



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**

Application to Remove a City Tree - 5 Lincoln Woods Court

Date:	August 16, 2016
To:	Etobicoke York Community Council
From:	Jason Doyle, Director, Urban Forestry, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
Wards:	Ward 4 – Etobicoke Centre
Reference Number:	P:\2016\Cluster A\PFR\EY16-090716-AFS#23398

SUMMARY

This report requests that City Council deny the application for a permit to remove one (1) City-owned tree located on City road allowance fronting 5 Lincoln Woods Court. The application indicates the reason for removal is to accommodate a clear and unobstructed view of a newly constructed home.

The subject tree is a Nootka false cypress (*Chamaecyparis nootkatensis 'Pendula'*), measuring 18 cm in diameter. Urban Forestry does not support removal of this tree as it is healthy and maintainable.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. City Council deny the request for a permit to remove one (1) City-owned tree located on City road allowance fronting 5 Lincoln Woods Court.

Financial Impact

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

COMMENTS

Urban Forestry received an application to remove one (1) City-owned tree located on City road allowance fronting 5 Lincoln Woods Court. The subject tree is a Nootka false cypress measuring 18 cm in diameter. The owners are requesting the removal of this tree to accommodate a clear unobstructed view of a newly constructed home. The property owners have communicated their concerns in a letter to Urban Forestry that the tree is not located in a favorable location. The arborist report that accompanied the application assessed the tree to be in excellent condition.

Urban Forestry staff inspected the tree and determined it is healthy both botanically and structurally.

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

Should City Council approve this request for tree removal, in accordance with *Section 813-10 B (1) of City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 813, Trees, Article II*, permit approval must be conditional upon the owners providing payment of the appraised value of the tree (\$1,232.00) and the costs for one (1) replacement tree to be planted. However, in this instance, it would be appropriate for the owner to provide five (5) replacement trees which can be achieved in a combination of on-site planting and cash-in-lieu of planting. The owner will also be required to provide a tree planting security deposit in the amount of \$583 per tree to cover the cost of removal, replacement and maintenance of trees to be planted on City property.

Trees improve the quality of urban life and contribute greatly to our sense of community. They are aesthetically pleasing and soften the hard lines of built form and surfaces in an urban setting. Trees contribute to the overall character and quality of neighbourhoods. Studies suggest that social benefits such as crime reduction and neighbourhood cohesion can be attributed to the presence of trees.

The environmental benefits of trees include cleansing of air, noise and wind reduction, and protection from ultraviolet radiation. Trees reduce rainwater runoff thereby reducing soil erosion and lowering storm water management costs. Trees also contribute to moderation of temperature extremes and reduction of the urban heat island effect by providing shade during summer.

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 mitigate the cooling effects of the wind in winter. Trees are a community resource which can make the City more attractive to investors, tourists and prospective residents thus contributing to growth and prosperity.

It is the goal of the City of Toronto to increase the City's tree canopy to 40 percent. Impacts on the tree canopy in the City due to the ice storm experienced in late December 2013, compounded with additional tree loss due to the presence of the Asian longhorned beetle and the emerald ash borer make the preservation of all healthy trees more necessary now than ever.

This Nootka false cypress tree at 5 Lincoln Woods Court is a valuable part of the urban forest. With proper care and maintenance this tree has the potential to provide the property owner and the surrounding community with benefits for many more years. Urban Forestry; therefore, does not support removal of this tree.

CONTACT

Max Dida, Supervisor, Tree Protection and Plan Review, Urban Forestry
Tel: 416-394-8551, Fax: 416-338-6596, Email: mdida@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

Jason Doyle
Director, Urban Forestry
Parks, Forestry and Recreation

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Photograph of Nootka False cypress tree, measuring 18 cm in diameter
Attachment 2 – Arborist Report, referencing Weeping Cypress as Nootka False Cypress,
Tree #3



**WHITESIDE TREE
& GARDEN INC.
21 GLENHOLME AVE.
TOR. ONT.M6H 3A8
416-873-4736
trevor@whitesidetreeandgarden.com**

ATTN:
CITY OF TORONTO
URBAN FORESTRY
ETOBICOKE OFFICE
PRIVATE TREE BY-LAWS

2014-12-31

RE: TREE INVENTORY AND PRESERVATION PLAN FOR 5 LINCOLN WOODS COURT.

