

FIRST INTERSTATE/●

PROPERTIES, LTD.

Two Commerce Park Square, Suite 202
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June 10' 2003

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Mr. Robert Klitz, Facilities Manager
Laurel School
One Lyman Circle
Shaker Heights, OH 44122

Re: Letter of reference on behalf of the Forest City Tree Protection Company.

Dear Mr. Klitz,

The Forest City Tree Protection Company has provided tree care services for First Interstate Properties over the past six (6) months at our Legacy Village project located in the City of Lyndhurst. Forest City Tree has provided various services including pruning, removal, installation of cables and rods, root therapy, diagnosis, elm care, and consultation.

Having worked closely with Forest City Tree, its representatives and its crews, I can attest to their high level of professionalism, knowledge, expert skill, and timeliness of service. The high visibility of our project places a premium on quality work and the nature of this project often requires quick response time. Forest City Tree's crews are well supervised and perform quality work according to our strict specifications. And, when the need for emergency serv/ce has arisen, they have responded very quickly.

As I understand it, Laurel School's Fairmount Campus is intended to preserve a natural environment. As such, you must significantly restrict the use of heavy equipment within the root zones of your trees. Our tree protection plans have placed similar restrictions on tree work done within our landscape buffer areas. The excellent climbing and rigging skills demonstrated by Forest City Tree's crews has made it possible to accomplish needed tree work while staying within the framework of these restrictions.

While helping us identify hazardous trees for removal, they also made recommendations for cable and rod installations and specialized injection treatments to enable us to preserve trees that would otherwise have to be removed.

Based upon our experience with the Forest City Tree Protection Company, I would highly recommend them to provide tree care services at Laurel School's Fairmount Campus.

Sincerely,

David Vorndran, Project Consultant
First Interstate Properties, LTD.