

1.1.5 Installation of new trees replacing previously removed diseased Birch trees

History of previously removed diseased trees:

In spring of 2023 and unrelated to the steel window replacement and glass block repairs of LPB 470/22, Seattle Public School Grounds Team removed three (3) existing diseased birch trees located on the south side of the school's eastern classroom wing (A-wing) due to impacts from a Bronze Birch Borer larvae infestation. Seattle Public Schools does not have a complete history but does not believe the three (3) previously removed diseased birch trees were planted before the school's 1980 landmark nomination. The previously removed trees were originally planted between 4-to-6-feet

away from the school building and varied in height from 30-35-feet tall (slightly above/below the 32-foot high adjacent rooftop copings). The trunks of the three (3) previously removed birch trees ranged from 10-to-12-inches when measured 4-1/2-feet above ground level. Although there are not complete records it is believed that these birch trees were originally planted to address the severe heat gain and temperature generated by the school's original glass block bays and original single-pane steel windows.

Reason for Proposal:

The proposal to replace the three (3) previously removed and diseased birch trees is only related to the work LPB 470/22 by a desire to take a portion of the Projects landscaping budget to provide additional shaded areas for students to utilize on the schools less visible south end exterior spaces.

Proposal:

This proposal requests approval to plant three (3) *Nyssa Sylvatica* which are ornamental shade trees that reach a typical mature height of 30-to-50-feet tall with a 20-to-30-foot-wide spread. The proposed trees would be planted a minimum of 15-feet away from the school and evenly spaced as shown in the "Landscaping Impacts & Proposed Replacement – Rev 2 document dated April 23, 2025 which is attached to the end of this document.



Image-1 above is an aerial photograph taken in 1950 sometime after completion of the original school building.



Image-3 above shows the original landscaping circa 1954 along the north side of the school.



Image-4 above is an aerial photograph looking generally southwest taken sometime in 1965 of the original school building.



Image-6 above is an aerial photograph looking generally north taken sometime in 1965 of the original school building.

