

# **Trees and Forests Advisory Committee**

## **Report**

7th Meeting of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee  
July 25, 2018  
Committee Room #3

Attendance                   PRESENT: G. Mitchell (Acting Chair); T. Khan, A. Meilutis, A. Morrison, N. St. Amour, M. Szabo, S. Teichert and R. Walker and J. Bunn (Acting Secretary)

ABSENT: C. Haindl, J. Koelheide, C. Linton and R. Mannella

ALSO PRESENT: A. Beaton, J. Ramsay, S. Rowland and J. Spence

The meeting was called to order at 12:15 PM.

### **1. Call to Order**

#### 1.1 Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

That it BE NOTED that no pecuniary interests were disclosed.

### **2. Scheduled Items**

#### 2.1 Boulevard Tree Protection By-law Update

That it BE NOTED that a verbal update from J. Spence, Manager, Urban Forestry, with respect to the Boulevard Tree Protection By-law, was received.

### **3. Consent**

#### 3.1 6th Report of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee

That it BE NOTED that the 6th Report of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee, from its meeting held on June 27, 2018, was received.

#### 3.2 Highbury Avenue/Hamilton Road Intersection Improvements - Environmental Assessment Study - Notice of Completion

That it BE NOTED that the Notice of Completion, from B. Huston, Dillon Consulting Limited and M. Elmadhoon, City of London, with respect to the Highbury Avenue/Hamilton Road Intersection Improvements Environmental Assessment Study, was received.

### **4. Sub-Committees and Working Groups**

#### 4.1 (ADDED) Parks and Recreation Master Plan Working Group

That the Civic Administration BE ADVISED of the following comments from the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee with respect to the Parks and Recreation Master Plan:

- it should be ensured that trees continue to populate the City of London as it is “The Forest City” and more trees should be planted in shared recreation spaces;
- it is recommended that a shade policy be created as a task item and implemented under the Parks and Recreation Master Plan;

- selective tree species should be planted in parks and recreation areas to assist with safer shaded areas;
- older trees should be kept and maintained as much as possible and all trees should be properly maintained (watering, trimming, etc.);
- citizens of the City of London should be engaged with respect to what is being done to protect and encourage trees and forests in their area;
- tree-related communities (i.e., ReForest London) should be allowed to use parks and recreation facilities to hold events;
- the Parks and Recreation Master Plan should explicitly recognize the importance of park spaces play in the local environment and that park spaces should be designed in such a way as to enhance the environmental benefits they offer; and,
- it is recommended that a Naturalization Policy be included as a task item under the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

#### 4.2 (ADDED) Tree Protection By-law Working Group

That the Civic Administration BE ADVISED of the following comments of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee with respect to the City of London Tree Protection By-law:

- there should be a standardized form as part of the application package for both the “Arborist Report” and the “Arborist Opinion”;
- the by-law should include a minimum canopy target of 51% of irreversible die back;
- the definition of “Pest” should be revised to include an infestation causing detrimental and irreversible damage to the direct health of a tree;
- the distinctive tree size should be reduced to 25 cm for a permit;
- the definition of “Replacement Tree” should be revised to clarify that “native” is required and that “shade” and “large growing tree” are synonymous;
- golf courses should be added to the exemption list in Section 5 of the by-law; and,
- wildlife values and interests within a tree should be considered more carefully with respect to provincial and federal Acts and Regulations and tied back to the by-law process to ensure a consistent approach;

it being noted that the attached communication from the Tree Protection By-law Working Group, with respect to this matter, was received.

#### 5. **Items for Discussion**

None.

#### 6. **Deferred Matters/Additional Business**

None.

#### 7. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:56 PM.

# Trees and Forests Advisory Committee

## Report

6th Meeting of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee  
June 27, 2018  
Committee Room #3

Attendance                   PRESENT: R. Mannella (Chair), J. Kogelheide, A. Meilutis, A. Morrison, N. St. Amour, M. Szabo, S. Teichert, R. Walker and P. Shack (Secretary)

ABSENT: C. Haindl, T. Khan, C. Linton and G. Mitchell

ALSO PRESENT: A. Beaton, J. Ramsay S. Rowland and J. Spence

The meeting was called to order at 12:15 PM.

### 1. Call to Order

#### 1.1 Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

That it BE NOTED that no pecuniary interests were disclosed.

### 2. Scheduled Items

#### 2.1 Shade Policy and Naturalization Policy within the Parks & Recreation Master Plan

That it BE NOTED the attached presentation from A. Cantell, Reforest London, with respect to the Shade Policy and Naturalization Policy within the Parks & Recreation Master Plan, was received.

#### 2.2 Tree Protection By-Law Amendments and Implementation Update Report.

That the following actions be taken with respect to the Tree Protection By-Law Amendments and Implementation Update Report, dated June 18, 2018 as presented to the Planning and Environment Committee:

a) it BE NOTED that the attached presentation from S. Rowland, Urban Forestry Planner, with respect to the Tree Protection By-Law Amendments and Implementation Update Report, was received; and,

b) a Working Group BE ESTABLISHED, consisting of J. Spence, A. Morrison, A. Melitus, M. Szabo, S. Teichert and M. Hooydonk, to review the above noted report, and to report back at the July meeting of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee with input on the proposed amendments.

### 3. Consent

#### 3.1 5th Report of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee

That it BE NOTED that the 5th Report of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee, from its meeting held on May 23, 2018, was received.

#### 3.2 Municipal Council Resolution - New Trees and Forests Advisory Committee Members

That it BE NOTED that the Municipal Council Resolution, from its meeting held on June 12, 2018, with respect to the new Trees and Forests Advisory Committee Members, was received.

**4. Sub-Committees and Working Groups**

4.1 Parks & Recreation Master Plan Working Group

That it BE NOTED that the attached presentation from A. Morrison, with respect to the Parks & Recreation Master Plan Working Group update, was received;

it being noted that the working group requested this matter be added to the next agenda for follow-up.

**5. Items for Discussion**

5.1 Planting Areas Update

That it BE NOTED that the update from J. Ramsay, Forestry Technologist, with respect to the Planting Areas, was received.

5.2 Summer Meeting Schedule

That it BE NOTED that the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee will meet over the summer on July 25, 2018 and August 22, 2018.

**6. Deferred Matters/Additional Business**

None.

**7. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:40 PM.



# Highbury Avenue/Hamilton Road Intersection Improvements Environmental Assessment Study



## Notice of Completion

The City of London has completed a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) study for improvements to the Highbury Avenue/Hamilton Road intersection. The study was completed in accordance with the planning and design process for a Schedule C project, as outlined in the Municipal Class EA (October 2000, as amended in 2007, 2011 and 2015).

The preferred intersection design includes the following key recommendations:

- Additional northbound and southbound through lanes along Highbury Avenue North;
- Eastbound channelized right turn lane;
- Westbound dual left turn lanes;
- Northbound channelized right turn lane;
- Eastbound and westbound bike lanes on Hamilton Road;
- Access management; and,
- Landscaping and urban design elements.

The Class EA process included public and agency consultation, a comparative evaluation of design options, assessment of potential impacts, and identification of mitigation measures. As part of the consultation program, two Public Information Centers were held (May 14, 2015 & March 9, 2016) to provide information on the project and to receive comments. Major businesses affected by the access management changes and property owners potentially affected by the full acquisition of their properties were also contacted to discuss the recommended plan.

An Environmental Study Report (ESR) has been prepared to document the decision-making process leading to the selection of the preferred design. This notice places the ESR on the public record for a **thirty (30) calendar day** public review period starting on **July 13, 2018** to be reviewed by members of the public and/or any other interested party at the following locations until **August 12, 2018**:

City Hall	London Public Library	Project Website
Clerk's Office, 3rd Floor or Transportation Div., 8th Floor 300 Dufferin Avenue, London Mon – Fri 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sat/Sun: Closed	Crouch Branch Library 550 Hamilton Road, London Tues – Thurs 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Fri – 9a.m. to 6 p.m. Sat – 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sun/Mon: Closed	<a href="http://www.london.ca/residents/Environment/EAs/Pages/Highbury-Avenue-and-Hamilton-Road-Intersection.aspx">http://www.london.ca/residents/Environment/EAs/Pages/Highbury-Avenue-and-Hamilton-Road-Intersection.aspx</a>

If you have any comments, questions or concerns regarding the information provided in the ESR, please contact one of the following team members no later than **August 12, 2018**:

**Brian Huston, P.Eng.**  
**Project Manager**  
**Dillon Consulting Limited**  
 Tel: 519-438-1288 ext. 1227  
 Fax: 519-672-8209  
 E-mail: hamiltonhighbury@dillon.ca

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**  
**Project Manager**  
**City of London**  
 Tel : 519-661-2489 ext. 4934  
 Fax : 519-661-4734  
 E-mail: melmadho@london.ca

If concerns regarding this project cannot be resolved through discussions with the City of London and/or Dillon Consulting Limited, a person/party may request the Minister of the Environment & Climate Change to issue an order for the project to comply with Part II of the *Environmental Assessment Act* (known as a "Part II Order"), changing the status of the project to a full Individual Environmental Assessment. Requests must be received by the Minister at the address below by **August 12, 2018**. A copy of the request must also be sent to the Director of the Environmental Approvals Branch and City Clerk.

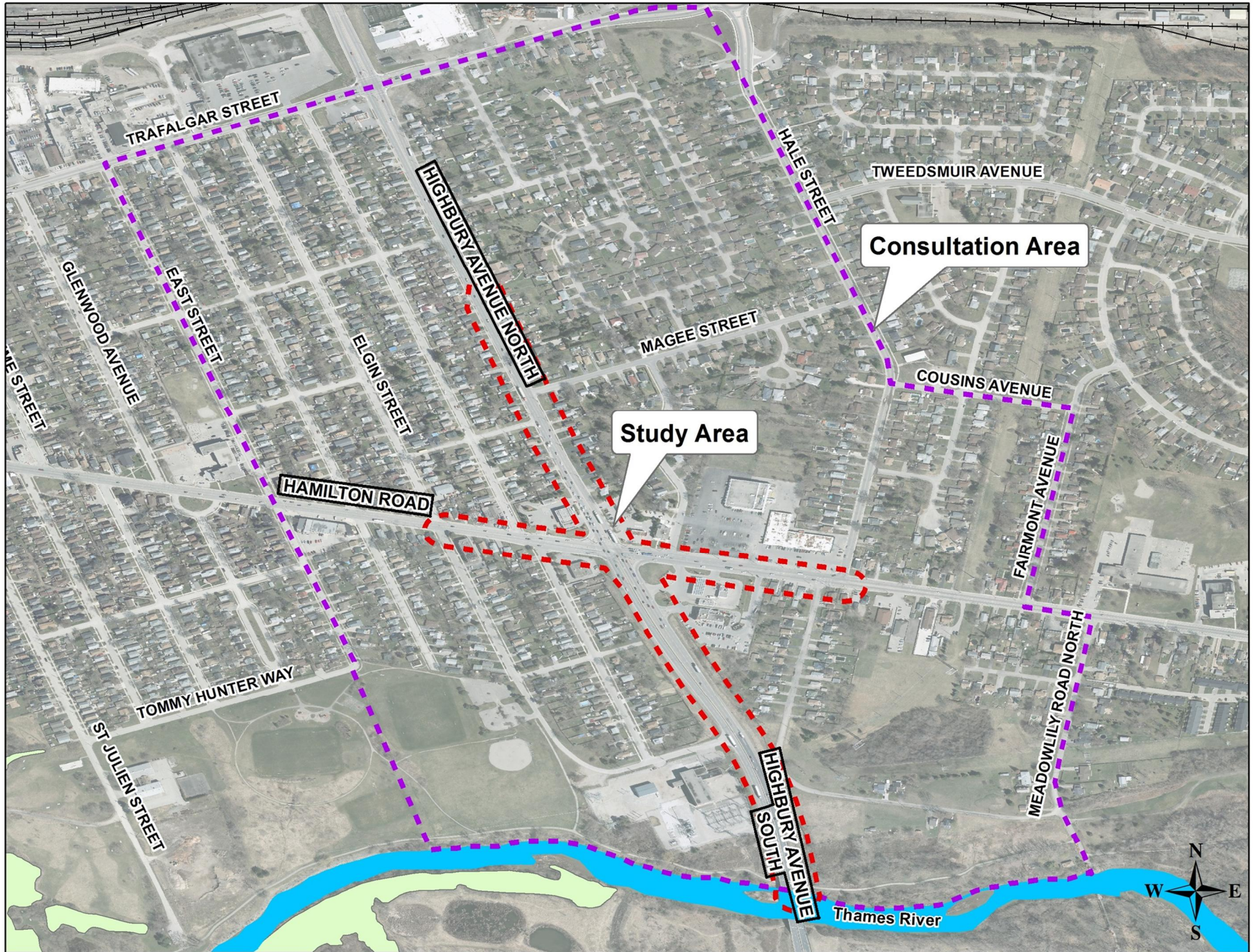
**Minister  
Ministry of the Environment  
and Climate Change  
77 Wellesley Street West  
11th Floor  
Toronto, ON M7A 2T5**

