

21 Chestnut Park – Application to Remove One (1) Private Tree

Date:	June 5, 2007
To:	Toronto – East York Community Council
From:	Brenda Librecz, General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
Wards:	Ward 27 – Toronto Centre – Rosedale
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

The report requests Council’s authority to deny the request for removal of one (1) privately-owned 65-centimetre diameter linden tree, located in the front yard of 21 Chestnut Park. The applicant has concerns with the structural condition of the tree and would like to re-landscape the front yard.

The tree is a healthy and viable specimen. 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 due to its viable condition and that the proposed landscaping can occur without having to remove the subject 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 21 Chestnut Park.

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 one (1) privately-owned tree located at the front of the property municipally known as 21 Chestnut Park. This application has been made as a result of re-landscaping proposed for the front yard and the applicant’s concern with the structural condition of the subject tree.

COMMENTS

An application for a permit has been received from the agent of the property owner of 21 Chestnut Park for the removal of one (1) privately-owned linden tree with a 65-

centimetre diameter. The tree is located 2.5 metres from the sidewalk and 1.0 metre from the driveway.

The tree is healthy and can continue to be maintained in good condition. The tree has a well-developed crown and minor trunk defects. A brace rod and cable has previously been installed to address concerns with the tree's structure.

The arborist report that was submitted with the application for a permit to remove the subject tree indicates that the tree is in good health with fair structure. Trunk defects noted in the arborist report include a girdling root, a 2.5 metre frost seam along the main trunk and a moderate lean towards the house. The arborist report also indicates that the property owner is willing to plant one tree on the City's road allowance and one tree on the private portion of the property.

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 of the notice serves to notify the community of the application and provide an opportunity for objection. Two (2) letters of objection to the removal of the tree were received in response to the posting.

Should the request for permit to remove the privately-owned linden tree located at 21 Chestnut Park be approved, approval must be conditional on the property owner planting replacement trees or providing cash-in-lieu of replanting to the satisfaction of the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation.

The subject tree is very 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 and the proposed landscaping can occur without having to remove the subject tree.

CONTACT

Richard Ubbens, 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 - Photographs of Linden Tree
Attachment 2 - Letters of Objection







Attachment 2 – Letters of Objection

FROM :

FILE NO. :

June 18 2006 11:22AM P1

URBAN FORESTRY SERVICES
18 DAVIS ROAD
FIRST FLOOR
TORONTO M3B-1W5

RECEIVED JUN 19 2006

JONC R-2006

Re 21 CHESTNUT PARK
TORONTO
REMOVAL OF LINDEN IN FRONT YARD.

GOOD MORNING, I AM A NEIGHBOUR OF
THE TREE. I WALK BY IT EVERYDAY, ITS
A GREAT TREE & GOOD EXAMPLE OF
A LINDEN. IN MY OPINION I WOULD
NOT LIKE TO SEE THE TREE REMOVED.
I WISH THAT IT STAYS.

YOURS TRULY

RECEIVED JUN 16 2006

Re: 21 Chestnut Park

We are very concerned at the state of the trees both within our Rosedale neighbourhood and throughout downtown Toronto.

As you know, we are losing mature trees at an alarming rate, in Rosedale particularly. This is having an increasingly detrimental affect on our streetscape and the park like setting which has been typical of this area in the past.

It is particularly disturbing, therefore, when homeowners propose to take down a healthy and younger mature tree.

We are opposed to the proposed removal of the little leaf linden tree at 21 Chestnut Park and trust that your department will not grant permission for this to take place. We hope that some arrangement can be made with the owners to accommodate their landscaping plans and preserve the linden tree.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Yours truly,