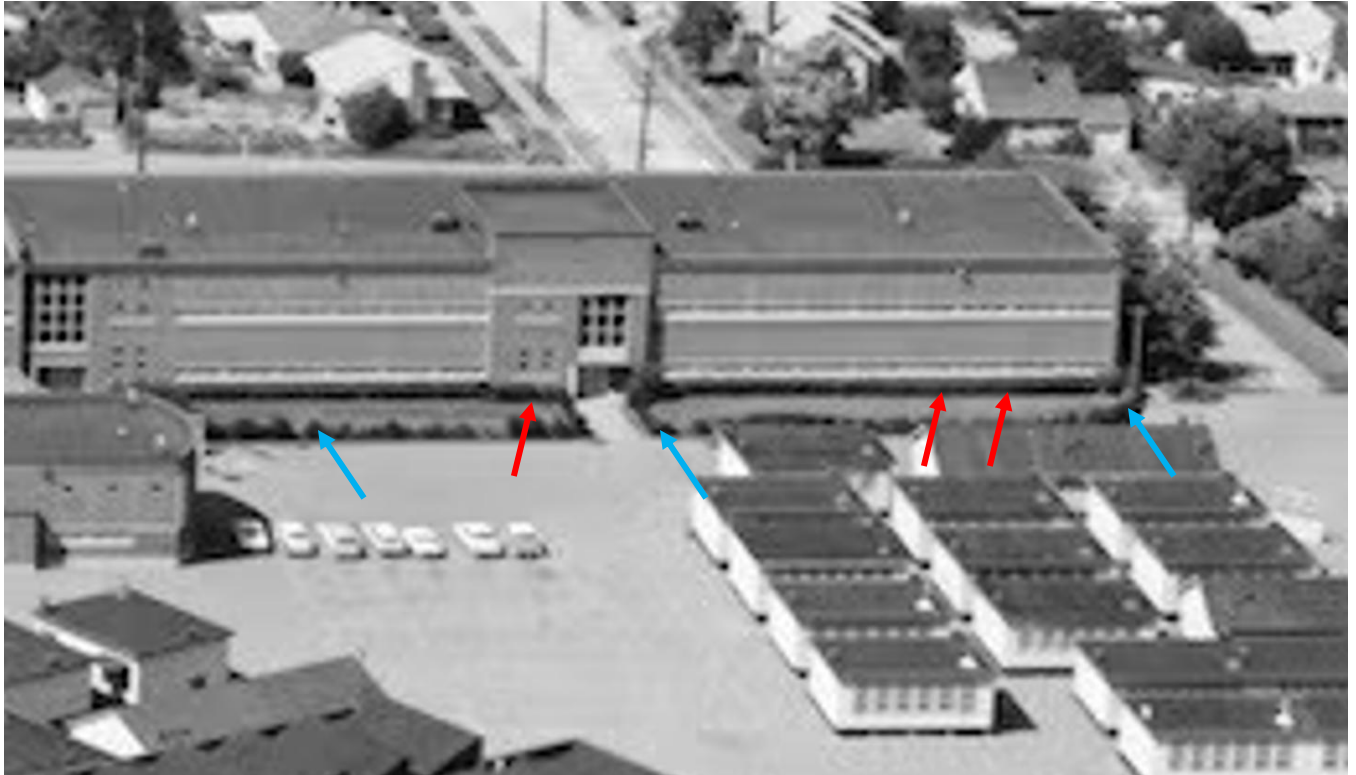


Image-7 above is an enlarged view of Image-6 (circa 1965). Note: Blue arrow points to shrubs that were planted along the edge of the parking area. There is no information or date for when these shrubs were previously removed and no replacement of these shrubs is included in this proposal. Note: The location of the previously removed diseased trees (which are not shown in this photo) is indicated by the red arrows above

K LEUCOTHOE AND POLYSTICHUM SHRUBS PRUNED BACK DURING PHASE 1 ARE BEGINNING TO GROW BACK. NO REPLACEMENT ACTION PROPOSED. TREE FORM RHODODENDRON AND PIERIS WERE HEAVILY PRUNED DURING PHASE 1, MONITOR THROUGH THE GROWING SEASON FOR RECOVERY, REPLACING IN-KIND IN THE SAME LOCATION IN THE FALL IF PLANTS DO NOT SHOW SIGNS OF RECOVERY.

BEFORE PHASE 1



AFTER PHASE 1



L PIERIS SHRUBS PRUNED TO 6" HEIGHT DURING PHASE 1 PER ARBORIST RECOMMENDATIONS ARE ALREADY BEGINNING TO GROW BACK - NO REPLACEMENT ACTION PROPOSED.