**Director, Environmental  
Approvals Branch  
Ministry of the Environment  
and Climate Change  
135 St. Clair Avenue West  
12th Floor  
Toronto, ON M4V 1P5**

**City of London  
Office of the City Clerk  
3rd Floor  
300 Dufferin Avenue  
London, ON N6A 4L9**

If no request for a Part II Order is received, the project will proceed to design and construction as outlined in the planning documentation.

This notice issued on July 13, 2018.



## Official Recommendations for City of London Tree Protection By-law

1. Standardized form as part of the application package for both the “Arborist Report” and “Arborist Opinion”

REASONING: Make the application process more streamlined and accessible for applicants and city staff reviewing application package material.

2. Include a minimum canopy target of irreversible die back within the by-law

REASONING: Give arborists an acceptable and standardized target for reports and opinions.

3. Review the definition of “Pest” to include an infestation causing detrimental and irreversible damage to the direct health of a tree

REASONING: Many trees can become “infested” with aphids and other “pests” that do not impact the overall long term health of the tree, and just cause physical appearance to change.

4. Review “Replacement Tree” definition to clarify “native” is required, and “shade or large growing tree” are synonymous.
  - a. \*\*\* Should the distinctive tree size recommendation go forward (25cm), the replacement definition should be altered to

REASONING: As the by-law currently reads, native appears independent from shade or large growing tree, and doesn’t give the impression it is mandatory.

5. Golf courses be added to the exemption list

REASONING: Golf courses currently manage trees on a “required removal for safety” rational, and many do not have the resources to include replacement programs, nor do they want to increase forest density. Overall, the forest cover across the City on golf course land is not significant to raise concern about overall large scale canopy loss.

6. Reduce distinctive tree size to 25cm for a permit (=14% of trees protected in London compared to the current 4% with 50cm diameter)

REASONING: At current 50cm diameter standards, 4% of trees in the City of London are protected under this bylaw. Changing protection to 25cm diameter increases the protection of trees to 14%, and encompasses a greater species diversity.

7. Adding Species at Risk Act (Ontario 2004) to section 8.3 (including other wildlife in the tree), or consider removing other specific provincial legislation and speak generally to halting work when wildlife are present.

REASONING: Select provincial legislation is included (Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994), but does not encompass all potential wildlife issues that are addressed at the provincial level.