

Public Release
July 9, 2018



**Town of Aurora
Additional Items to
Heritage Advisory Committee
Meeting Agenda**

Monday, July 9, 2018
7 p.m., Holland Room

- **Item 3 – Memorandum from Manager, Parks and Fleet
Re: Tree Removal Permit Application – 61 Spruce Street**

Recommended:

1. That the memorandum regarding Tree Removal Permit Application – 61 Spruce Street be received for information.



100 John West Way
Box 1000
Aurora, Ontario
L4G 6J1
Phone: 905-727-3123 ext. 3223
Email: stienkamp@aurora.ca
www.aurora.ca

**Town of Aurora
Operational Services
Parks & Fleet Division**

Memorandum

Date: July 9, 2018
To: Heritage Advisory Committee
From: Sara Tienkamp, Manager, Parks & Fleet
Copy: Marco Ramunno, Director of Planning and Development Services
Re: **Tree Removal Permit Application – 61 Spruce Street**

Recommendation

- 1. That the memorandum regarding Tree Removal Permit Application – 61 Spruce Street be received for information.**

Background

This purpose of this memorandum is to provide the Heritage Advisory Committee (HAC) with additional information requested at the June 11, 2018. The following questions were referred back to staff for clarification:

- 1. Is the tree being requested for removal actually dead or dying?**

No, the tree is alive and not diseased or dying.

- 2. What is the typical lifespan of an American Elm and how old is the subject tree?**

Elm's can live a couple hundred years in ideal conditions but are subject to Dutch Elm disease as well as being vulnerable to many other diseases and pests. The Elm tree is approximately 30 years old but growing in this location and with the probability of the tree contracting Dutch Elm disease it will not come close to its full life expectancy.

- 3. Is the Elm tree leaning towards the homeowner's home or the neighbour's home?**

The tree is leaning towards the homeowner's house.

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4. If the tree was removed, would the Sugar maple tree benefit and live longer?

The Maple and the Elm trees are in competition for nutrients and root zone as both stems are in very close proximity of one another. Less competition for these resources would be a benefit.

5. Can the branch from the Elm tree hanging over the house be pruned to alleviate concern?

Yes the limb over the house could be pruned and this would alleviate the concerns regarding limbs overhanging roof.

6. The tree permit application indicated poor, fair and good grading system for health. What does fair condition mean with respect to lifespan and how long will it be before it becomes poor?

According to our *Tree Removal/Compensation Policy*, the plant health rating criteria for a Fair condition rating is as follows:

“May have a partially leaved, suppressed or disfigured crown (>74% crown density), combined with a few dead branches or limbs, or small open wounds and small trunk-tissue necrosis. Tree health will likely not decline further in the next 5 years. Growth occurs mostly as extensions from the terminal bud. Epicormic branching may be heavy.”

7. Can additional photos be provided to better illustrate the location of the elm and maple trees?

Attached photos illustrate both trees position on the property. It is important to note that this tree was not planted in the landscape but rather came up from seed many years ago. It is a case of a tree in the wrong location and can be deemed as a nuisance tree in a residential landscape setting.

Attachments

Attachment #1 – 61 Spruce St. Photos



canopy left of
blue line is elm

canopy right of blue line
is sugar maple

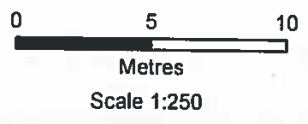


sugar maple
forcing elm
growth over 61
spruce





**LOCATION MAP -
61 SPRUCE STREET**



Map created by the Town of Aurora Planning and Development Services Department, June 27th, 2018. Base data provided by York Region and Aurora - GIS. Air Photos taken Spring 2017, © First Base Solutions Inc., 2017 Orthophotography. This is not a legal survey.