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> Tree Information Report Proposed Single Family Residential Development 11 Turtleback Way Stittsville, Ontario



Submitted to:

Davies Group Ltd. 444-B Hazeldean Road Kanata, Ontario K2L 1V2

Tree Information Report Proposed Single Family Residential Development 11 Turtleback Way Stittsville, Ontario

> May 7, 2025 Project: 100148.007

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

LISTOF	TABLESII
LIST OF	APPENDICES II
1.0 IN	TRODUCTION1
1.1 1.2	Purpose
2.0 ME	THODOLOGY
2.1	Field Investigations2
3.0 RE	SULTS
3.0 RE 3.1 3.2	SULTS
3.0 RE 3.1 3.2 4.0 CC	SULTS
<ul> <li>3.0 RE</li> <li>3.1</li> <li>3.2</li> <li>4.0 CC</li> <li>4.1</li> <li>4.2</li> </ul>	SULTS       2         Existing Conditions       2         Tree Inventory Summary       2         DNCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS       3         Tree Conservation Recommendations       3         Recommended Mitigation Measures       3

#### LIST OF TABLES

#### LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix A	Report Figures
Appendix B	Site Photographs
Appendix C	Tree Inventory Summary Table
Appendix D	Tree Protection Fencing Guidelines – City of Ottawa



#### **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

GEMTEC Consulting Engineers and Scientists Limited (GEMTEC) was retained by Davies Group Ltd. (the Proponent) to carry out a Tree Information Report (TIR) for the property located on 11 Turtleback Way, in Stittsville, Ontario, hereafter referred to as the "subject property". The site location is provided in Figure A.1 in Appendix A.

#### 1.1 Purpose

The proponent is seeking committee of adjustment (COA) approval for a proposed single family residential development on the subject property. As a component of the COA approval, the City of Ottawa planning staff have requested that a tree inventory and associated TIR be completed by a professional biologist to provide existing conditions information for the site and to provide information on the location and health of trees on the subject property. A TIR was completed to identify trees that will be retained and protected within the proposed development footprint and, where feasible, identify opportunities to offset the loss of trees.

The entire legally owned parcel is approximately 0.07 ha and the area of the proposed development, including the building footprint is approximately 0.03 ha. The proposed development includes a single family residential building with an attached garage and road access via Turtleback Way. The existing site layout and proposed development are provided in Figure A.2 and Figure A.3, respectively, in Appendix A.

#### 1.2 Definitions

Terms and abbreviations used throughout the remainder of this report are summarized below.

*Diameter at Breast Height (DBH)*, is defined as the diameter of the tree trunk measured at a height of 1.2 metres (m) above ground surface for trees of 10 centimeters (cm) in diameter and greater.

*Critical Root Zone (CRZ)*, is defined as the ground area within a circumference around the tree trunk calculated as 10 cm from the trunk of the tree for every one centimeter of tree truck diameter at breast height.

*Distinctive Tree*, is defined as any tree with a DBH of 30 cm or greater within the inner urban area and with a DBH of 50 cm or greater within the suburban area and rural area. For the purposes of this report, a distinctive tree is considered to be a tree with a DBH of 30 cm or greater, as the subject property is located within a suburban area.



#### 2.0 METHODOLOGY

#### 2.1 Field Investigations

A site visit was completed on May 1, 2025, from 09:00 to 09:30, to document and identify all trees within and immediately adjacent to the subject property, with a DBH greater than 10 cm. Tree locations were recorded using Survey123 with a GPS range of  $\pm$ /- 3m and assigned a unique identifying number and corresponding tree tag.

Site photographs taken during the field investigation are provided in Appendix B.

#### 3.0 RESULTS

#### 3.1 Existing Conditions

The subject property is urban in nature and is entirely cleared, saved for trees identified along the outer edge of the property. For the purpose of this report, only trees within the subject property and those whose dripline extended onto the subject property, were surveyed. A summary of all trees on-site is provided in Section 3.2 below.

