

Please circulate wide and far and to the ends of the earth.

Dear Neighbour,

The City of London is introducing a new tree by-law this Monday at the Planning and Environment Committee. There is a public participation meeting (no earlier than 4pm at City Hall) and/or you can send your written comments to the city clerk's office at lmorris@london.ca.

The staff report: <https://pub-london.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=75925>

The new by-law: <https://pub-london.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=75926>

There are no significant changes being introduced with this new by-law. The new by-law is the same as the old by-law. NO JOKE.

It is both surreal and unsettling.

The rationale against a stronger tree protection by-law is that there are not enough by-law officers to enforce it even though Council recently approved the hiring of up to 18 additional by-law enforcement officers.

It retains the limit of 50 cm. diameter at 1.4 metres high in which a tree can be cut without a permit. Even though city staff acknowledge public and industry support to reduce the diameter size to 20 cm to protect younger trees and capture greater species diversity such as cedars and aspens which typically never reach trunk size of 50 cm. even at maturity, city staff will not advocate for a stronger tree protection by-law.

You need to do that. Council has NEVER spoken in defense of tree preservation even though this city has a supposed climate action plan, their words are hollow hence a new tree by-law that is eerily similar to the old tree by-law.

The Forest City has been a past tense for a long long time and speaks volumes of the city's priority where hundreds of thousands of citizens' hard earned dollars is spent on expropriating private homes to widen roads unnecessarily but cannot afford extra officers to secure a tree canopy.

Speak Up. Please don't be a cynic and fight back. If City Council is complacent it is because we are too.

Be Good and Be Safe

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