



## STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

### 22 and 24 Beaufort Road – Application to Remove a Private Tree

<b>Date:</b>	August 2, 2013
<b>To:</b>	Toronto and East York Community Council
<b>From:</b>	Jason Doyle, Director, Urban Forestry, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
<b>Wards:</b>	Ward 32 – Beaches-East York
<b>Reference Number:</b>	P:\2013\Cluster A\PFR\TE26-091013-AFS#18106

#### SUMMARY

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This report requests that City Council deny the application for a permit to remove one (1) privately owned tree straddling the rear property line between 22 and 24 Beaufort Road. The property owners of 24 Beaufort Road are requesting tree removal as they state that two independent ISA Certified Arborists have indicated the tree to be dangerous.

The subject tree is a red oak (*Quercus rubra*) measuring 83 cm in diameter, that is in fair condition structurally and botanically. Urban Forestry does not support removal of this tree.

#### 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 the privately owned red oak tree straddling the rear property line between 22 and 24 Beaufort Road.
  - a. For supplementary points in a recommendation, use the 16\_Secondary recommendations style tag.
  - b. Do not create any further indented points within a recommendation.

#### Financial Impact

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

## **COMMENTS**

An application was received from the owner of 24 Beaufort Road, for a permit to remove an 83 cm diameter privately owned red oak tree that straddles the rear property line between 22 and 24 Beaufort Road. The owners stated in the application that they are requesting tree removal because the "tree has been deemed dangerous by two independent ISA Certified Arborists..."

Recent construction at 22 Beaufort Road required a permit to injure this tree. The property owners of 24 Beaufort Road are concerned that the construction has injured this tree to the extent that it is no longer safe. Urban Forestry was actively involved before and during construction at 22 Beaufort Road to ensure that tree injury was minimized and confirm that the tree has not been structurally compromised. Urban Forestry disagrees with the opinions provided by the two private arborists, who do not have first-hand knowledge of the tree protection mitigation undertaken to minimize construction impacts, nor were involved in the monitoring of the site during construction. A recent inspection by staff found the tree to be healthy and in fair condition structurally and botanically.

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. One (1) letter of objection was received.

On July 9, 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 in the rear yard, a white pine (*Pinus strobus*), measuring 270 mm in height. 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 ten (10) replacement trees, in a combination of planting and cash in lieu.

The red oak tree at 22 and 24 Beaufort Road 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**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachments 1 and 2 – Photos of the 83 cm diameter red oak tree at the rear yard of 22 and 24 Beaufort Road.



24 Beaufort Road



05.06.2013

22 Beaufort Road

Base of 83 cm diameter red oak tree, straddling the property line.