#### 3.2 Tree Inventory Summary

Trees on-site were identified to species, enumerated with a unique tree tag identifier, and assessed for visual signs of distress and disease. Table C.1 in Appendix C provides a summary of all tree specimens on-site with a DBH greater than 10 cm. CRZ values for trees with DBH greater than 10 cm are also present in Table C.1 in Appendix C. CRZ was not calculated for dead trees. The square root of the sum of squares method was used to calculate the DBH of trees with multiple stems. All trees with a DBH greater than 10 cm and their CRZ are illustrated on Figures A.3, in Appendix A.

Four of the surveyed trees on the subject property were identified as distinctive trees (DBH > 30 cm). For this report, dead standing trees were not included in the distinctive tree list, even if the DBH was greater than 30 cm.

Tree #	Species	DBH (cm)	Condition
2	Norway Maple ( <i>Acer platanoid</i> es)	66.1	Healthy/Good
3	American Elm ( <i>Ulmus americana</i> )	73.5	Healthy/Good
5	Norway Maple ( <i>Acer platanoid</i> es)	36.8	Poor
6	Norway Maple ( <i>Acer platanoides</i> )	34.0	Healthy/Good

#### Table 3.1 Summary of Distinctive Trees Present Within or Adjacent to Subject Property

In general, the tree community assemblage for the subject property can be described as containing predominantly mature trees. The predominant tree species on-site were represented by Norway maple (*Acer platanoides*), with one stem of American elm (*Ulmus americana*). Only one stem on the subject property was identified as being poor or dead based on the observation of large, major wounds on the stem. The remainder of surveyed trees were identified as healthy or good conditions.

### 4.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on a review of the information summarized in Section 3.2, Table C.1 in Appendix C and the proposed development concept illustrated on Figure A.3, the following conclusions are provided:

- Out of 6 trees identified by GEMTEC on-site with a DBH greater or equal to 10 cm, all of the trees were identified as retainable;
- Four distinctive trees, meeting the requirements of DBH > 30 cm, were identified within the subject property area;
- Trees on-site are typical of an urban area;
- 5 trees are in good/healthy condition and 1 trees are in poor or dead condition;
- None of the trees surveyed were identified as providing potential wildlife habitat (snags, active nest, etc.);
- None of the surveyed trees on-site were identified to represent High Quality Specimen Trees; and
- All trees identified to be retained, including those within the limit of grading, will have their existing elevations around the critical root zone maintained;

## 4.1 Tree Conservation Recommendations

It is our opinion based on the results of the completed tree inventory that none of the trees onsite represent exceptional or rare tree specimens. Based on the proposed development plan, 6 of the 6 total identified trees on the subject property are retainable.

## 4.2 Recommended Mitigation Measures

The following mitigation measures and best practice recommendations are provided by GEMTEC to minimize and eliminate negative impacts to trees identified in Appendix C as retainable during potential future construction. Construction contractors shall apply the following measures outlined below to prevent damage and promote long-term survival of trees identified to be retained in the redevelopment plan for the site.

- All trees identified to be retained should be clearly marked and the CRZ delineated with fencing to prevent encroachment and damage during construction. General prohibitions of activities within the fencing include:
  - No placement of construction material (including fill and equipment);

- No construction activities (i.e. grading, machine operation, etc.) to avoid soil compaction and direct injury to the tree or its root system; and
- No refueling or disposal of liquids.
- Tree protection should follow the tree protection specification provided by the City of Ottawa (2021). The Specification is provided in Appendix D;
- All tree service activities (i.e. removal, branch / root pruning, etc.) will be completed by or under the direction of an ISA certified arborist;
- Do not attach any signs, notices or posters to any tree identified to be retained;
- Do not damage the root system, trunk, or branches or any tree identified to be retained;
- Ensure that exhaust fumes from all equipment are directed away from tree canopy; and
- For the protection of migratory birds and SAR bat species, any tree removals shall occur outside of March 15 – November 30 of any given year, to avoid the key breeding bird period as identified by Environment Canada. Adhering to the timing window will also avoid contravention of the Migratory Bird Convention Act. If vegetation clearing activities must take place inside of the timing window than a nest and roost survey shall be conducted by a qualified professional.

