

June 26, 2024

To: TBM Mayor and Members of Council

Copy to: Corrina Giles, Town Clerk, Mike Humphries, Senior Infrastructure Capital Project Coordinator

From: Betty Muise, Tree Trust TBM

Re: Bay Street East Reconstruction – Staff report CSOPS.24.031

I am writing on behalf of Tree Trust TBM regarding the above referenced proposed servicing project. Extensive community engagement in tree preservation and tree planting is evidence of just how much TBM residents care about trees. Tree-lined streets add beauty to our neighbourhoods and communities and mature tree canopies offer many natural system benefits.

The infrastructure project referenced above does not stand in isolation. There are many infrastructure upgrade projects in TBM that are threatening our street trees. The look and feel of our Town is in the process of being transformed from *green* to *grey* – a monotonous suburban landscape dominated by pavement and concrete.

Trees must become a top priority in all infrastructure projects, including Bay Street East. Staff, consultants and Council must respond to widespread public concern, and ensure that our tree canopy is protected and enhanced.

On a final note, the release of Staff Report CSOPS.24.031 on Wednesday, June 26, with the Staff presentation to COW on July 2nd, after a long weekend provides extremely short notice for an issue of such importance.

Regards

Betty Muise
Tree Trust TBM

