

Ward 13

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June 20, 2014

To: Chair and Members of the Parks and Environment Committee

Re: Tree sequestration information

From: Councillor Sarah Doucette

It is well documented that our urban forest provides aesthetic, environmental and financial benefits for the city; this is highlighted in a special report from TD Economics (attachment 1). Urban Forestry plants trees on City street allowances free of charge. Residents are provided with the information on the variety of trees available in a leaflet which the resident then completes and mails to the city (attachment 2). The trees listed in this Urban Forestry leaflet are a combination of native and non native and although each tree planted helps increase the city's tree canopy there is range in the benefits each tree provides to the environment, particularly in regards to the air pollution each tree can remove (attachment 3). It is for this reason that I ask that the Parks and Environment Committee:

1. Request staff to report on the trees offered by the city and their relative sequestration of carbon dioxide and other atmospheric pollutants.
2. Request staff to report on the feasibility of adding this sequestration information to the city tree leaflet so that residents can identify which trees provide the most benefit and make their choice accordingly.
3. Report back to Parks and Environment Committee by the January 2015 meeting.

Thank you.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sarah Doucette". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sarah Doucette