Tree Risk Management Methodology:

Tree risk management methodology created and endorsed by The International Society of Arboriculture was designed to provide a systematic process for assessing tree risk. Within this methodology the trees' likelihood of failure is assessed in relation to its likelihood of impacting a target within its fall zone (see likelihood matrix below). This likelihood rating is then measured against the consequence of the failure impacting a target to finally calculate a risk rating (see risk matrix below). This target-based approach is a powerful tool when prioritizing tree inspections in the urban environment, especially for inspectors responsible for large tree populations were visiting every tree is impossible. However, as the likelihood of failure is subjective, the risk assessment can be easily manipulated by the inspecting arborist to calculate risk ratings which supports his or her proclivities regarding tree management.

Matrix 1. Likelihood matrix.

Likelihood of Failure	Likelihood of Impact			
	Very low	**Low**	**Medium**	**High**
Imminent	Unlikely	Somewhat likely	Likely	Very likely
Probable	Unlikely	Unlikely	Somewhat likely	Likely
Possible	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Somewhat likely
Improbable	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely

Matrix 2. Risk rating matrix.

Likelihood of Failure & Impact	Consequences of Failure			
	Negligible	**Minor**	**Significant**	**Severe**
Very likely	Low	Moderate	High	Extreme
Likely	Low	Moderate	High	High
Somewhat likely	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate
Unlikely	Low	Low	Low	Low

(Source: ISA 2018)