BEFORE PHASE 1

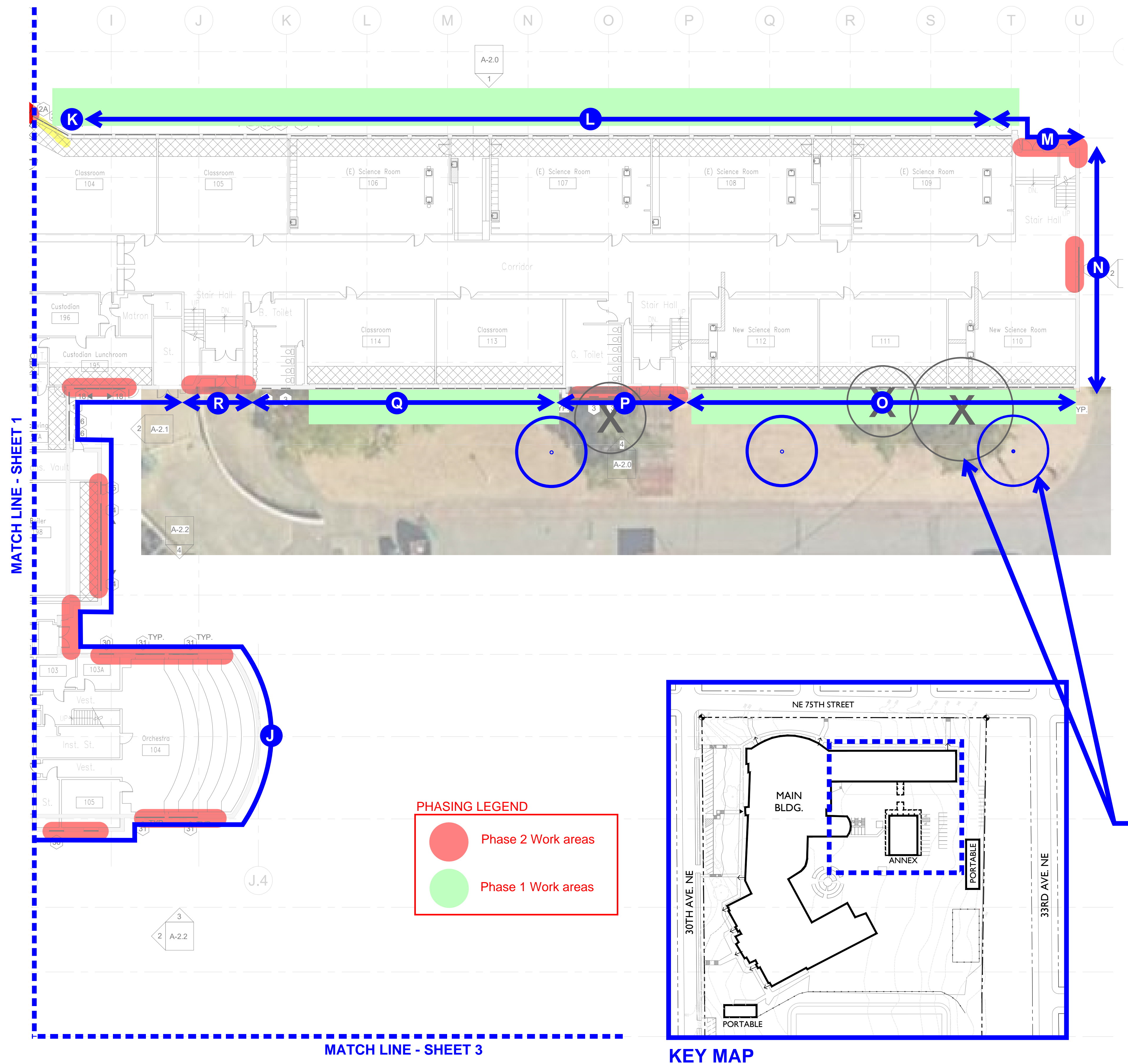


AFTER PHASE 1



M NO IMPACT TO GROUNDCOVER AND DAPHNE SHRUB IN RAISED PLANTERS ADJACENT TO THE DOORS ANTICIPATED.

BEFORE PHASE 2



N IMPACTS LIMITED TO TREE PRUNING COMPLETED DURING PHASE 1 TO ACCOMMODATE ROOF REPAIR WORK. NO IMPACT TO LIGUSTRUM SHRUBS ALONG BUILDING FACE ANTICIPATED DURING PHASE 2, LIFT ACCESS WIL BE USED TO COMPLETE WINDOW REPLACEMENT WORK IN THIS AREA.

AFTER PHASE 1



O ESCALLONIA SHRUBS PRUNED TO 6" HEIGHT DURING PHASE 1 PER ARBORIST RECOMMENDATIONS ARE BEGINNING TO GROW BACK - NO REPLACEMENT ACTION PROPOSED.

BEFORE PHASE 1



AFTER PHASE 1



X EXISTING BIRCH TREES REMOVED BY SEATTLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS GROUNDS' TEAM PRIOR TO PH 1 WORK. PER SPS GROUNDS, ALL THREE TREES WERE DEAD/DYING DUE TO IMPACTS FROM THE BRONZE BIRCH BORER.

REPLACE REMOVED BIRCH TREES WITH THREE NEW NYSSA SYLVATICA IN THE LOCATIONS SHOWN. NEW TREES TO BE PLANTED MIN 15' FROM THE EXISTING BUILDING.

PROPOSED REPLACEMENT SPECIES:
NYSSA SYLVATICA
MEDIUM SIZE DECIDUOUS TREE
MATURE SIZE: 30-50' TALL, 20-30' SPREAD



P NO IMPACT TO YUCCA SHRUBS IN RAISED PLANTER ANTICIPATED. SHRUBS WEST OF THE DOORS TO BE PRUNED BACK TO 4' HEIGHT TO ALLOW LIFT ACCESS FOR WINDOW AND GLASS BLOCK REPLACEMENT. NO REPLACEMENT ACTION PROPOSED.

BEFORE PHASE 2



Q IMPACTS LIMITED TO TREE PRUNING COMPLETED DURING PHASE 1 TO ACCOMMODATE LIFT ACCESS AND/OR SCAFFOLDING.

AFTER PHASE 1



R NO IMPACT TO YUCCA SHRUBS IN RAISED PLANTER ADJACENT TO THE DOORS ANTICIPATED. LIFT ACCESS WILL BE USED TO COMPLETE WINDOW REPLACEMENT WORK IN THIS AREA.

BEFORE PHASE 2



J NO EXISTING LANDSCAPING AT BUILDING FACE IN THIS AREA. IMPACTS WILL BE LIMITED TO MINOR TREE PRUNING WHERE NECESSARY TO ACCOMMODATE LIFT ACCESS AND/OR SCAFFOLDING.

BEFORE PHASE 2



BEFORE PHASE 2



ECKSTEIN MIDDLE SCHOOL WINDOW REPLACEMENT LANDSCAPING IMPACTS & PROPOSED REPLACEMENT - REV 2