

CITY OF HAMILTON

MOTION

General Issues Committee: July 4, 2016

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR C. COLLINS

SECONDED BY MAYOR / COUNCILLOR.....

Ward 5 Tree Planting Program

WHEREAS, hundreds of mature trees were lost as a result of Hydro One’s recent clear cutting initiative on Hamilton Beach and through Red Hill Valley;

WHEREAS, Hydro One has offered \$20,000 in compensation for the Red Hill Valley clear cut, and \$10,000 for the Hamilton Beach corridor clear cut;

WHEREAS, the compensation from Hydro One falls far short from assisting the affected communities with a tree replanting program;

WHEREAS, the Hamilton Conservation Authority estimates hundreds of ash trees will be lost in Confederation Park to the Emerald Ash Boer Disease;

WHEREAS, it’s estimated by the City’s Forestry Department that Ward 5 will lose 815 ash trees, on public property, from the spread of the Emerald Ash Boer Disease;

WHEREAS, the Davis Creek Community Planning Team has requested the planting of least 2,000 trees in the neighbourhoods bounded by Red Hill Creek Valley, the escarpment, King Street East and Centennial Parkway; and,

WHEREAS, the Hamilton Beach Community Council has communicated their support for a tree planting program in their neighbourhood;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That \$400,000 be approved for a Ward 5 Tree Planting Program, to be funded from and allocated as follows:

- (i) \$150,000 from the Hamilton Beach Reserve Account 108037 to be utilized to plant trees in the Hamilton Beach Community and Confederation Park; and,
 - (ii) \$250,000 from the Ward 5 Area Rating Reserve Account 108055 (\$125,000 in 2016 and \$125,000 in 2017) to be utilized to plant trees in other areas of the ward; and,
- (b) That the Tree Planting Program be administered by the City's Forestry Department, in consultation with the Joint Stewardship Board, local community hubs, Neighbourhood Associations, businesses and individual residents