

## **59 Brinloor Boulevard - Application to Remove a Private Tree**

<b>Date:</b>	June 6, 2014
<b>To:</b>	Scarborough Community Council
<b>From:</b>	Jason Doyle, Director, Urban Forestry, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
<b>Wards:</b>	Ward 36 – Scarborough Southwest
<b>Reference Number:</b>	P:\2014\Cluster A\PFR\SC33-061714-AFS#19739

### **SUMMARY**

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This report recommends that City Council deny the permit for an application to remove one (1) privately owned tree. The owner has requested tree removal due to its proximity to a 1.2 m high chain link fence between properties.

The subject tree is a Norway maple (*Acer platanoides*), measuring 38 cm in diameter, located in the backyard of the property. The tree is in good condition. 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 permit for an application to remove the privately owned Norway maple tree at 59 Brinloor Boulevard.

### **Financial Impact**

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

### **COMMENTS**

An application was received for the removal of two trees at this property, a 56 cm diameter Norway maple tree located in the front yard, and a 38 cm diameter Norway maple tree located in the backyard. A permit was issued to remove the 56 cm diameter Norway maple as it was declining both botanically and structurally. The property owner

is requesting removal of the 38 cm diameter Norway maple tree due to concerns about the tree being too close to a chain link fence between the properties, and that the tree is encroaching onto the neighbouring property and causing damage.

Urban Forestry staff inspected the tree and found that it is healthy and in good condition. The crown is partially unbalanced due to competition with a dominant maple in the rear yard of a neighbouring property. There is a small girdling root, but it is not impacting nutrient flow at this time. There is no evidence of damage to property resulting from the 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 comment by the community. No comments were received from the community.

A permit to remove the tree was denied by Urban Forestry. The owner is appealing the decision to deny the permit.

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 provision of satisfactory replacement planting. In this case, it is appropriate to require the owner to plant one large growing shade tree on the property.

Trees provide many economic benefits, including the enhancement of property values. Homes with mature trees have higher value when compared to similar types of homes in similar locations without trees. Mature trees are associated with reduced home energy consumption. Air conditioning costs are lower in a home shaded by trees and heating costs are reduced when trees break the winter cooling effects of wind.

Trees filter the air, removing small particulate matter (e.g., dust, ash, dirt, pollen, smoke) from the air and releasing oxygen in return.

Trees are a community resource, which can make the city more attractive to investors, tourists and prospective residents, thus contributing to growth and prosperity.

The Norway maple tree at 59 Brinloor Boulevard is a significant and valuable part of the urban forest. With proper care and maintenance, it should continue to provide benefits to the property owner and the surrounding community for many years to come. Urban Forestry, therefore, cannot support removal of this tree.

## **CONTACT**

Michael McClellan, Supervisor Tree Protection and Plan Review, Urban Forestry Branch, Tel: 416 396-5131, Fax: 416 396-4248, Email: [mmccl@toronto.ca](mailto:mmccl@toronto.ca)

## **SIGNATURE**

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Jason Doyle  
Director of Urban Forestry

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1 - Photo of 38 cm diameter Norway maple tree at 59 Brinloor Boulevard

38 cm diameter Norway maple at the rear of 59 Brinloor Boulevard