The following is a Tree Inventory, documenting all trees located within the realm of the proposed project as identified as significant trees by the City of Toronto Urban Forestry Department. As well a list of required and suggested actions are provided to ensure the preservation of these trees through the duration of the project. The intended scope of the work is to demolish the existing dwelling and construct a new larger house in its place.

TREE INVENTORY

#	SPECIES	DBH	TPZ	CONDITION	COMMENTS
1.	Birch	24/24/21cm	1.8m	fair	City mngd @ 6 Lincoln
2.	Blue spruce	60cm	3.6m	excellent	Private @ front of 6 Lincoln
3.	Weeping Cypress	18cm	1.8m	excellent	City mngd @ 5 Lincoln
4.	Red maple	27cm	1.8m	excellent	City mngd @ 4 Lincoln
5.	Linden	64cm	4.2m	good	co-owned with 6 Lincoln
6.	Red oak	93cm	6.0m	excellent	Private in yard of 5 Lincoln
7.	White oak	71cm	4.8m	excellent	Private in yard of 5 Lincoln
8.	Mulberry	35/32cm	2.4m	moderate	Private in yard of 5 Lincoln
9.	Norway mpl	51cm	3.6m	excellent	Private in yard of 5 Lincoln
10.	Ash	39cm	2.4m	poor	EAB infested to be removed

COMMENTS

TREE #1

This is a City of Toronto managed multi-stem birch located at the front of the neighbouring property at 6 Lincoln Woods Court. It is currently in fair condition. It appears to have sustained a large amount of damage from last year's ice storm. It may also be infected with Bronze Birch Borer. The tree is in definite decline. That being said, it will be protected along the edge of the driveway in front of it.

TREE #2

This is a large spruce also located at the front of #6 Lincoln Woods Court. It is in excellent condition and will remain protected along the edge of the existing drive.

TREE #3 & #4

These are two small City of Toronto managed trees located at the front of #5 and #4 Lincoln Woods Court respectively. Both trees will have TPZ hoarding erected at the distances indicated in the inventory.

TREE #5

This large Linden tree is a private managed tree and considered a boundary tree co-owned by the owner of #6 Lincoln Woods Court. No excavation is required within the TPZ of this tree. The tree will be fully protected during construction.

TREE #6, #7, #8, #9

These are all trees of various sizes and species located in the back yard of #5 Lincoln Woods Court. They are all located outside of the realm of the project and will be fully protected throughout the duration of construction.

TREE #10

This is an ash tree located next to the existing house. It is infested with Emerald Ash Borer and should be removed prior to the commencement of the project.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

All required hoarding is to be erected and approved by Urban Forestry prior to the commencement of the project. All trees of concern at the front of the property will have TPZ hoarding constructed with snow fencing and 2x4 lumber. Hoarding is to be erected at the distances stipulated in the Tree Inventory or to the edge of existing hardscape, i.e. Driveways, roadways, sidewalks, etc... Trees located in the back yard will be protected using plywood and 2x4 lumber. All hoarding will be constructed to the spec provided by the City of Toronto Urban Forestry Department. TPZ hoarding signage is to be attached to all hoarding. All hoarding is to be erected and approved by Urban Forestry prior to the commencement of the project. No use of heavy equipment, storage of materials or excavation is permitted within the TPZ of any tree without an issued permit by Urban Forestry.

It is suggested that a site visit occur by a qualified arborist at the commencement and completion of the project, with periodic visits throughout. This will help ensure all trades are in compliance of the various City of Toronto by-laws concerning trees. Any required root or branch pruning can be performed by the arborist during one of these visits.

Once construction is complete it is recommended that all trees impacted by the project, be treated to a Deep Root Fertilization. This will alleviate any inadvertent root zone compaction. It will also provide the root zones with added water, oxygen and nutrient.

SUMMARY

The trees at the front of the property are of little concern as absolutely no work is required in this area. The existing asphalt drive is large and accommodating for deliveries and stock piling of material.

Finally, as the remaining backyard trees are far away from construction no other harm should come to these remaining trees. These trees should continue to thrive at their current level of condition after the project is complete.

If there are any concerns in regard to this information please contact Trevor Whiteside at 416-873-4736.

Sincerely,

Trevor Whiteside

