

Dear Mayor Tory and Councillors,

Today I submitted the signatures of **642 Toronto Ward 3 residents** and 519 other Toronto residents in support of the petition that can be found here: https://www.change.org/dwighttrees

In tomorrow's council meeting, you will reaffirm a longstanding target of 40% tree canopy cover by 2050 to align with the TransformTO NetZero Strategy. Yet, recommendation IE26.14 proposes to remove an entire block of mature trees beside a schoolyard to install a sidewalk, even though it could be installed alongside the trees, in a neighbourhood with only 15% tree canopy cover.

The city staff report attached does not adequately justify the recommendation. The petition clearly outlines five different alternatives of varying costs, supported by an arborist and other experts, for installing a sidewalk along Dwight Avenue while preserving its mature trees. The staff report does not explore these options and therefore represents an unacceptable level of diligence in tree preservation.

Will you ignore the voices of 642 local residents? If the City of Toronto is serious about its tree canopy target, please, in this meeting, vote against this recommendation, and direct city staff to return with a plan that includes both sidewalk and the existing trees. This is what residents want.

Thank you for considering this matter.

Jodi Moran Toronto Ward 3 resident