#### 5.0 CLOSURE

This letter and the work referred to within it have been undertaken by GEMTEC Consulting Engineers and Scientists Ltd. (GEMTEC), and was prepared for Davies Group Ltd. and is intended for the exclusive use of Davies Group Ltd. This report may not be relied upon by any other person or entity without the express written consent of GEMTEC and Davies Group Ltd.. Nothing in this report is intended to provide a legal opinion.

The investigation undertaken by GEMTEC with respect to this report and any conclusions or recommendations made in this report reflect the best judgements of GEMTEC based on the site conditions observed during the investigations undertaken at the date(s) identified in the report and on the information available at the time the report was prepared.

This letter has been prepared for the application notes, and it is based in part, on visual observations made at the site, all as described in the report. Unless otherwise states, the findings contained in this report cannot be extrapolates or extended to previous or future site conditions or for portions of the site that were unavailable for direct investigation.

Should new information become available during future work, or other studies, GEMTEC should be requested to review the information and, if necessary, re-assess the conclusions present herein.

We trust this report provides sufficient information for your present purposes. If you have any questions concerning this report, please do not hesitate to contact our office.



Sincerely,

Zachary Anderson, B.Sc., CAN-CISEC Biologist

Marrington

Taylor Warrington, B.Sc. Biologist – Team Lead

ZA/TW



# **APPENDIX A**

**Report Figures** 

Figure A.1 – Site Location Figure A.2 – Site Layout Figure A.3 – Tree Inventory



Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N

Service Layer Credits: World Street Map: Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community World Topographic Map: Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community



Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N Service Layer Credits: Tiled service layer: © OpenStreetMap (and) contributors, CC-BY-SA Hybrid Reference Layer: Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

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Client:	Davies G	Group L	td.	F	Project: 100148.007	
Location 11 Turtleback Way Ottawa, Ontario						
Drwn By: EP	Chkd By: ZA	Site Layout				
Date: May © Queen's	2025 Printer for (	for Ontario 0 Figure: A.2				









Site Photograph 1 – Facing southwest towards Turtleback Way on the subject property



Site Photograph 3 – Crown of tree number 3, American elm



Site Photograph 2 – Trees number 1 and 2 in close contact to power lines at road



Site Photograph 4 – Crown and dripline of trees numbered 1, 2, and 3

#### ATTACHEMNT B

File No.

100148.007

Site Photographs



Project Tree Information Report Proposed Single Family Residence 11 Turtleback Way, Stittsville, Ontario

# APPENDIX C

Tree Inventory Summary Table

#### TABLE C.1 TREE INVENTORY

Tree Number GEMTEC	Common Name	Scientific Name	Diameter (cm DBH)	Critical Root Zone (cm)	Condition	Retainable or Conflict	Signficant Tree (> 30 cm)	Wildlife Tree	Ownership	Notes	Y Coordinate (Latitude)	X Coordinate (Longitude)
1	Norway Maple	Acer platanoides	25.1	251	Good	Retainable	No	No	Private	No snags present	-75.91597603	45.25090578
2	Norway Maple	Acer platanoides	66.1	661	Good	Retainable	Yes	No	Private	No snags present	-75.9159456	45.25092388
3	American Elm	Ulmus americana	73.5	735	Healthy	Retainable	Yes	No	Private	No snags present	-75.9159026	45.25091311
4	Norway Maple	Acer platanoides	26.0	260	Good	Retainable	No	No	Private	No snags present	-75.9158254	45.25100535
5	Norway Maple	Acer platanoides	36.8	368	Poor	Retainable	Yes	No	Private	No snags present	-75.91570563	45.25106973
6	Norway Maple	Acer platanoides	34.0	340	Good	Retainable	Yes	No	Private	No snags present	-75.91558216	45.25105405

