

10 Dinan St – Removal of One Private Tree

Date:	August 15, 2007
To:	North York Community Council
From:	Brenda Librecz, General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
Wards:	Ward 16, Eglinton-Lawrence
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

The report requests Council's authority to deny the request for removal of one (1) privately-owned 41-centimetre diameter Colorado blue spruce (*Picea pungens*) tree located at the rear of 10 Dinan Street. The application has been made due to concerns expressed by the property owner that the tree is in poor condition.

The spruce tree is healthy and shows no symptoms of cytospora canker, as indicated in the independent Arborist Report submitted with the application. With proper care and maintenance, the tree should continue to provide benefits to the community for years to come. Urban Forestry cannot support removal of this tree.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation recommends that Council deny the request for a permit to remove one (1) privately-owned tree at 10 Dinan Street.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

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

ISSUE BACKGROUND

In accordance with *City of Toronto Municipal Code, Chapter 813, Trees, Article III*, an application has been made for a permit to remove four (4) privately owned trees located at the rear of the property municipally known as 10 Dinan Street. The trees in question are a 42-centimetre diameter Siberian elm (*Ulmus pumila*), a 55-centimetre diameter Siberian elm (*Ulmus pumila*), a 65-centimetre diameter Siberian elm (*Ulmus pumila*), and a 41-centimetre diameter Colorado blue spruce (*Picea pungens*) situated at the rear of the

property. This application has been made due to concerns expressed by the property owners that the trees are in poor condition.

The General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation is prepared to issue permits for the removal of the three Siberian elm trees conditional on the implementation of a satisfactory landscape plan.

COMMENTS

The independent arborist report submitted with the application states that the spruce tree in question is “terminally diseased” with cytospora canker. An inspection by staff revealed that the 41cm diameter Colorado blue spruce (*Picea pungens*) is healthy and can be maintained in good condition. The tree has a well developed crown with very little deadwood throughout and shows no symptoms of cytospora canker. The crown of the tree has been elevated by pruning. No significant structural weaknesses were apparent.

As required under *Section 813-17, of City of Toronto Municipal Code, Chapter 813, Trees, Article III*, a ‘Notice’ of application sign was posted on the subject property for the minimum 14 day posting period. The posting serves to notify the community of the application and provide an opportunity for objection. Three (3) letters of objection were received in response to the posting.

The subject tree is significant and is a valuable part of the forest community that exists within this area. With proper care and maintenance, the tree should continue to provide benefits to the property and to the community for many years to come. Urban Forestry cannot support removal of this tree due to its viable condition.

CONTACT

Richard Ubbens, R.P.F., Director, Urban Forestry, Tel: 416-392-1894, Fax: 416-392-1915, Email: rubbens@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

Brenda Librecz
General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 - Photograph of spruce tree
Attachment 2 - Letters of Objection

Attachment 1 – Photograph of spruce tree



Mr. & Mrs.

Toronto, ON

June 13, 2007

Urban Forestry Services
18 Dyas Road
Toronto, ON

BY FAX: (416) 392-0963
Attention: Wendy Strickland

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

We noticed your sign in front of 10 Dinan St., and although we do not live on Dinan Street, the trees are clearly visible from our backyard. They certainly do add a lot to the scenery.

We totally oppose the removal of the trees at the backyard of 10 Dinan St.

Attachment 2 – Letters of objection

JUN-12-2007 16:14
JUN-12-2007 15:35

URBAN FORESTRY TORONTO

416 392 0963 P.01/01

Mr. & Mrs.

Toronto, ON

June 12, 2007

Urban Forestry Services
18 Dyas Road
Toronto, ON

Attention: Wendy Strickland

BY FAX: (416) 392-0963

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

RE: 10 Dinan Street, North York

In response to your sign posted in front of the property at 10 Dinan Street regarding removal of trees, we wish to herewith express our opposition to any further removal of trees. Our backyards are immediately opposite.

The trees between the houses are of great value to the natural setting of this area. It was for this reason that we purchased our home at this location because of the privacy and pleasant landscape.

Yours truly,

TOTAL P.01

MR. AND MRS.

...TORONTO, ONT. M5M 4L4

June 8, 2007

Urban Forestry Services
18 Dyas Road
Toronto, ON

Attention: Wendy Strickland

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Further to our telephone conversation of June 7, 2007, we are the property owners of _____, as well as _____ bordering to the rear on the west side of 10 Dinan Street, the property currently under construction.

For many years, this area has been enhanced by beautiful trees and privacy. There is only 1 tree in the rear of 10 Dinan Street, half-way between the house and the end of the rear yard, which is 75% dead. All other trees provide shade and privacy.

Subsequently, being neighbours from 2 sides, we can give our consent only to the tree, which is situated on the south-west border of the property, and appears currently to be not in a good shape. This tree is at the border of the two properties, approximately 26 yards to the west of the front of the house.

We thank you for your consideration and remain sincerely yours,

Owner of the properties at _____ and _____