

Subject: Motion - Tree Protection By-law Amendment to decrease distinctive tree diameter to 30 cm in the suburban area

File Number: ACS2022-OCC-ENV-0008

Report to Standing Committee on Environmental Protection, Water and Waste Management on 21 June 2022

and Council

6 July 2022

Submitted on 10 June 2022 by Christopher Zwierzchowski, Committee Coordinator, Council and Committee Services, Office of the City Clerk

**Contact Person: Councillor Shawn Menard, Capital Ward (17)
613-580-2487, *Shawn.Menard@ottawa.ca***

Ward: City Wide

Objet : Motion – Règlement sur la protection des arbres : Modification visant à réduire à 30 cm, dans la région suburbaine, le diamètre des arbres distinctifs

Numéro du dossier : ACS2022-OCC-ENV-0008

Rapport au Comité permanent de la protection de l'environnement, de l'eau et de la gestion des déchets le 21 juin 2022

et au Conseil municipal

le 6 juillet 2022

Soumis le 10 juin 2022 par Christopher Zwierzchowski, coordonnateur des comités, Services au Conseil municipal et aux comités, Bureau du greffier municipal

**Personne-ressource : Shawn Menard, conseiller municipal, Quartier Capitale (17)
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Quartier : À l'échelle de la ville

REPORT RECOMMENDATION

That the Standing Committee on Environmental Protection, Water and Waste Management recommend Council direct staff to consult with the public and bring forward a report in Q2 2023 to amend the Tree Protection By-law, 2020-340 to

reduce the size of a Distinctive Tree in the suburban area of Ottawa from 50 centimeters to 30 centimeters in diameter measured at breast height.

RECOMMANDATION DU RAPPORT

Que le Comité permanent de la protection de l'environnement, de l'eau et de la gestion des déchets recommande au Conseil municipal d'inviter le personnel à consulter le public et à déposer, au deuxième trimestre de 2023, un rapport afin de modifier le *Règlement sur la protection des arbres n° 2020-340* pour réduire de 50 à 30 centimètres le diamètre à hauteur d'homme des arbres distinctifs dans la région suburbaine d'Ottawa.

BACKGROUND

At the 17 May 2022 meeting of the Standing Committee on Environmental Protection, Water and Waste Management (SCEPWWM), Councillor Menard introduced the following Motion for the Committee's consideration at its next regular meeting:

MOTION N° SCEPWWM 2022 24-02

Moved by Councillor S. Menard:

WHEREAS the City's Urban Forest Management Plan ([ACS2017-PIE-EDP-0012](#)), approved by Council on June 28, 2017, was established to provide a structured approach to protecting and enhancing the environmental, social, and economical services provided by the urban forest and to ensure that it is healthy and robust into the future; and

WHEREAS the City's Urban Forest Management Plan included a recommendation for staff to undertake a Tree By-law Review; and

WHEREAS Council approved a new Tree Protection By-law on January 29, 2020 ([ACS2019-PIE-EDP-0052](#)), to support the protection and enhancement of the City's urban tree canopy; and

WHEREAS a motion was passed by Council on June 24th, 2020 ([ACS2020-OCC-ENV-003](#)), to amend the Tree Protection By-law to reduce the diameter of a Distinctive Tree within the inner urban are from 50 cm to 30 cm in diameter at breast height and a report was subsequently approved by Council to make that amendment on November 24, 2020 ([ASC2020-PIE-EDP-0039](#)); and

WHEREAS in the suburban area of Ottawa, the distinctive tree diameter is currently set at 50 cm in diameter at breast height in the Tree Protection By-law; and

WHEREAS the value of the tree canopy in the suburban area should be reflected equally within the provisions of the Tree Protection By-law; and

WHEREAS there is value in streamlining the provisions for Distinctive Trees within the Tree Protection By-law to reduce resident confusion and to encourage compliance with the by-law.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Standing Committee on Environmental Protection, Water and Waste Management recommend Council direct staff to consult with the public and bring forward a report in Q2 2023 to amend the Tree Protection By-law, 2020-340 to reduce the size of a Distinctive Tree in the suburban area of Ottawa from 50 centimeters to 30 centimeters in diameter measured at breast height.

DISCUSSION

The above was introduced as a Notice of Motion by Councillor Menard at the SCEPWWM meeting of Tuesday, 17 May 2022, for consideration at the Committee's next meeting. The Motion will now be before Committee for consideration at its meeting of Tuesday, 21 June 2022.

RURAL IMPLICATIONS

This report was drafted to transmit the above Motion to the Committee for its meeting of 21 June 2022. No specific Rural Implications have been identified. Staff will be available at the Committee meeting if clarification is required.

CONSULTATION

This report was drafted to transmit the above Motion to the Committee for its meeting of 21 June 2022; no public consultation was undertaken in the preparation of this report.

Councillor's Comments (S. Menard)

Councillor Menard is aware of this report and will be prepared to speak to it at the Committee meeting.

COMMENTS BY THE WARD COUNCILLOR(S)

This report is city-wide in nature.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE(S) COMMENTS

This report was drafted to transmit the above Motion to the Committee for its meeting of 21 June 2022; no Advisory Committee consultation was undertaken in the preparation of this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal impediments to Committee and Council's approval of the recommendation of this report.

INDIGENOUS, GENDER AND EQUITY IMPLICATIONS

This report was drafted to transmit the above Motion to the Committee for its meeting of 21 June 2022. No specific Indigenous, Gender and Equity Implications have been identified. Staff will be available at the Committee meeting if clarification is required.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

This report was drafted to transmit the above Motion to the Committee for its meeting of 21 June 2022. No specific Risk Management Implications have been identified. Staff will be available at the Committee meeting if clarification is required.

ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

This report was drafted to transmit the above Motion to the Committee for its meeting of 21 June 2022. No specific Asset Management Implications have been identified. Staff will be available at the Committee meeting if clarification is required.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications.

ACCESSIBILITY IMPACTS

This report was drafted to transmit the above Motion to the Committee for its meeting of 21 June 2022. No specific Accessibility Impacts have been identified. Staff will be available at the Committee meeting if clarification is required.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

This report was drafted to transmit the above Motion to the Committee for its meeting of 21 June 2022. No specific Environmental Implications have been identified. Staff will be available at the Committee meeting if clarification is required.

TERM OF COUNCIL PRIORITIES

This report was drafted to transmit the above Motion to the Committee for its meeting of 21 June 2022. No specific Term of Council Strategic Priorities have been identified. Staff will be available at the Committee meeting if clarification is required.

DISPOSITION

Staff will take direction from Council as appropriate.