

## **9 Berkinshaw Crescent – Application to Remove a Private Tree**

<b>Date:</b>	February 25, 2011
<b>To:</b>	North York Community Council
<b>From:</b>	Jason Doyle, Acting Director, Urban Forestry, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
<b>Wards:</b>	25 – Don Valley West
<b>Reference Number:</b>	P:\2011\Cluster A\PFR\NY05-032211-AFS#13414

### **SUMMARY**

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The report requests that City Council deny the request for a permit to remove a privately-owned tree located at the rear of 9 Berkinshaw Crescent.

The tree in question is a 66 cm diameter honey locust tree. The tree is a healthy and viable specimen, and a significant component of the mature forest canopy in the area. Urban Forestry cannot support removal of this tree due to its viable condition.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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**The General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation recommends that:**

1. City Council deny the request for a permit to remove one (1) privately-owned tree at 9 Berkinshaw Crescent.

### **Financial Impact**

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

## COMMENTS

An application for a permit has been received from the property owner of 9 Berkinshaw Crescent to remove a 66 cm diameter privately-owned honey locust tree located in the rear yard. The application was made to allow for installation of a swimming pool.

An Arborist Report was submitted with the application for a permit to remove the subject tree. The report indicates that the tree is in good condition despite some defects. The report recommends that the tree be removed to allow for the installation of a swimming pool.

Inspection by staff confirmed that the tree is in good condition. Minor structural defects were observed and include minor girdling root, some old pruning wounds and weak branch attachments. The tree can be maintained to ensure it continues to be in a healthy and safe condition.

A replanting plan was submitted with the application indicating the planting of three large growing trees. However, the proposed locations may not be appropriate due to the close proximity of the proposed pool.

Should the request for a permit to remove the privately-owned tree be approved, approval must be conditional on the owner agreeing to provide for the planting of three (3) large growing trees. If there is insufficient room to accommodate all replacement planting on site, cash in lieu would be accepted.

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

Urban Forestry finds the subject tree in good condition and well maintained. Honey locust trees constitute a significant part of the City's canopy cover. They are well suited to the urban environment as they have high tolerance to adverse growing conditions such as soil disturbance, drought, salt, and other pollutants. The subject tree is significant and a valuable part of the forest community and should continue to provide benefits to the property and the community for many years to come. Urban Forestry cannot support the request to remove this tree due to its healthy and viable condition.

## CONTACT

Harold Moffatt, Supervisor, Tree Protection and Plan Review, Urban Forestry Branch,  
Tel: 416-395-6134, Fax: 416-395-6714, Email: [hmoffat@toronto.ca](mailto:hmoffat@toronto.ca)

## **SIGNATURE**

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Jason Doyle  
Acting Director, Urban Forestry

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment No. 1 – Photos of tree



66 cm diameter honey locust tree

