

20 Holswade Road – Application to Remove a Private Tree

Date:	September 16, 2008
To:	Scarborough Community Council
From:	Brenda Patterson, General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
Wards:	Ward 35 – Scarborough Southwest
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

This report recommends that Council deny the request for removal of one (1) privately-owned tree located at the front of 20 Holswade Road. The owner is seeking removal as she states the tree is diseased, and requires removal to accommodate renovations to the existing house.

Inspection of the tree by staff revealed that the tree is in good condition and there are no visible signs of disease. 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 Council deny the request for permit to remove one (1) privately-owned 48 centimetre diameter Colorado spruce tree at 20 Holswade Road.

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 20 Holswade Road. The applicant states that the tree is diseased and requires removal to accommodate renovations to the existing house.

COMMENTS

An application for a permit has been received for the removal of one (1) 48 centimetre diameter privately-owned Colorado spruce tree.

The tree is healthy with no indications of disease, 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. It is located 4.7 m south of the house and 4.2 m west of the driveway.

The application includes information regarding construction proposed for the property. A second storey addition and garage along with a new concrete walkway and porch are proposed. An Arborist Report dated May 2, 2008, submitted with the application, indicates that the tree can be adequately protected during the proposed construction. A minimum protection zone of 3.0 m is required for the spruce tree and there is enough room to provide the minimum required protection and allow the proposed construction to take place. Staff recommend, and have advised the applicant, that the proposed walkway should be narrowed from the proposed 1.2 m to 1.0 m to reduce injury to the tree.

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 Patterson
General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 - Photographs of Colorado spruce tree
Attachment 2 – Location of tree in relation to proposed construction

Attachment 1 – Photographs of Colorado Spruce tree



Attachment 2 - Location of tree in relation to proposed construction

