



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

78 Queen's Park (Faculty of Law, University of Toronto) - Application to Remove and Injure Private Trees

Date:	October 28, 2013
To:	Toronto and East York Community Council
From:	Jason Doyle, Director, Urban Forestry, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
Ward:	Ward 20 – Trinity-Spadina
Reference Number:	P:\2013\Cluster A\PFR\TE28-111913-AFS#18540

SUMMARY

This report requests that City Council approve the application for a permit to remove thirteen (13) trees and injure two (2) trees, all situated on private property. The tree removal and injury permit application has been received in connection with a Site Plan Control application to permit the renovation and construction of an addition to the Faculty of Law buildings at the University of Toronto at the above noted address.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. City Council approve the request for a permit to remove thirteen (13) trees and injure two (2) trees, all situated on private property at 78 Queen's Park.

Financial Impact

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

COMMENTS

Urban Forestry has received a permit application on behalf of the University of Toronto, the owner of the above noted property, to remove thirteen (13) trees and injure two (2) others, all situated on the private property of the proposed development site. Below are the fifteen (15) trees included in the permit application.

Tree # in Arborist Report	Species	DBH (cm)	Condition	Application
1	white mulberry	40	Good	To remove
2	horsechestnut	46.5	Good	To remove
3	littleleaf linden	42	Good	To remove
13	white ash	39	Good	To remove
19	Manitoba maple	33	Fair-Poor	To remove
26	apple	40	Good	To remove
27	lilac	31.5	Good-Fair	To remove
28	lilac	42	Good-Fair	To remove
31	white ash	40	Good	To remove
34	white mulberry	89	Fair	To remove
42	white mulberry	73	Fair	To remove
43	ash	52	Fair	To remove
50	white ash	67.5	Good-Fair	To remove
9	red oak	108	Fair	To injure
14	white oak	106	Good-Fair	To injure

The tree removal and injury permit application was received in connection with a Site Plan Control application to permit the renovation and construction of an addition to the Faculty of Law buildings at the University of Toronto.

Retention of the thirteen privately owned trees is not possible given that the trees are in direct conflict with construction activities and site access related to the proposed development. Two other trees are proposed to be injured due to construction activities and access to the site.

The original proposal put forward by the University of Toronto indicated the proposed removal of two large mature oak trees from the Faculty of Law property. Urban Forestry was successful in working with the University and its consultants to have the two oak trees retained and protected as part of the re-development of the subject property. These trees will be minimally impacted by the development.

The landscape plans submitted with the Site Plan Control application indicate that thirty-seven (37) large growing shade trees will be planted throughout and adjacent to the site. Urban Forestry is satisfied with the replanting proposed on the landscape plan.

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 comment by the community. Seven (7) letters of objection were received.

On October 10, 2013, a permit to remove and injure the subject trees was denied by Urban Forestry on the basis that the ward councillor is not satisfied with the related replanting proposed on the landscape plan. The owner has appealed the decision to deny the permit.

Urban Forestry is of the opinion that the removal of the subject trees will have a minor short-term impact on the urban forest tree canopy and the related public interest. However, the tree replacement involved in this application will contribute to the City's longer term canopy goals, resulting in greater benefit to the public over time. Due to the reasons stated above, Urban Forestry is in a position to issue the permit for the removal and injury of the subject trees.

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