

From: abc@abcra.ca
To: [councilmeeting](#)
Cc: [Councillor Layton](#); [Councillor Wongtam](#); [Janie Romoff](#); kim.stratham@toronto.ca; [Teresa Bosco](#); [Connie Pinto](#)
Subject: My comments for 2021.IE26.6 on December 15, 2021 City Council
Date: December 13, 2021 10:04:23 AM
Attachments: [Actions to Reaffirm Toronto's Tree Canopy Target.pdf](#)

To the City Clerk:

Please add ABCRA's comments to the agenda for the December 15, 2021 City Council meeting on item 2021.IE26.6, Actions to Reaffirm Toronto's Tree Canopy Target

I understand that our comments and the personal information in this email will form part of the public record and that my name will be listed as a correspondent on agendas and minutes of City Council or its committees. Also, I understand that agendas and minutes are posted online and my name may be indexed by search engines like Google.

Best regards,
Kathrin Bohr
ABCRA Executive Director



12th floor, West Tower, City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
Attention: Marilyn Toft

Re: IE26.6 Actions to Reaffirm Toronto's Tree Canopy Target

December 13, 2021

Dear Mayor John Tory and Members of City Council,

The ABC Residents Association is a volunteer organization committed to enhancing the quality of life in our neighbourhood through active participation in municipal issues. We serve the residents living in Toronto's Yorkville/North Midtown community between Yonge Street west to Avenue Road and Bloor Street north to the CPR tracks.

We are writing to express support for IEC's recommendation that City Council reaffirm Toronto's target of 40% tree canopy cover by 2050 to align with the City's TransformTO Net Zero strategy and as a means for Toronto to address the ever more pressing issue of climate change.

It comes as no surprise that the Tree Canopy Study undertaken in 2018 determined that the biggest potential for tree canopy growth is provided by Toronto's Neighbourhoods. However, we believe that the 40% tree canopy target will not be achieved without actually protecting private trees of protected size, strengthening existing tree protection by-laws, increasing enforcement of the by-laws, and maintaining and enhancing soft landscaping requirements in the zoning bylaws.

Therefore, we respectfully ask that:

- 1) More smaller trees, which are not protected if development is as-of-right, be protected by decreasing the minimum size for protected trees from ≥ 30 cm to >15 to fall in line with neighbouring municipalities such as Oakville and Mississauga, which protect trees >15 cm.
- 2) Permissions to injure or destroy healthy trees where development is as-of-right be removed from the Municipal Code Chapter 813, given that most properties can be redeveloped around existing trees.
- 3) The required replacement planting ratio be increased from 1:1 to 1:3 when private, healthy trees are removed regardless of size.
- 4) The protection for soft landscaping in the Zoning Bylaws be maintained or enhanced.
- 5) The reduction of the soft landscaping requirement in the Laneway Suites by-law be opposed, particularly given that laneway suites are largely being constructed in Toronto's Neighbourhoods, which the 2018 Tree Canopy Study has identified as the largest potential for tree canopy growth.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

ABCRA Board of Directors

CC: Janie Romoff, General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

Kim Statham, Director, Urban Forestry, Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division

Teresa Bosco, Acting Manager, Forestry Policy and Planning, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

Connie Pinto, Program Standards and Development Officer, Urban Forestry, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

Councillor Mike Layton

Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam