



December 2021

In light of a deeper understanding of the dramatic impact to healthy, well established legacy trees, ask council to consider providing updated direction to staff regarding design and construction parameters to significantly reduce tree removals resulting from the TWR project

Resolution: That Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains receives the deputation of Betty Muisse, TBM Tree Trust, regarding the Thornbury West Reconstruction Project, and directs staff to include opportunities for tree preservation in the followup staff report

WHY?



- We know more now about the extent of proposed tree loss and a second look is warranted and timely
- Extensive community concern over tree loss and dramatic change to neighbourhood aesthetic and natural system (public appreciation of trees is at an all-time high)
- Many trees can be saved with relatively simple design changes (for example, sidewalks, parking, curb profiles)
- It COSTS money to take down trees – avg \$2,000+ per tree - *We could apply this money to look after trees...*
- Expert opinion offers considerable potential for legacy trees to be cared for instead of removed – we can do this differently.....

Treetrust Preliminary Assessment

STREET (tree#)	REASON	DBH	Total
Victoria	Conflicts with		
GOOD 9,11,14, 15	sidewalk	517, 548, 279, 349	4 (?+2 = 39, 40 Red Maple – good)
FAIR 12,13,16	sidewalk	446, 378, 731	3
Louisa			
GOOD 64, 94, 104, 105, 106, 111, 113, 114, 115 120	Regrading at base to fill ditch Conflict with slope grade, retaining wall, parking	252, 720, 990, 870, 900, 491, 600, 637, 620, 649	10 (?+2 + 44, 62 red oak – good)
FAIR 92, 93, 95, 102		683, 671, 826, 800	4 (?+2 - 103, 107 (poor))
Alice			
FAIR 199,202	Sidewalk	870, 705	2
Elma			
GOOD 119,120, 125,132	sidewalk	529, 641, 896, 342	4
FAIR 117, 118, 124, 127, 151, 163, 165, 174	Sidewalk, regrading	645, 533, 768, 861, 800, 740, 620, 787	8

This?

OR

This?





Update

- ✓ Exploration of alternatives by staff (staff report CSOPS 22-010)
- ✓ Staff asked Council to *“confirm that they expect staff to set a priority for tree preservation and to employ all reasonable efforts (as described above) to retain trees within the project study area.”*
- ✓ Council acknowledgement of extra costs and identification of costs to be drawn from contingency
- ✓ Some opportunities for tree preservation in staff report remain unaddressed
- ✓ Breaking project into Phase 1 and 2 allowing for lessons learned

Going forward

- Regular updates and continue engagement with public about lessons learned and opportunities for tree preservation (especially healthy, established trees) associated with this project
- Consequences of tree preservation as contingency versus part of regular costing
- Performance outcome measures related to successful tree preservation built into specifications and contracts