1044 Logan Avenue – Application to Remove a Private Tree

Date: May 24, 2013
To: Toronto and East York Community Council
From: Jason Doyle, Director, Urban Forestry, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
Ward: Ward 29 – Toronto-Danforth
Reference Number: P:\2013\Cluster A\PFR\TE25-061813-AFS#17680

SUMMARY

This report requests that City Council deny the application for a permit to remove one (1) privately owned tree located in the rear yard of 1044 Logan Avenue. The owners are requesting tree removal because they feel the tree is too close to the garage and fence.

The subject tree is a Norway maple (Acer platanoides), measuring 59 cm in diameter. The tree is in good condition structurally and botanically and Urban Forestry does not support removal of this tree.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. City Council deny the request for a permit to remove the privately owned Norway maple tree at 1044 Logan Avenue.

Financial Impact

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

COMMENTS

An application was received for a permit to remove a 59 cm diameter privately owned Norway maple tree in the rear yard of 1044 Logan Avenue. The application submitted by
the owner is requesting removal as the tree is "too close to the garage and fence and it is double stemmed above 1.5 metres".

Urban Forestry staff have inspected the tree and found that it is currently in good condition structurally and botanically. No visible portion of the tree is in contact with structures or the fence. No evidence has been provided to substantiate tree removal. Urban Forestry does not support removal of this tree.

As required under Section 813-19, of City of Toronto Municipal Code, Chapter 813, Trees, Article III, a Notice of application sign was posted on the subject property for the minimum 14 day period in order to provide an opportunity for objection by the community. No letters of objection were received.

On April 12, 2013, a permit to remove the tree was denied by Urban Forestry. The owner is appealing the decision to deny the permit.

As a condition of permit issuance, the property owner is proposing to plant one (1) replacement tree, a white birch (Betula papyrifera) on the property. Should City Council approve this request for tree removal, in accordance with Section 813-20 of City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 813, Trees, Article III, approval must be conditional upon the owner providing satisfactory replacement planting. In this instance, it would be appropriate to require the applicant to provide four (4) replacement trees.

The Norway maple tree at 1044 Logan Avenue is a valuable part of the urban forest. With proper care and maintenance it has the potential to provide the community with benefits for years to come. Urban Forestry, therefore, cannot support removal of this tree.

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

SIGNATURE

_______________________________
Jason Doyle
Director of Urban Forestry
Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division

ATTACHMENT

Attachments 1 and 2 – Photos of the 59 cm diameter Norway maple tree at the rear yard of 1044 Logan Avenue.
Attachment 1