

September 26, 2024

City of Biloxi Tree Committee

City of Biloxi Planning Commission

Subject: Case Number: TR-24-002, Cottages at Moffett Rd, 308 & 309 Moffett Road, Biloxi, MS, Dr Chris Rains

Commission Members,

This letter provides further background on the discussion at the planning meeting and makes recommendation for the City Planning Commission. On March 7<sup>th</sup> this project was presented to the City of Biloxi Planning Commission. At that time there were only three trees presented to be removed.

Dr Rains has now requested that 12 Live Oak Trees are to be removed. Our Tree Committee has met on the property several times. This is currently vacant land with many Live Oak Trees. Dr Rains followed the City of Biloxi guidelines and had a licensed arborist provide the current tree site plan.

Trees number 129 and 150 seem to be marked wrong and should have their numbers reversed.

Tree 117 could be saved if Dr Rains would move the driveway? But we don't have information on the city requirement for this driveway (possibility required for the firetrucks to turn as Dr Rains explained on his walk through) If not required we would encourage him to do this.

After walking the property, September 26, 2024 with the City of Biloxi Tree Arborist, our Tree Committee met. We are disappointed that 12 Live Oaks are being removed but we understand it is for roadways, underground infrastructure and turnarounds and we know he is allowed to do this for his development. He has provided the correct mitigation required by our City Tree Code for the trees he is taking out and they are all located on the property. Additionally, he has preserved

the bigger viable Live Oak Trees and has worked around these to save them with this project. He will provide limestone for the driveways to help preserve the tree roots.

He has agreed to the requirements for tree trimming, and removal and will get the required tree permits.

We have some questions about the pins located by tree #46 / #47 & # 25. These pins were just recently placed and are located by the MS Power Property. We believe this is the vacated property for the Moffett Road that was voted on in March by the Planning Commission? The pins were not there on Tuesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. They are not on the current site plan and these trees are located on the outside of the property line? These trees are marked to be taken out or trimmed? We are not sure which? Zach Harris, our City Arborist is going check this before the meeting on October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Our tree committee voted and the majority (3) voted to allow him to remove the trees. We had two (2) members who voted against this.

I know you must agree, we must protect the beauty and heritage of our Live Oak Trees. As presented the property owner intends to follow the tree guidelines.

Respectfully,

SUSAN R PETERSON  
City of Biloxi Tree Chairperson/Secretary