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# Interim Strategy for Tree Conservation By-law

## **Previous consideration: Tree Conservation By-law;**

2017: Report USDIR17-008; Introduction of a Tree By-law for the Conservation and Enhancement of the City's Tree Canopy; Committee of the Whole; September 25th.

2019: Report IPSIM 19-007; Tree Conservation By-Law; General Committee; March 4th

## **March 4: Feedback:**

Council expressed concerns with the proposed & existing By-Laws;

- Too restrictive
- Desire for more reasonable implementation
- Permit process has been poorly received

## Interim Strategy for Tree Conservation By-law

Magnitude of Urban Forest canopy:

- 25% of trees are on private properties under 1 ha
- approximately 4.95 sq km within the City
- equivalent area of approximately 27 Jackson Parks.

## Interim Strategy for Tree Conservation By-law

Municipal Act, 2001 requires the City to establish policies that outline

**“The manner in which the municipality will protect and enhance the tree canopy and natural vegetation in the municipality”,**

### **Proposed By Law Process:**

- Balance: property owners' rights & legislative requirement
- Prescriptive rather than restrictive

# Interim Strategy for Tree Conservation By-law

## Information to Maintain Urban Canopy Inventory

- owner's name and contact information,
- species; if known
- diameter/size: a picture can also be submitted
- condition of the tree(s): dead or dying or healthy
- purpose for removal of tree(s)
- intention to replace (yes/no)

# Interim Strategy for Tree Conservation By-law: Next Steps

- **Communication:**

- Via Website
- Current files
- Arborists

- **Incentive and Canopy Protection**

- Tree Replacement program developed annually
- Incentive Program
- Partnership/Sponsorship of Tree re-placement

- **Consultation and Awareness Building**

- Public engagement program; Arborists, property owners, potential partners & key stakeholder
- Feedback and data collected; analyzed to ensure the new program achieves the balance sought

- **Report to Council**

- Full update on the success of the Interim By-Law, feedback received and recommendation(s) for future
- Target: Fall 2019

# Interim Strategy for Tree Conservation By-law

Motion tabled at the General Committee on Monday March 4 2019:

- **That the report be deferred to enable staff to consult with the public on the current by-law and,**
- **That the permitting provisions in By-law 17-120 be temporarily suspended and,**
- **That the permitting requirements for all current applications be included in the suspension and,**
- **That staff seek public input on a new tree conservation strategy**

# Interim Strategy for Tree Conservation By-law

## New Recommendation

- That By-law 17-120 be repealed;
- That the interim Tree Conservation By-law, attached to Report IPS19-007B as Appendix A, be adopted and
- That staff implement the proposal interim strategy as outlined in new By-law, including community consultation, and report back to Council in the fall of 2019.