

# CITY OF HAMILTON

# PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT **Transportation Division**

TO: Chair and Members WARD(S) AFFECTED: WARD 11 **Public Works Committee** 

**COMMITTEE DATE:** September 3, 2013

SUBJECT/REPORT NO:

Mountain Transit Centre Park-N-Ride - Tree Removal (PW13063) - (Ward 11)

**SUBMITTED BY:** PREPARED BY:

Gerry Davis, CMA General Manager

Trevor Horzelenberg Public Works Department (905) 546-2424, Extension 2343

SIGNATURE:

### RECOMMENDATION

That the existing trees identified in Appendix "A" to Report PW13063 be approved for removal as required for the construction of the new Park-N-Ride lot and Transit Terminal at the Mountain Transit Centre with an approximate net cost of \$54,495.00 funded from Project ID #5300987904 (MTC Park-N-Ride Lot).

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to request Council Approval for the removal of trees currently located on the Mountain Transit Centre site at 2200 Upper James Street, in accordance with the Hamilton Tree By-Law Number 06-051.

The removal of these trees is required in order to construct the City's first Park-N-Ride facility at the Mountain Transit Centre. The trees, outlined in Appendix "A" to Report PW13063 are in varied states of health, all of which have been reviewed and verified through the Forestry & Horticulture section of Public Works. Due to the construction and preparation of the infrastructure required for the Park-N-Ride facility and the Transit Terminal, a total of eighty-two (82) trees are to be removed of which only twenty-nine (29) trees are considered healthy and require compensation. Fifty-three (53) of these trees are in various states of poor health and are not subject to the City's tree replacement policy fees, such that, they have been deemed "necessary for the public interest" to be removed as defined by the Hamilton Tree By-Law Number 06-051 or they are subject to the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Action Plan, as outlined in report (PW10088a). Therefore of the eighty-two (82) trees to be removed, only twenty-nine (29) shall be identified for the purpose of the tree replacement valuation estimation, as

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outlined in the City of Hamilton Reforestation Policy – Municipally Owned Lands of Bylaw 06-051.

Furthermore, the valuation estimation has identified that the cost of the replacement trees shall be \$54,495.00 and shall be deposited with the Forestry and Horticulture section of Public Works for future tree planning initiatives. There are numerous opportunities for replacement trees to be planted at the site, as shown on Appendix "B", the Draft Planting Plan. Sixty-seven (67) new additional trees have been identified to be planted at the site, resulting in a potential net gain in the number of trees. These additional trees have been included in the valuation estimation. However, the Planting Plan still needs to be finalized as part of the Site Plan process and may include additional trees that may further offset the replacement tree cost.

Alternatives for Consideration - See Page 3

#### FINANCIAL / STAFFING / LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

#### Financial:

The approximate tree replacement value of \$54,495.00 is based on twenty-nine (29) trees being charged for removal valued at \$92,205.00 being offset by a credit for sixty-seven (67) trees being planted valued at \$37,710.00.

## **Mountain Transit Centre - SUMMARY**

# trees removed	82
# trees identified	64
# additional removals recommended	18
# of trees charged for removal	29
\$ value of trees removed	\$92,205
# trees planted	67
\$ value of trees planted	\$37,710
Amount owing to Forestry	\$54,495

The final replacement value shall be funded from Project ID #5300985904 (MTC Park-N-Ride Lot).

## Staffing:

There are no staffing implications associated with the recommendation of the report.

#### Legal:

There are no staffing implications associated with the recommendation of the report.

#### HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Park-N-Ride would promote the use of public transit by permitting the commuter to park their vehicle in an area outside the urban core and not contribute to traffic congestion, while reducing parking demand and improving air quality. The City's first Park-N-Ride facility will provide convenient parking for HSR passengers, with the goal of increasing ridership on not only the A-Line but other HSR routes as well. In November 2012, Council approved report PW11079c to complete the engineering and detailed design work for the facility. The detailed design is underway and conditional Site Plan Approval has been granted from the Planning and Economic Development Department. The next steps are for the tender and construction prior to the end of this year.

