

Street Trees in Downtown Hamilton





Outline

Locations

Observations

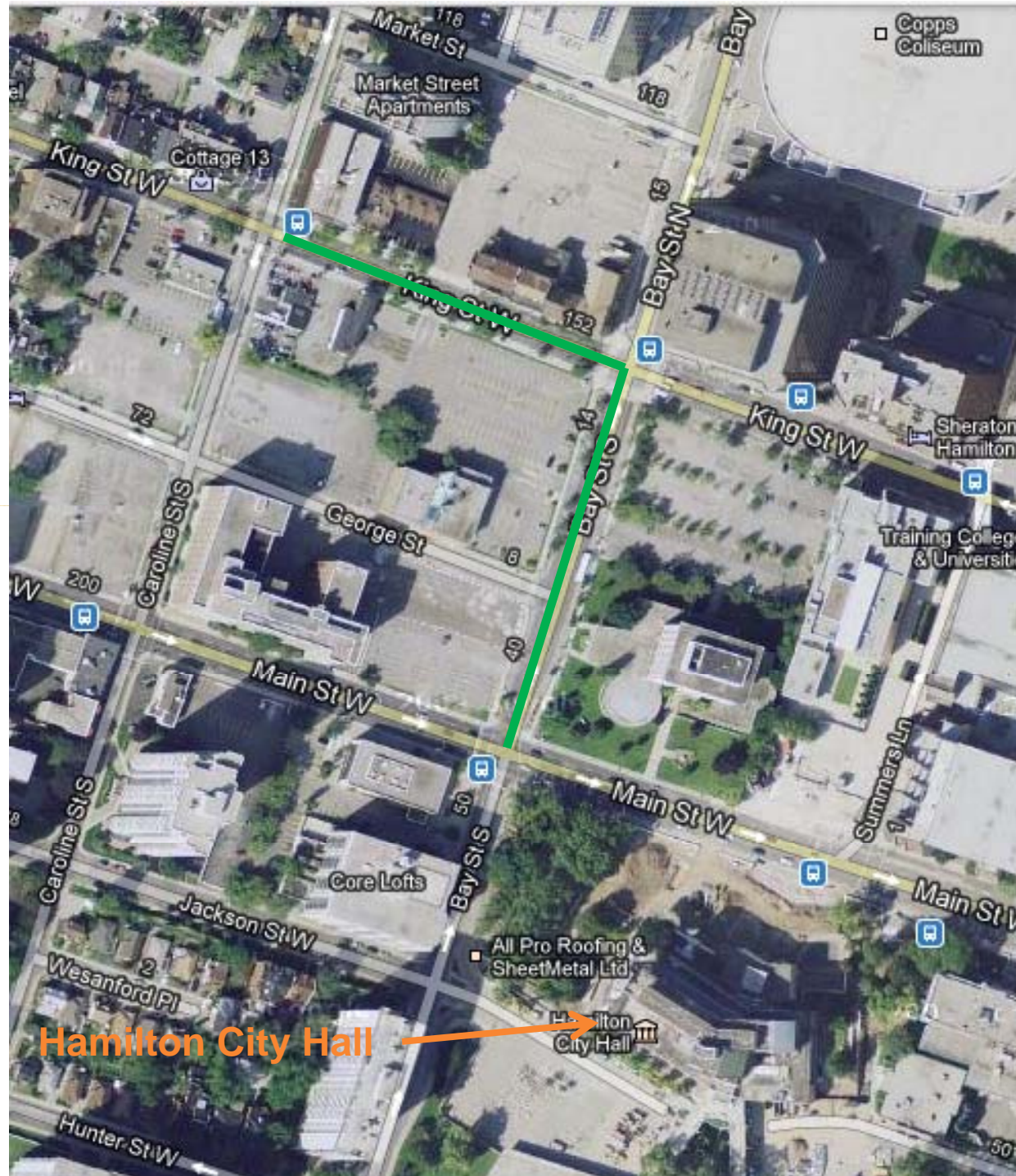
Cause

Impacts

Implications

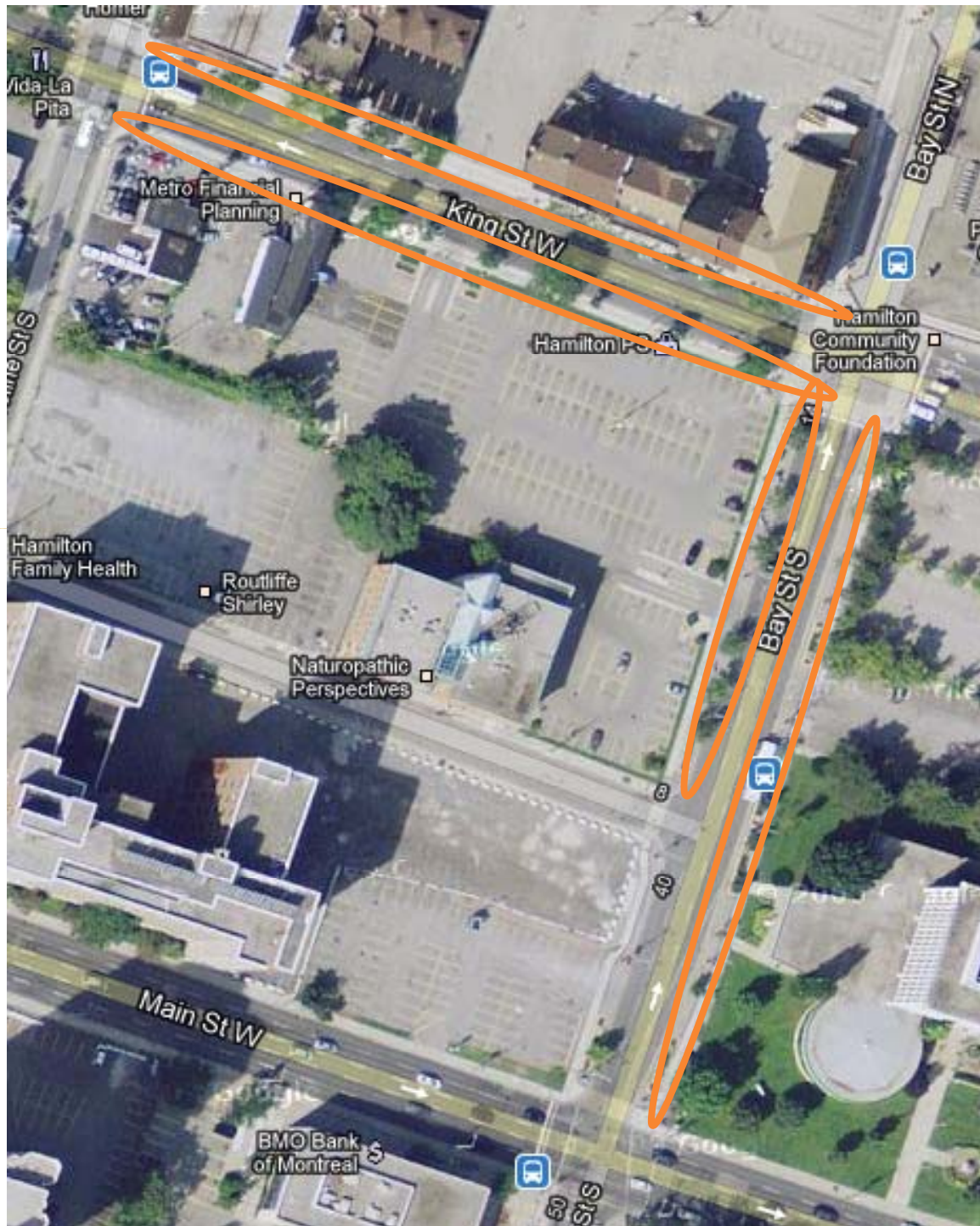
Opportunities

Summary



Hamilton City Hall

Hamilton City Hall





Observations

- Some street trees are not indigenous to Hamilton
- Many are damaged (i.e. lesions)
- Some are displaying signs of stress (i.e. epicormic shoots)
- Potential to lose tree canopy on streets in downtown Hamilton



Cause

Base of trunk cut by metal grates and/or sidewalk squares



Impacts

- Epicormic shoots on trunk-indicator of stress
- Integrity of tree damaged -
passageway for pathogens and pests
- Increases chance of mortality











































Tree Number	Photo Number	Health Description	Easting	Northing	+/-
1	1,2	Metal guard broken & growing into tree	591378	4789949	4
2	3,4	Metal guard very close to tree/ tree gouged	591382	4789961	6
3	5,6	Metal guard growing into tree	591393	4789997	4
4	7	Metal guard growing into tree	591404	4790037	4
5	8,9	Metal guard growing into tree/epicormic shoots	591393	4790050	6
6	10,11	Metal guard growing into tree/epicormic shoots	591389	4790041	4
7	12,13	Metal guard growing into tree/epicormic shoots	591383	4790021	4
8	14,15	Metal guard growing into tree/epicormic shoots	591381	4790011	5
	16	Replaced tree			
	17	No tree in hole			
	18,19	Epicormic shoots removed previously			

	Trees between Main and King on Bay	Tree between Bay and Caroline on King
TOTAL TREES SURVEYED	15	17
TOTAL TREES DAMAGED	8 (53%)	11 (65%)



Implications

- Dead trees will need to be replaced (\$)
