

## **Tree Removal - 423 Millwood Road (North Toronto)**

*(City Council on November 23, 24 and 25, 1999, adopted this Clause, without amendment.)*

**The Toronto Community Council recommends that a permit for tree removal at 423 Millwood Road be refused, and the applicant be encouraged to erect a carport on the property as a solution.**

**The Toronto Community Council submits the following report (October 20, 1999) from the Commissioner, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism:**

### Purpose:

An application for a permit to remove one tree on private property has been filed by Mr. Sean Brady, Brady Construction, 239 Belsize Drive, Toronto, M4J 1M5, agent for the owner, Mr. Peter Ronaldson, 423 Millwood Road, Toronto, M4S 1K3.

### Financial Implications and Impact Statement:

There are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report.

### Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) a permit for tree removal be refused; or
- (2) a permit for tree removal be issued conditional on the tree in question not being removed until permitted construction and/or demolition related activities in accordance with plans approved under the building permit application for the subject project commence which warrant the destruction of the tree.

### Background:

The applicant is proposing to construct a garage at the rear of the property. The tree in question is growing on the portion of the property where the garage is proposed.

### Comments:

The tree in question is a 34 centimetre diameter white birch in fair condition, located in the southwest corner of the property. The applicant is proposing to construct a driveway off of Belle Ayre Boulevard to a single car garage. The location of the tree conflicts with the proposed garage and the construction activity would significantly impact the trees' root system leading to the decline of this specimen. If a driveway using a porous surface such as gravel were constructed to a carport on piers, (conditional on approval from Urban Planning and

Development Services), the impact on the birch tree would be reduced, but there would still be injury to the tree resulting from the compaction of the soil.

The property is well treed with spruce, elm and young red oaks, and there is no suitable planting site for a replacement tree if approval is granted for removal of the white birch.

A notice of application sign was posted on the property for the required fourteen day posting period, in order to notify the neighbourhood and provide an opportunity for objection to the application. One written objection and one petition were received in response to the application to remove the tree in question. Copies of these letters have been forwarded to the Community Council Secretary for Community Council to review.

Conclusions:

The white birch tree is a healthy specimen that is important to the community. In the opinion of forestry staff, the garage proposed for the southwest corner of the property should be abandoned and other alternatives for parking should be explored.

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The Toronto Community Council reports, for the information of Council, having also had before it during consideration of the foregoing matter, a communication from Lucy and Peter Ronaldson (October 24, 1999), and a copy thereof is on file in the office of the City Clerk.

(A copy of Attachment 1 and 2, referred to in the foregoing report, was forwarded to all Members of the Toronto Community Council with the agenda for its meeting on November 9, 1999, and a copy thereof is on file in the office of the City Clerk).

Mr. Peter Ronaldson appeared before the Toronto Community Council in connection with the foregoing matter.