

CITY OF HAMILTON

NOTICE OF MOTION

Planning Committee Date: April 30, 2019

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR FARR.....

WAYS TO BETTER PROTECT HAMILTON TREES ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton has unanimously declared a Climate Emergency.

WHEREAS, trees are like the lungs of the planet. They breathe in carbon dioxide and breathe out oxygen. Additionally, they provide habitat for birds and other wildlife. They control flooding and improve water quality.

WHEREAS, Forests Ontario's "50 million tree" program, which aimed to plant that many trees by 2025 and has helped 4,000 landowners in rural Ontario by subsidizing the planting of 2.3 million trees annually is being eliminated in July by the current Ontario Government.

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton currently has a by-law to protect trees on municipally owner lands;

WHEREAS, our current City of Hamilton By-laws only protect trees on private property within woodlands 0.5 acres in size or more, with limited protection in Ancaster, Dundas, and Stoney Creek for individual trees;

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton's Tree Protection Guidelines, adopted by Council in 2010, provide a process for protecting trees on private lands as part of a *Planning Act* application;

WHEREAS, the City's existing urban tree canopy is under threat from invasive species;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED;

That the appropriate staff from Planning and Economic Development provide a verbal update on the Urban Forest Strategy to the Planning Committee before the June 2019 public consultation on the Urban Forest Strategy; and that the update include ways we may better protect trees on private property.

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SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR.....

WAYS TO BETTER PROTECT HAMILTON TREES ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

That the Rules of Order be waived to allow for the introduction of a Motion respecting Ways to Better Protect Hamilton Trees on Private Property.

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