history and reduced life expectancy due to the extent of trunk decay effecting the structural integrity of the primary unions.

#### Tree Number Botanical Name Common Name Test Height Tree Circumference

The Sonic Tomograph test result indicates 93% of the test area is sound (high density) wood. There is 5% of incipient wood (wood being altered by the fungus). The remaining 2% is active fungus and decayed (low density) wood.

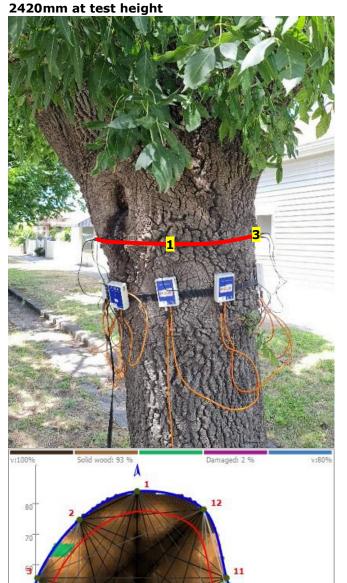
The southern side of the tree's canopy has been routinely pruned for line clearance.

The test result shows some minor areas of incipient and dysfunctional wood in the sapwood between sensors 2 and 5; and between sensors 7 and 11. It is likely that these areas are minor imperfections in the wood caused by old wound, insects etc. This incipient and dysfunctional wood were not assessed as a structural issue and will likely compartmentalise.

The test result shows that there is negligible degradation to the structural integrity of the trunk and that there is sufficient sound wood to maintain structural support for the trunk at the test height. It is observed that new wood growth increments are occurring at sensors 1, 2, 5, 7, 10 and 12.

The timeframe allowed before the tree is unsafe and removal is the only option will be determined by the rate of spread of the fungus.

#### Roadside reserve – Bunbury Street frontage of 1 Hyde Street 3 *Fraxinus excelsior* European Ash 1700mm above ground level at sensor one



#### CONCLUSION

The tree displays health and vigour that is typical for the species and the test result provides evidence that the tree is in excellent condition and is structurally sound at the test height.

The tree has an estimated life expectancy of greater than 40 years at the test point. It is recommended that the tree is retested in 5 years to assess the progression of the pathogen and to structural integrity of the trunk at the test height.

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#### **DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

ENSPEC Pty Ltd and their employees are specialists who use their knowledge, training, and education (qualifications), infield learning experiences, personal experiences research, diagnostic tools, scientific equipment to examine trees, recommend measures to enhance the beauty, health, and preservation of trees, to reduce the risk of living near trees.

Trees are living organisms that can be affected by pests, diseases, and natural events outside of ENSPEC control. ENSPEC and their employees cannot detect every condition that affects a trees health, condition, and structural integrity. Conditions are often hidden within trees and below ground where humans cannot naturally see. Unless otherwise stated, ENSPEC's employee's observations have been visually made from ground level.

In the event that ENSPEC recommends retesting or inspection of trees at stated intervals, or ENSPEC recommends the installation engineering solutions, ENSPEC must inspect the engineering solution at intervals of not greater than 12 months, unless otherwise specified in writing. It is the client's responsibility to make arrangements with ENSPEC to conduct re-inspections.

Intervention treatments of trees may involve considerations beyond the scope of ENSPEC's service, such as property boundaries and ownership, disputes between neighbours, sight lines, landlord-tenant matters and other related incidents. ENSPEC cannot take such issues into account unless complete and accurate information is given prior or at the time of the site inspection. Likewise, ENSPEC Pty Ltd cannot accept responsibility for the authorisation or non-authorisation of any recommended treatment or remedial measures undertaken.

ENSPEC Pty Ltd cannot guarantee that a tree will be healthy or safe under all circumstances or for a specified period of time after our initial inspection and recommendations.

If this written report is to be used in a court of law, or any other legal situation, or by other parties ENSPEC must be advised in writing prior to the written report being presented in any form to any other party. All written reports must be read in their entirety. At no time shall part of the written assessment be referred to unless taken in full context with the whole written report.

Clients may choose to accept or disregard the recommendations of the assessment and written report.

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