



Michael Victor Ruggiero, CA  
5545 Netherland Ave #3F  
Bronx, New York 10471

November 1, 2022

Kevin McAliley  
444 W. 23<sup>rd</sup> St  
New York, Ny 10011

Dear Mr. Kevin McAliley:

**Re: Consulting Arborist Impact Assessment of Climbing Vine & Recommended Actions**

Below are data, site observations, and rationale in support of recommended actions for the problematic English Ivy vine climbing on the tree growing in the rear yard of your co-op building located at 444 W. 23<sup>rd</sup> St, NY, NY. Accompanying are support images.

Relevant Tree Data

**Species:** Gleditsia triacanthos inermis Common Thornless Honeylocust

**Size:** ~12" DBH (trunk diameter at breast height)

**Health Condition:** Fair, growth rate is average, to below-average due parasitic climbing Ivy

**Site Condition:** dense urban, enclosed by continuous 5-story buildings & privacy fences

**Root Condition:** CONSTRUCTED. Severely by surrounding private patio pavements, which limits root growth to narrow confines. As a rule, such conditions compromise tree root anchoring capability, and in turn, overall structural stability of subject trees. Mature, tall trees in particular.

Climbing Vine Data & Observations

**Species:** Hedera helix English Ivy

**Stem Size:** main is 4" in diameter, 1/3 size of host tree's. See photos.

**Vine Height** – up to 40' in host canopy. **Canopy Coverage:** approximately 1/4 . See photos.

**Health Condition:** vigorous, robust, inordinately so, reflected in vine's rampant growth

**Impact Assessment:** Severe. Parasitic on host tree, by reason of the following:

- **Soil Area:** Vine roots rob host tree of water, air, and nutrient uptake, which exasperates the roots' already deleterious confined conditions, outlined above.
- **Vine Weight:** heavy and burdensome on host currently. Burden will worsen, by increasing measure, with vine ongoing rampant growth, to a level that will cause tree failure, its toppling over, and damages related.
- **Canopy Cover:** ongoing rampant growth will eventually engulf entire canopy, robbing tree of critical sunlight for photosynthesis, or the energy to make food to support itself.



CA Recommended Action

Complete physical cutting of stems and root treatment measures in order to kill the parasitic vine in its entirety, according to International Society of Arboriculture best practices.

Time Frame –High Line Arborist strongly recommends that action above be carried out before the 2023 growing season; that is within 5-month period from the date of this letter, Nov. 1, 2022 to April 1, 2023. *Note that the longer the vine is allowed to grow (upwards of 2-3' per year), the more of an unsightly residual brown, dead vine that all residents nearby will have to look at – as costs to remove vine stems from host tree and site premises will be great.*

The physical circumstances and evidence at 444 W. 23<sup>rd</sup> are straightforward toward recommended action. Please advise however if you need clarity on any of what is outlined above.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Michael V. Ruggiero'. The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a light blue horizontal line.

Michael V. Ruggiero, ISA Certified Arborist NY-5409A



4" Main Stem of Climbing English Ivy

