TORONTO

STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED

66-76 Kippendavie Avenue – Private Tree Removal – Supplementary Report

Date:	August 10, 2010
To:	Toronto and East York Community Council
From:	Richard Ubbens, Director, Urban Forestry, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
Wards:	Ward 32 – Beaches-East York
Reference Number:	P:\2010\Cluster A\PFR\TE36-081710-AFS#12788

SUMMARY

The report requests that City Council authorize Urban Forestry to issue a permit for the destruction of a privately-owned tree located at 66-76 Kippendavie Avenue. The applicant has requested permission to remove the tree to accommodate the construction of a new, 4-storey, 65 unit, residential condominium building.

The tree in question is a Norway spruce tree (*Picea abies*), measuring 56 cm in diameter. The tree is currently in good and maintainable condition. The tree is however, situated such that it is within the allowable building footprint and direct conflict with the proposed construction. Therefore, the tree will have to be removed if this project is to proceed as planned.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. City Council authorize Urban Forestry to issue a permit for the removal of one privately-owned tree at 66-76 Kippendavie Avenue.

Financial Impact

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

COMMENTS

An application was received from the owner of 66-76 Kippendavie Avenue, requesting permission to remove nine (9) privately-owned trees.

An inspection of the site by staff found eight (8) of the trees to be in poor condition. Based on the condition of the trees, in accordance with *Section 813-16(A)*, of *City of Toronto Municipal Code*, *Chapter 813, Trees, Article III*, Urban Forestry will be issuing a permit authorizing their removal. This permit will be issued conditional on the applicant agreeing to implement a replacement planting plan to the satisfaction of Urban Forestry.

The ninth tree included in the application, a Norway spruce, measuring 56 cm in diameter, was found to be in good condition. As this tree is in good condition, 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. 34 letters of objection to the removal of the tree were received in response to the posting.

This tree is situated such that it is within the allowable building footprint for the site. Development, as currently proposed, could not proceed while retaining this tree.

There are numerous other trees situated on adjacent private properties and the City road allowance fronting the site. The applicant has committed to retaining these trees and has modified their original proposal, in consultation with Urban Forestry staff, to ensure that the trees are adequately protected.

Norway spruce is not a species that is native to the Toronto area. The applicant has been advised that if permission is granted to allow the removal of the nine trees included in the Application for Permit to Remove Private trees, three replacement trees must be planted for each tree being removed. The replacement trees will be large-growing, deciduous species that are native to the Toronto area.

It is the opinion of Urban Forestry that the negative impact associated with the removal of the Norway spruce and other poor conditioned trees, are far outweighed by positive impact and long-term environmental benefits that will be provided to this site and the surrounding community through the planting of numerous, large-growing native trees.

CONTACT

Mark Ventresca, Supervisor, Tree Protection and Plan Review, Urban Forestry,
Tel: 416-392-7390, Fax: 416-392-7277, Email: mventre@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

_____

Richard Ubbens
Director, Urban Forestry, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment No. 1 – Photograph of Norway spruce tree
Attachment No. 2 – Letters of objection

Attachment No. 1 – Photograph of Norway spruce tree

