



TOWN OF AURORA
ADDITIONAL ITEM
FOR GENERAL COMMITTEE

Tuesday, November 17, 2015
7 p.m.
Council Chambers

- **Replacement Memorandum – Item 1 – Memorandum from Director of Parks & Recreation Services; Re: Tree Protection By-law**



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**Town of Aurora
Parks and Recreation
Services**

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 20, 2015
TO: Mayor Dawe and Members of Council
FROM: Allan D. Downey, Director of Parks and Recreation Services
RE: Tree Protection By-law

RECOMMENDATIONS

***THAT the memorandum regarding Tree Protection By-law be received; and
THAT Council provide direction.***

BACKGROUND

On May 26, 2015, Council adopted the following Motion:

WHEREAS on January 25, 2011, Council of the Town of Aurora directed the formation of a Town staff, multi-department, Tree Protection By-law Committee, to review the Town's current Tree By-law; and

WHEREAS the purpose of the committee was to review the existing Tree By-law and suggest changes and revisions for Council's consideration; and

WHEREAS the process to develop the Draft Tree Protection By-law was to include consultation with the public and all stakeholders; and

WHEREAS public and stakeholder consultation was accomplished through comprehensive staff discussions with stakeholders, an online survey, and a Public Planning meeting held on April 25, 2012; and

WHEREAS staff Report No. PR12-016 was presented at the Public Planning meeting; and

WHEREAS staff Report No. PR12-016 spoke to the advantage of the Draft Tree Protection By-law to enable residents to receive better service in the processing of permits, and better enforcement and tree protection for the municipality; and

WHEREAS the public and stakeholder consultation process allowed for input and advice on the actual By-Law changes; and

WHEREAS the Public Planning meeting was well-attended and included representation from all stakeholders; and

WHEREAS the Council direction from the meeting was that the recommendations from staff Report No. PR12-016 be received, and that comments presented at the Public Planning meeting be addressed in a comprehensive report outlining recommendations and options at

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a future General Committee meeting, and that all parties expressing interest at the Public Planning meeting and stakeholders be advised of the General Committee meeting date; and

WHEREAS that meeting was held on October 8, 2013, and Council directed staff to make further revisions and bring the Draft Tree Protection By-law back to Council for comments prior to releasing it again to the public for their input; and

WHEREAS the Draft Tree Protection By-Law was discussed by Council again on January 14, 2014, and January 21, 2014; and

WHEREAS Council referred the Draft Tree Protection By-law report back to staff without clarifying any next steps in the process; and

WHEREAS the Town's February 2015 Pending List makes notes that the matter is "Complete" along with the notation that Town staff reviewed the revised Tree Protection By-law in accordance with the Council direction of January 21, 2014, and determined that the current Tree By-law is satisfactory, and staff will continue to monitor the operation and enforcement of the current Tree By-law and may bring it forward for review to Council should the need arise; and

WHEREAS this public process started in 2011 and no Council decision has been made to date on the Draft Tree Protection By-law;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT staff place the matter of the Draft Tree Protection By-law on a future General Committee agenda for discussion and direction, with a copy of all previous staff reports dealing with this matter as well as a copy of the Town's current Tree By-law and Tree Destruction Permit; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT staff be directed to prepare and bring a comprehensive report to General Committee prior to the end of September 2015 containing a written summary of the review process and all written or verbal input received from the general public at the Public Planning meeting and other Council meetings outlined in this motion; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT that staff be directed to provide Council with options for meeting dates for Council to invite the public to comment and offer input on the Draft Tree Protection By-law.

In response to this direction, staff has placed this item on the agenda including all previous reports on this matter. Attached are copies of all staff reports on the Draft Tree Protection By-law which summarizes all previous discussion on this matter.

Council also directed staff to provide Council with options for meeting dates for the public to offer comments on the Draft Tree Protection By-law. Staff will propose meeting dates should Council direct this matter to go forward.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment #1 - PR14-004 January 14, 2014 Tree Protection By-law

Attachment #2 - PR12-001 January 24, 2012 Approval of Tree Protection By-law

Attachment #3 - PR12-016 April 25, 2012 Public Meeting for Proposed Tree Protection By-law

Attachment #4 - PR13-046 October 1, 2013 Tree Protection By-Law

Attachment #5 - Tree Permit By-law Number 4474-03.D