

From: JOANNE DEVISSER [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, December 12, 2024 3:24 PM
To: Town Clerk <townclerk@thebluemountains.ca>
Subject: Public Comment for Monday December 16th

Hello,

Regarding Council Meeting on Monday, December 16th, please read my letter into the record, for item E.1 - Municipal Land Use Agreement for Alice Street Unopened Road Allowance PDS.24.154. and the Deputation by Betty Muise, Tree Trust.

Dear Council,

I write to urge you to consider the request for tree removal at Alice Street East as a precedent setting decision related to the fiscal management of our town's assets.

The approved Staff Recommendation Report **PDS 24.067 – Natural Asset Inventory and Natural Heritage Study** outlines the importance and value of our Tree Canopy and Natural assets and identifies monetary value of services provided by natural assets:

“Across the Town's landscape, natural assets are estimated to provide \$86.5M to \$103.5M in services. When considering town owned assets only, services were valued at between \$15.5M and \$16.6M.”

When considering the potential removal of a significant grove of healthy trees and the ecosystem they represent, Council should also consider the actual service value that will be removed and how this sets a precedent for similar future requests.

As this particular request has options that do not require Town-owned tree removal, it is more fiscally responsible to deny the request and suggest alternative solutions.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne de Visser