

SHIRE OF YARRA RANGES
ADDITIONAL INSPECTION REPORT

REPORT NO.: CRTS 731725	INSPECTION TYPE: Climbing	DATE OF INSPECTION: 16/06/16
OBSERVATIONS: The tree is a large remnant Manna Gum situated in a public carpark and presents in fair to good health. A limb in the lower canopy appears to have failed recently and a normal amount of major deadwood is present. The tree bifurcates at approximately ground level with an active split present on the eastern side of the union. The opposite side of the split did not appear to be opening on the day of the inspection. A 2 tonne cobra brace is present approximately mid canopy to support this bifurcated union at the base. The brace is weathered & taut with no expansion loop present at the southern termination. A wound is present approximately 2 metres up the main stem with significant decay extending down toward the bifurcated union.		
COMMENTS / RECOMMENDATIONS: The decay present in the main stem, particularly at the site of the bifurcation, needs to be explored further via a Picus test to determine its extent and whether it is viable to retain the tree. The current brace is inadequate to support the size/weight of the leader. It appears to have been either installed incorrectly or the expansion loop has been pulled out due to growth and/or heavy wind loading. Cobra bracing material does suffer UV degradation and it can be assumed there has been a loss of holding strength since it was originally installed. If further testing reveals the tree is suitable for retention the current brace must be replaced with a more robust steel system using 20mm rod, eye nuts & washers & 11mm steel core cable held with Eureka clamps. This must be combined with significant weight reduction of the southern leader to reduce loading on the bifurcated union. Further weight reduction to the remaining canopy is also required to reduce failure potential of major scaffold limbs along with the removal of major deadwood. To reduce compaction pressure on the rootzone, consideration should be given to creating a permanent exclusion zone under the dripline of the canopy combined with aeration works and mulching. This will also exclude the public from parking directly underneath the tree		
COMPANY: Heritage Tree Professionals	NAME: [REDACTED]	DATE: 29/06/16

PHOTOS:



Existing brace with no expansion loop at the southern termination



Looking down on the union to being supported



Large wound present in main trunk with decay extending down toward bifurcated union



Overview of tree highlighting southern leader that needs weight reduction, red line indicates limb to be removed