

## **Application to Remove a Private Tree – 153 Perry Crescent**

**Date:** October 25, 2023

**To:** Etobicoke York Community Council

**From:** Director, Urban Forestry, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

**Wards:** Etobicoke Centre - 2

### **SUMMARY**

---

This report requests that Etobicoke York Community Council deny the request for a permit to remove one privately owned tree located at 153 Perry Crescent. The applicant indicates the reason for requesting removal of the tree is due to its conflict with the proposed landscaping plan for the site.

The silver maple tree (*Acer saccharinum*) measures 37 cm in diameter. The City's Tree By-laws do not support the removal of this tree as it is healthy and maintainable. The permit was denied and the applicant is appealing the decision. Community Council has delegated authority from City Council to make a final decision as to whether a permit may be issued when an applicant wishes to appeal the denial of a permit of a tree protected under the By-laws.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

---

The Director, Urban Forestry, Parks, Forestry and Recreation recommends that:

1. Etobicoke York Community Council deny the request for a permit to remove one privately owned tree located at 153 Perry Crescent.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

---

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

## DECISION HISTORY

---

There is no decision history related to this tree removal permit application.

## COMMENTS

---

Parks, Forestry and Recreation received an application for a permit to remove one privately owned tree located in the rear yard at 153 Perry Crescent. The silver maple tree in question measures 37 cm in diameter. The applicant indicates the reason for requesting removal of the tree is due to its conflict with the proposed landscaping plan for the site.

The arborist report that accompanied the application described the tree to be in fair condition. The report noted that the tree was vigorous with average form and structure. It was noted that the tree was clear of proposed construction and shall retain the prescribed Tree Protection Zone hoarding during construction. However, the owner still requested removal due to its conflict with the proposed landscaping plan for the site, which includes new trees, shrubs, and a walkway in the location of the existing tree.

City staff inspected the tree and at the time of inspection determined that it is healthy and maintainable. The City's Tree By-laws do not support the removal healthy and maintainable trees for landscaping purposes. The landscaping plan could be revised in order to retain this tree.

Through the inspection and review of the arborist report, a permit to remove the tree was denied by Parks, Forestry and Recreation. The applicant has appealed the decision. Community Council has delegated authority from City Council to make a final decision as to whether a permit may be issued when an applicant wishes to appeal the City's decision to deny a tree permit.

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 in support, nor in opposition to the application to remove the tree in question.

The City has reaffirmed its canopy target of 40 per cent by 2050. One approach to support achieving this target is to protect healthy trees from injury and removal whenever possible.

Protecting the urban forest is critical in building climate resilience as urban centres continue to face increasing development; impacts due to climate change in the form of extreme weather events; and other natural threats such as invasive pests. Toronto's urban forest provides \$55 million in ecosystem services and benefits annually. Services such as air pollution removal, reduction of storm water runoff, and carbon sequestration all contribute to climate resilience. Protecting and expanding tree cover helps to mitigate exposure to extreme heat events through shade and transpiration.

A sustainable and expanding urban forest also supports the City of Toronto's goals to improve quality of life and well-being of its residents. A higher density of trees in a neighbourhood has been shown to significantly improve physical and mental well-being by reducing blood pressure, decreasing stress levels, and by promoting physical activity. Economic benefits include enhancements to property values, increased tourism and consumer spending.

In keeping with the City's Strategic Forest Management Plan, Toronto's Official Plan, Toronto's Biodiversity Strategy, and the Tree Protection By-laws, the silver maple tree at 153 Perry Crescent is a valuable part of the urban forest, providing numerous aesthetic, social and economic benefits to the property owner and the local community and therefore should not be removed.

Parks, Forestry and Recreation recommends Etobicoke York Community Council deny the request for a permit to remove one privately owned tree located at 153 Perry Crescent. Should Etobicoke York Community Council grant this request for tree removal, the following recommendation may be adopted, in accordance with the City's Tree By-law permit requirements:

- 1) Etobicoke York Community Council approve the request for a permit to remove one privately owned tree located at 153 Perry Crescent, and require the applicant to provide five replacement trees which can be achieved in a combination of on-site planting and cash-in-lieu of planting to the satisfaction of the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation.

## **CONTACT**

---

Max Dida, Supervisor Tree Protection and Plan Review, Urban Forestry  
Tel: 416-394-8551, Email: [Max.Dida@toronto.ca](mailto:Max.Dida@toronto.ca)

## **SIGNATURE**

---

Kim Statham  
Director, Urban Forestry, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

## **ATTACHMENTS**

---

Attachment 1 – Figure 1: Staff photograph of the silver maple tree with hoarding, measuring 37 cm in diameter at 153 Perry Crescent; June 30, 2023

Attachment 1 – Figure 1: Staff photograph of the silver maple tree with hoarding, measuring 37 cm in diameter at 153 Perry Crescent; June 30, 2023

