



Corporate

NO: R222

Report

COUNCIL DATE: November 25, 2002

REGULAR			
TO:	Mayor & Council	DATE:	November 13, 2002
FROM:	General Manager Parks, Recreation and Culture	FILE:	6300-01
SUBJECT:	Request for Removal of Douglas Fir Trees - 8500 block of 145A Street		

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Mr. Anderson's request to have the Douglas-fir trees located in the 8500 block of 145A Street removed be denied.

BACKGROUND

Mr. Ib Anderson appeared as a delegation to the Council-in-Committee meeting of October 7, 2002, to request that five mature Douglas-fir trees in the 8500 block of 145A Street be removed from the City road allowance adjacent to his home (see Photos and Map, Appendix 1).

DISCUSSION

The City has responded to a number of requests from Mr. Anderson. The problems cited by Mr. Anderson include:

- the trees are too tall, large and dangerous;
- they shed too many needles and make a mess;
- the trees are causing drainage problems in the area.

In response to the initial request, the City pruned the trees to reduce branch loss and tree failure. Additionally,

the Engineering Department repaved sections of the road allowance to redirect storm water away from Mr. Anderson's property.

A recent inspection of these trees by staff have concluded that despite some minor root loss due to the paving within the root zone of the trees, they are healthy, vigorous and do not require any hazard mitigation work at this time.

The trees are situated at an appropriate location within City road allowance and contribute significantly to the appeal of the neighbourhood. The trees are currently valued at approximately \$70,000, according to the Council of Tree and Landscape Appraisers methodology. The trees are effective in removing dust and other gaseous pollution from the air. They also assist in slowing the run-off of rain water during storm events.

CONCLUSION

In response to Mr. Anderson's repeated requests to have trees removed from City road allowance, the City has pruned the trees to reduce branch loss and has repaved sections of the road allowance to redirect storm water run-off. The trees are an asset to the neighbourhood and community, providing much needed environmental and economic benefits. It is recommended that Mr. Anderson's request to have the trees removed be denied as they contribute significantly to the neighbourhood and community.

Don Hunter, General Manager
Parks, Recreation and Culture

DH:dlg

APPENDIX 1





Photos of Trees Looking South



Map of General Area Showing Location of Trees

