



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

108 Beaverbrook Court – Application to Remove a Private Tree

Date:	March 11, 2008
To:	Scarborough Community Council
From:	Brenda Librecz, General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
Wards:	Ward 44 – Scarborough East
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

This report requests Council’s authority to deny the request for removal of one (1) privately-owned tree located at the front of 108 Beaverbrook Court. The applicant is concerned that the tree is shallow rooted and that it could fall onto the house.

Inspection of the tree by staff revealed that the tree is in good condition. 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.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation recommends that City Council deny the request for permit to remove one (1) privately-owned tree at 108 Beaverbrook Court.

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, Private Tree Protection, Article III*, an application was submitted for a permit to remove one (1) privately-owned tree located at the front of the property municipally known as

108 Beaverbrook Court. The applicant is concerned that the tree may fall onto the house.

COMMENTS

An application for a permit has been received for the removal of one (1) privately-owned Colorado spruce tree with a 40 cm diameter.

The tree is healthy with no obvious structural weaknesses evident, and can continue to be maintained in good condition. The tree has a full, well-developed crown, and there are no visible signs of decay on the main stem. There is no evidence to suggest that the 40 cm diameter spruce tree will fail and fall on the house. The tree is located 9.0 metres from the house and 3.0 metres from the driveway.

An Arborist Report submitted with the application indicates that the tree is healthy, but too large for the property, with the potential of failing at some point. A replanting plan was submitted with the application to destroy the tree, indicating the planting of a 50 millimetre Norway maple tree in the front yard.

Colorado spruce (*Picea pungens*) have deep coarse lateral roots, similar to a number of tree species found in Toronto, including linden (*Tilia Americana*), red pine (*Pinus resinosa*), eastern white pine (*Pinus strobus*) and Kentucky coffeetree (*Gymnocladus dioicus*).

As required under *Section 813-17, of City of Toronto Municipal Code, Chapter 813, Private Tree Protection, Article III*, a 'Notice' of application sign was posted on the subject property for the minimum 14-day posting period. The posting of notice serves to notify the community of the application and provide an opportunity for objection. No letters of objection were received in response to the posting.

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

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

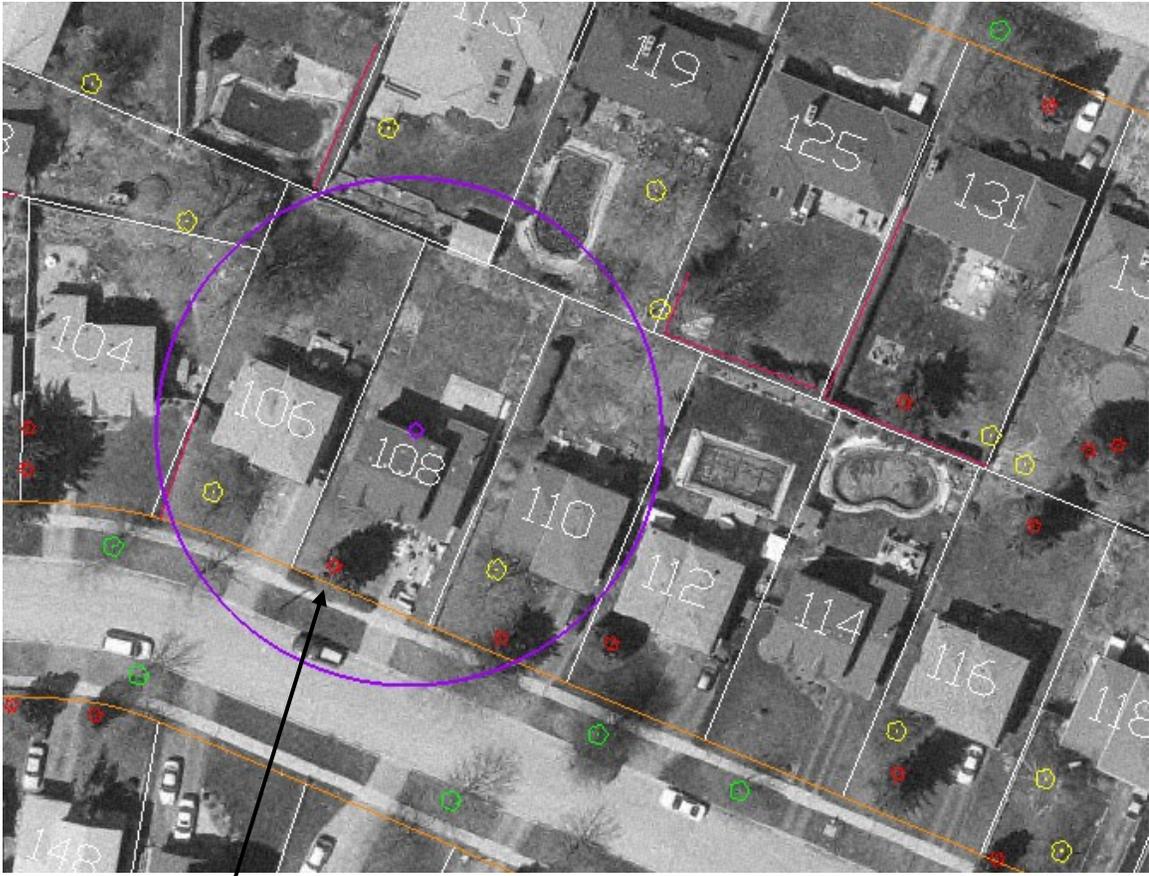
ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 - Photographs of Colorado spruce tree
Attachment 2 - Aerial photo of tree location

Attachment 1 – Photographs of Colorado Spruce tree



Attachment 2 - TMV2 Image of 108 Beaverbrook Court



approximate location of 40cm diameter Colorado spruce tree