 - Damaged sidewalk squares will need replacing (\$)
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Opportunities

- Remove metal grates
- Increase space around trees to allow for growth
- Remove unhealthy trees and replace with native species
- Monitor trees and conduct tree health assessments



Why monitor and maintain?

- Maintain urban tree canopy
 - Aesthetics
 - Cooling effects
- Contributes to the goals of:
 - Vision 2020
 - Urban Hamilton Official Plan
 - City of Hamilton Natural Heritage Strategy
- Contributes to improved air quality



Opportunities

- Conduct a further assessment of street trees within the City of Hamilton
- Review the City of Hamilton's *Street Tree Planting Program*
 - Replace exotic species on available species list with native species
 - Include opportunities for meadow plantings where appropriate (amend by-law as it relates to yard maintenance)



Why plant native species?

- Public education on native species
- Habitat for native wildlife
- Food source for native wildlife
- Suitable for local climate
- Lower maintenance



Summary

- Trees are damaged due to metal grates and sidewalk squares
- Injuries lead to stress and increased probability of disease and/or mortality
- Dead trees decreases urban canopy, aesthetics, air quality, and value
- Current planting method is damaging sidewalks (cost \$)
- Remove grates, replant with native species, and give trunk space to maintain healthy trees



Thank you!



PRESENTATION NOTES! For you

- Things to bring for presentation
 - List of trees in urban tree planting program
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