



**STAFF REPORT  
ACTION REQUIRED**

**24 Rosemount Drive - Application to Remove a Private Tree**

<b>Date:</b>	July 17, 2014
<b>To:</b>	Scarborough Community Council
<b>From:</b>	Jason Doyle, Director, Urban Forestry, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
<b>Wards:</b>	Ward 37 – Scarborough Centre
<b>Reference Number:</b>	P:\2014\Cluster A\PFR\SC34-081214-AFS#19740

**SUMMARY**

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This report recommends that City Council deny the request for a permit to remove one (1) privately owned tree located in the front yard of 24 Rosemount Drive. The applicant is requesting tree removal due to its proximity to the house and a neighbouring driveway.

The subject tree is a Norway spruce (*Picea abies*), measuring 51 cm in diameter. This tree is healthy and in fair 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 request for a permit to remove the privately owned Norway spruce tree at the front of 24 Rosemount Drive.

**Financial Impact**

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

**COMMENTS**

An application was received from the property owner for the removal of a 51 cm diameter Norway spruce tree located in the front yard of 24 Rosemount Drive. The owner is requesting tree removal due to its proximity to the house and a neighbouring driveway.

Urban Forestry staff inspected the tree and found that it is healthy and in fair condition. The tree is pruned to a height of approximately 6 m. No evidence of damage to private property was provided, nor was any damage observed by staff.

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 notify the community of the application and provide an opportunity for comment. 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. The applicant is proposing to replant one (1) ginkgo tree, which is acceptable.

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. Coniferous trees, such as spruce, are particularly efficient at removing particulate matter from the air.

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 spruce tree at 24 Rosemount Drive 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.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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Jason Doyle  
Director of Urban Forestry

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1 - Photo of 51 cm diameter Norway spruce tree at 24 Rosemount Drive

51 cm diameter Norway spruce tree at the front of 24 Rosemount Drive

