

July 23, 2025

Toronto City Council 100 Queen Street West Toronto, ON M5H 2N2 Attention: Sylwia Przezdziecki

Re: MM32.21 Strengthening Protections for Toronto's Tree Canopy

Dear Mayor Chow and Members of City Council,

This is to confirm the Long Branch Neighbourhood Association's (LBNA's) strong support for the above noted Member's Motion which recommends that City Council request:

- Additional tools to ensure the protection of by-law protected trees as part of Urban Forestry Committee of Adjustment conditions through the City's Growing Space for Trees initiative scheduled for the fourth quarter of 2025
- 2. The Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing include the City of Toronto's private tree by-law as an applicable law for the purposes of issuing a building permit under the Ontario Building Code
- 3. The Executive Director, Environment, Climate and Forestry, in consultation with the Chief Building Official and Executive Director, Toronto Building, to include information about the City's tree by-laws and their relationship to the Ontario Building Code in the by-law review report anticipated in the fourth quarter of 2025.

Long Branch has lost many well loved healthy, mature trees in recent years due to development when options exist for these trees to be preserved. Changes are needed to strengthen urban forestry policy to better protect private trees and plantable space for these trees to grow to their full potential and to plant new large canopy trees. We agree that the existing fines are often not enough of a deterrent to prevent illegal tree injuries and removals.

This Motion is a significant step forward amongst other steps that we hope that City takes this year to strengthen private tree protection in Toronto while we incorporate much needed housing.

Sincerely,

Judy Gibson

Chair, Tree Canopy Preservation and Enhancement Committee

Long Branch Neighbourhood Association

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