# APPENDIX D

Tree Protection Fencing Guidelines - City of Ottawa



#### TREE PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS:

- 1. PRIOR TO ANY WORK ACTIVITY WITHIN THE CRITICAL ROOT ZONE (CRZ = 10 X DIAMETER) OF A TREE, TREE PROTECTION FENCING MUST BE INSTALLED SURROUNDING THE CRITICAL ROOT ZONE, AND REMAIN IN PLACE UNTIL THE WORK IS COMPLETE.
- 2. UNLESS PLANS ARE APPROVED BY CITY FORESTRY STAFF, FOR WORK WITHIN THE CRZ:
  - DO NOT PLACE ANY MATERIAL OR EQUIPMENT INCLUDING OUTHOUSES;
  - DO NOT ATTACH ANY SIGNS, NOTICES OR POSTERS TO ANY TREE;
- DO NOT RAISE OR LOWER THE EXISTING GRADE;
- TUNNEL OR BORE WHEN DIGGING;
- DO NOT DAMAGE THE ROOT SYSTEM, TRUNK, OR BRANCHES OR ANY TREE;
- ENSURE THAT EXHAUST FUMES FROM ALL EQUIPMENT ARE NOT DIRECTED TOWARD ANY TREE CANOPY.
- DO NOT EXTEND HARD SURFACE OR SIGNIFICANTLY CHANGE LANDSCAPING
- 3. TREE PROTECTION FENCING MUST BE AT LEAST 1.2M IN HEIGHT, AND CONSTRUCTED OF RIGID OR FRAMED MATERIALS (E.G. MODULOC - STEEL, PLYWOOD HOARDING, OR SNOW FENCE ON A 2"X4" WOOD FRAME) WITH POSTS 2.4M APART, SUCH THAT THE FENCE LOCATION CANNOT BE ALTERED. ALL SUPPORTS AND BRACING MUST BE PLACED OUTSIDE OF THE CR2, AND INSTALLATION MUST MINIMISE DAMAGE TO EXISTING ROOTS. (SEE DETAIL)
- 4. THE LOCATION OF THE TREE PROTECTION FENCING MUST BE DETERMINED BY AN ARBORIST AND DETAILED ON ANY ASSOCIATED PLANS FOR THE SITE (E.G. TREE CONSERVATION REPORT, TREE INFORMATION REPORT, ETC). THE PLAN AND CONSTRUCTED FENCING MUST BE APPROVED BY CITY FORESTRY STAFF PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF WORK.
- 5. IF THE FENCED TREE PROTECTION AREA MUST BE REDUCED TO FACILITATE CONSTRUCTION, MITIGATION MEASURES MUST BE PRESCRIBED BY AN ARBORIST AND APPROVED BY CITY FORESTRY STAFF. THESE MAY INCLUDE THE PLACEMENT OF PLYWOOD, WOOD CHIPS, OR STEEL PLATING OVER THE ROOTS FOR PROTECTION OR THE PROPER PRUNING AND CARE OF ROOTS WHERE ENCOUNTERED.

THE CITY'S TREE PROTECTION BY-LAW, 2020-340 PROTECTS BOTH CITY-OWNED TREES, CITY-WIDE, AND PRIVATELY-OWNED TREES WITHIN THE URBAN AREA. PLEASE REFER TO WWW.OTTAWA.CA/TREEBYLAW FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW THE TREE BY-LAW APPLIES.

ACCESSIBLE FORMATS AND COMMUNICATION SUPPORTS ARE AVAILABLE, UPON REQUEST



TO BE IMPLEMENTED FOR RETAINED TREES, BOTH ON SITE AND ON ADJACENT SITES, PRIOR TO ANY TREE REMOVAL OR SITE WORKS AND MAINTAINED FOR THE DURATION OF WORK ACTIVITIES ON SITE.

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DATE:	MARCH 2021
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