



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**

275 Lesmill Road – Removal of One (1) Privately-owned Tree

Date:	December 14, 2006
To:	North York Community Council
From:	Brenda Librecz, General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
Wards:	Ward 34, Don Valley East
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to request Community Council’s approval authorizing the removal of one (1) Norway maple tree, located on private property, that has been filed by the owner of 275 Lesmill Road.

The request to remove the tree is in connection with a proposal to construct a one-storey addition at the rear of the subject property. The subject tree is located within the building envelope of the proposed addition and there are no viable options that would enable the construction to proceed and retain the tree on site.

The applicant has submitted a replanting plan that proposes planting nine (9) new trees. The species and size of the proposed new trees are satisfactory to Urban Forestry and we, therefore, recommend that Council approve the request for permission to remove the Norway maple tree conditional on the applicant planting nine (9) replacement trees upon completion of construction, and on the tree not being removed until the necessary building permits for the proposed addition have been obtained.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation recommends that:

1. the request for a permit to remove one (1) privately owned Norway maple tree, located at 275 Lesmill Road, be approved conditional on the planting of nine (9) replacement trees and on the tree not being removed until the necessary building permits have been obtained for the construction of the proposed rear addition;

2. the appropriate City Officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

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

ISSUE BACKGROUND

In accordance with the *City of Toronto Municipal Code, Chapter 813, Trees, Article III*, the applicant is applying to remove one privately-owned tree to facilitate the construction of a one-storey addition proposed at the rear of 275 Lesmill Road.

COMMENTS

The applicant has submitted an application requesting permission to remove a 36-centimetre diameter Norway maple tree, located at the rear of 275 Lesmill Road. An inspection by Urban Forestry staff confirmed the report of an independent arborist, retained by the applicant, which stated that the Norway maple tree is in good condition. (Attachments 1 and 2). The tree is located within the building envelope of the one-storey addition that is proposed at the rear of the existing building (Attachment 3).

A second Norway maple tree that is 42 centimetres in diameter is also located within the building envelope for the proposed one-storey addition. This tree is in poor condition as noted in the independent arborist report and as confirmed by Urban Forestry staff. Under the provision of *Section 813-16 B, of City of Toronto Municipal Code, Chapter 813, Trees Article III*, Urban Forestry is authorized to issue a permit where trees are in poor condition and cannot be maintained in a healthy and safe condition.

The applicant has submitted a plan (Attachment 3) proposing the planting of four (4) Shademaster honey locust trees (*Gleditsia triacanthos* 'Shademaster') and five (5) serviceberry trees (*Amelanchier canadensis*) as replacement for the two (2) Norway maple trees.

As required under *Section 813-17, of City of Toronto Municipal Code, Chapter 813, Trees, Article III*, a 'Notice' of Application sign for the 36-centimetre diameter Norway maple tree was posted on the subject property for the minimum 14-day posting period in order to notify the neighbourhood and provide an opportunity for objection to the application. There were no letters of objection to the application received as a result of the posting.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Brenda Librecz
General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1 – Photograph showing the 36-cm and 42-cm diameter Norway maple trees at the rear of 275 Lesmill Road.
- Attachment 2 – Photograph showing the 36-cm diameter Norway maple tree at the rear of 275 Lesmill Road.
- Attachment 3 - Site plan drawing showing the extent of proposed paving, the proposed one storey addition, the location of the two privately-owned trees and the proposed new trees.

Attachment 1 – Photograph showing the 36-cm and 42-cm diameter Norway maple trees at the rear of 275 Lesmill Road.



42.0 centimetre Norway maple tree (*Acer platanoides*) rated in poor condition.

36.0 centimetre Norway maple tree (*Acer platanoides*) rated in good condition.

Attachment 2 – Photograph showing the 36-cm diameter Norway maple tree at the rear of 275 Lesmill Road.



Attachment 3 - Site plan drawing showing the extent of proposed paving, the proposed one storey addition, the location of the two privately-owned trees and the proposed new trees.

