

**Supplementary Report - 21 and 23 Mastwood Crescent
(formerly Buttermill Subdivision, East Side of East
Avenue) – Removal of Private Trees**

Date:	October 6, 2009
To:	Scarborough Community Council
From:	Brenda Patterson, General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
Wards:	Ward 44 – Scarborough East
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

Subsequent to submission of the Parks, Forestry and Recreation report dated September 14, 2009, there have been additional actions on site that impact the recommendations contained in the September 14th report. The revised recommendation in this supplementary report is due to the fact that of the two trees to be protected, one has been removed and the other severely injured.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation recommends that City Council approve the request to remove four (4) privately-owned trees, a 33cm diameter silver maple, two poplar trees with diameters of 43 and 46cm, and a 46cm diameter willow tree, all located at the rear of 23 Mastwood Crescent.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

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

DECISION HISTORY

A report was before Scarborough Community Council, at its meeting of April 21, 2009, with a recommendation that City Council approve the request for a permit to remove five (5) privately-owned trees. Scarborough Community Council referred the matter back to the Director, Urban Forestry, Parks, Forestry and Recreation with a request that he, in

consultation with Technical Services staff, and the applicant's arborist and engineer, formalize a plan to preserve the trees outlined in the application and report back to Scarborough Community Council for its meeting on May 14, 2009.

(Decision document – Item SC25.5)

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/sc/decisions/2009-04-21-sc25-dd.htm>

An information report was before Scarborough Community Council, at its meeting of May 14, 2009, providing an update on the status of revised plans to permit retention and protection of the trees. Scarborough Community Council received the report for information.

(Decision document – Item SC26.2)

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/sc/decisions/2009-05-14-sc26-dd.htm>

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Staff from three City Divisions were working in good faith with the developer and their consultants in order to develop revised grading plans in order to retain five (5) privately-owned trees. Through successive actions over several months, one (1) tree has been removed, and four (4) injured to the point of requiring removal.

Since September 14, 2009, staff have been made aware of additional tree injuries and removal at both 21 and 23 Mastwood Crescent. On one occasion, one stem of the 30cm multi-stem willow tree at the rear of 21 Mastwood Crescent had been torn away. Most recently, it was found that this tree has been completely removed to ground level. At 23 Mastwood Crescent, barriers had been installed around the tree; however, this tree has been girdled yet again, this time severely.

There are only four (4) trees remaining, and all have been severely injured to the point where their health will decline, and it is expected that they will be dead within two (2) years. Inspections by Urban Forestry staff did not produce any evidence that would allow for charges to be laid under the provisions of the private tree by-law. There were no witnesses to the tree injury and no other evidence was available to determine specifically who was responsible for injuring the trees in question. All four (4) trees require removal and this report requests that City Council approve their removal.

As of the inspection of September 30, 2009, there was nothing to suggest the trees are imminent hazards, but it is recommended that the trees be removed prior to winter.

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SIGNATURE

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