

Removal of City-owned Tree - 41 Wayland Avenue (East Toronto)

(City Council on December 14, 15 and 16, 1999, adopted this Clause, without amendment.)

The Toronto Community Council again recommends that the request for removal of the City-owned tree at 41 Wayland Avenue be denied.

The Toronto Community Council submits the following communication (November 5, 1999) from the City Clerk:

At its meeting held on October 26 and 27, 1999, the Council of the City of Toronto adopted the following motion by Councillor Jakobek and Councillor Disero:

“Whereas City Council at its meeting held on July 27, 28, 29 and 30, 1999, adopted, without amendment, Clause No. 19 of Report No. 11 of The Toronto Community Council headed, ‘Removal of City-owned Tree - 41 Wayland Avenue (East Toronto)’; and

Whereas the owner wishes to appeal the decisions of the Toronto Community Council and Toronto City Council;

Now Therefore Be it Resolved That, in accordance with Section 46 of the Council Procedural By-law, Clause No. 19 of Report No. 11 of The Toronto Community Council headed, ‘Removal of City-owned Tree - 41 Wayland Avenue (East Toronto)’, be re-opened for further consideration;

And Be it Further Resolved That Clause No. 19 of Report No. 11 of The Toronto Community Council headed, ‘Removal of City-owned Tree - 41 Wayland Avenue (East Toronto)’, be referred back to the Toronto Community for deputations.”

A copy of the Clause can be picked up from the Secretariat Division, City Clerk’s Department, 4th Floor, West Tower, City Hall, 100 Queen Street West, for a nominal charge.

The Toronto Community Council also submits Clause 19 of Toronto Community Council Report No. 11, headed “Removal of City-owned Tree – 41 Wayland Avenue (East Toronto)”:

(City Council on July 27, 28, 29 and 30, 1999, adopted this Clause, without amendment.)

The Toronto Community Council recommends that the request for removal of the City-owned tree at 41 Wayland Avenue be denied.

The Toronto Community Council submits the following report (June 22, 1999) from the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism:

Purpose:

A request to remove one City-owned tree at 41 Wayland Avenue due to its exposed surface roots and damage to the property's drains has been filed by the owner, Ms. Pamela Ryan of 41 Wayland Avenue, Toronto, Ontario.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the request for removal of this City-owned tree be denied.

Comments:

The tree in question is a thirty-nine centimetre diameter Norway Maple in fair condition, valued at \$1,219.61 and does not qualify for removal at this time. The costs to remove the tree is \$346.38 and the cost to plant a replacement tree is \$565.15, for a total of \$2,131.14. If Council should approve tree removal contrary to the recommendation in this report, it should be conditional on the applicant paying all costs involved, as noted above for a total of \$2,131.14.

With respect to the applicant's concerns about the tree affecting her drains, Urban Forestry Services advised that Ms. Ryan that tree roots generally grow within the first twenty-four inches of soil where they are best able to meet their needs for oxygen, water and nutrients. Any soil area deeper than twenty-four inches becomes anaerobic and the roots can not meet their needs. In circumstances where a broken or cracked drain has become leaky, tree roots will grow deeper than normal as they are attracted to the water nutrients and oxygen available from the broken drains. It is not the tree that breaks the drains, it is a broken or cracked drain which attracts the roots.

Conclusion:

The Norway Maple contributes to the enhancement of the community. Since it would be necessary to remove a healthy tree which does not qualify for removal, this Department is opposed to removal of this tree. Furthermore, removal of trees for this purpose would set an undesirable precedent resulting in thousands of trees being removed City wide.

Contact:

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