#### POLICY IMPLICATIONS/LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

Council approval for tree removals is being requested in accordance with the provisions of the City of Hamilton Public Tree Removal Policy in the Tree By-Law Number 06-051. Council approval is not required for the removal of dead and evasive trees that meet Forestry & Horticulture's criteria for removal, to facilitate the construction of the Park-N-Ride lot and Transit Terminal at the Mountain Transit Centre in accordance with the Site Plan Approval.

#### **RELEVANT CONSULTATION**

Public Works Department, Environmental Services Division, Forestry & Horticulture Section were consulted in the preparation of this report. The tree removal and planting plans outlined in Report PW13063 as Appendix "A" and Appendix "B" were submitted and reviewed by Forestry & Horticulture.

Development Planning staff in the Planning and Economic Development Department have been involved in the design process and consulted through the Site Plan Approval process.

#### ANALYSIS / RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The eighty-two (82) trees are to be removed in order to accommodate the construction and implementation of the City's first Park-N-Ride lot at the Mountain Transit Centre – 2200 Upper James Street.

#### ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

Should Council not approve the removal of the public trees, the construction and implementation of the Park-N-Ride and Transit Terminal could not proceed.

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#### **ALIGNMENT TO THE 2012 - 2015 STRATEGIC PLAN**

## Strategic Priority #1

A Prosperous & Healthy Community

WE enhance our image, economy and well-being by demonstrating that Hamilton is a great place to live, work, play and learn.

# **Strategic Objective**

1.4 Improve the City's transportation system to support multi-modal mobility and encourage inter-regional connections.

# Strategic Priority #2

Valued & Sustainable Services

WE deliver high quality services that meet citizen needs and expectations, in a cost effective and responsible manner.

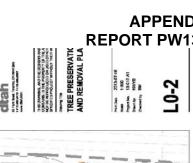
#### **APPENDICES / SCHEDULES**

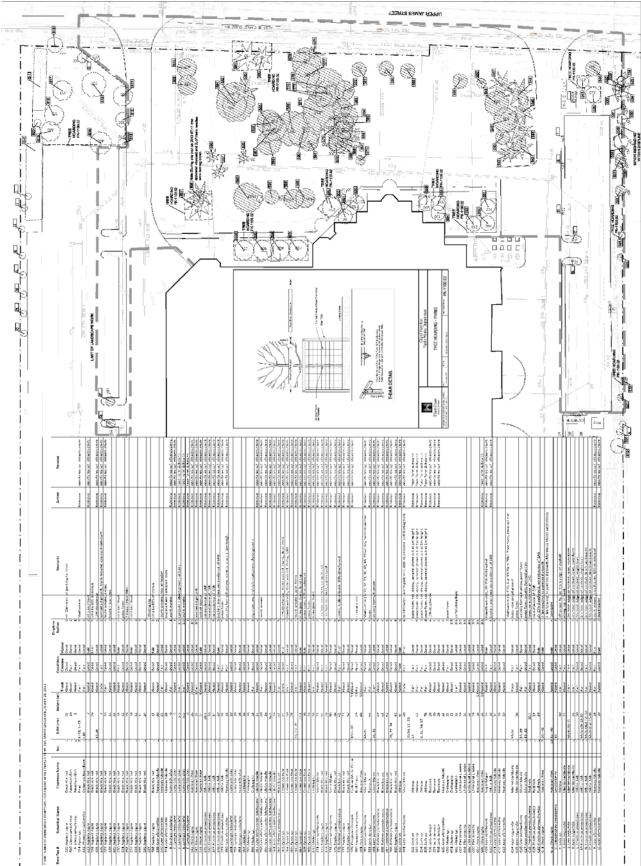
Appendix "A" Tree Removal Site Plan Appendix "B" Draft Planting Plan

★ Due to the extensive detail included on the appendices, they will be made available on large presentation boards at the September 3<sup>rd</sup> Public Works Committee meeting.

# **APPENDIX A REPORT PW13063**







# **APPENDIX B REPORT PW13063**





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