

Linda,

Please add this email to the added items for the PEC meeting on August 22, 2016.

There are a number of issues regarding the proposed Tree Protection By-law not the least of which is the short timeframe to review the 45 page report.

The report was released at noon on Wednesday August 17<sup>th</sup> and our comments have to be into the Clerk's office by 9:00am Friday morning August 19<sup>th</sup> to be put on the added agenda.

This is a complex by-law with many nuances that take time to understand for the development industry but more importantly the private home owner.

I did meet with Andrew MacPherson from Parks Planning yesterday to review the report and raised a number of concerns that are not addressed in the by-law that may require amendments as follows:

- Compensation is left to the discretion of the planner but it should be in the by-law so applicants know what the total tree removal costs will be.
- Will the compensation be tree whips or street trees that cost \$300.00?
- How will the number of trees to be planted as compensation be determined? (6.14)
- There is no reference in the by-law to the proposed London Plan where compensation is a new policy.
- Where does the money generated from the fees and fines go to; plant more trees or to hire additional staff.
- The By-law should reference the Street Tree Protection By-law.
- There is no reference to the Noxious Weed By-law to remove invasive species such as Buckthorn trees.
- 7.9 says an application to remove a boundary tree needs to have the consent of both property owners, what if they don't agree?
- The tree removal permit needs to be posted 7 days prior to the removal and left up for 7 days after the removal, what happens if a neighbour opposes the tree removal?
- The appeal of a decision of the Planner can go to the Hearings Officer for the City, who is that person and what are their qualifications.
- The cash in lieu contribution in Schedule B is set at \$350.00 per tree but there is no indication of how the number of replacement trees will be determined.

These are just a few of the questions raise by a preliminary review of the by-law that should be addressed in a full and complete review to save making unnecessary amendments to the by-law. This by-law is being pushed through committee during the summer when many home and land owners are on holidays and may not be aware that it is being passed and what the affect is on their property. This by-law needs a clear and transparent review prior to passing to ensure that everyone knows the process and the costs associated with the removal of trees on private property.

Regards,

Jim Kennedy  
President, LDI