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**Subject:** 559 Southcote trees

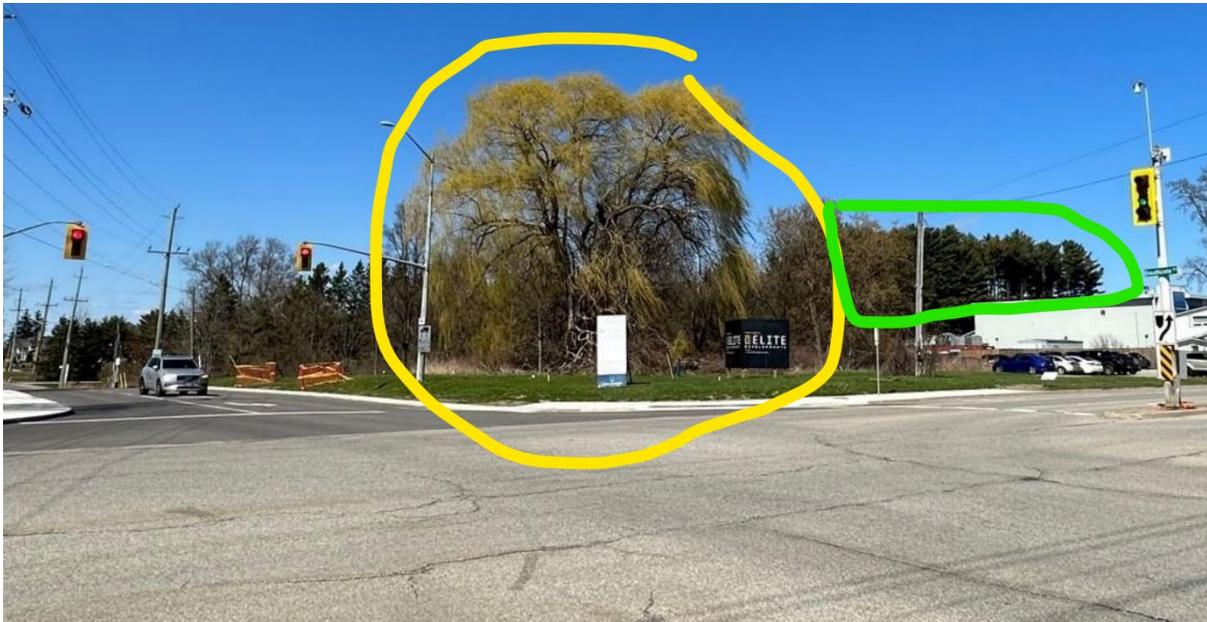
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Hello,

I am writing to advocate for the 40 trees that will be cut down at this corner, leaving no tree standing. Please add my letter to the May 23 Planning agenda.

I'd like to make Committee members aware that between this property (559 Southcote) and the one next door (509 Southcote) - over 400 mature trees will be removed to develop both properties.

How can this clear cut be allowed? Only four trees (at 509 Southcote) will remain at both locations. At 559 Southcote, zero trees will be preserved including the majestic centurian Willow which is front and centre in the staff presentation images. I've circled the Willow in yellow and the giant conifers next door at 509 in green, in the image below.



Staff comments from Appendix G from Forestry and Horticulture: "All trees to be acquired within the road widening are shown to be removed. No public tree permit or associated fees are required with the removal of these trees."

-WHY is the removal of public trees a slam dunk?

Staff comments on trees in Appendix F: "Trees have been identified along the northerly property line as being boundary trees. The applicant has provided a letter of permission from the adjacent landowner (509 Southcote Road) for the removal of these trees."

-Of course they have! They are both represented by the same planning company, Urban Solutions, who, in my observation, rarely considers the environment in their projects.

I am in favour of infill development and of building up, not out. But the price should not be to sacrifice every single tree on the property. Other builders in Ancaster work around trees, why not Elite?

Where is the balance between infill and preservation of our green spaces?

Please insist the developers save at the very least, the trees around the edges or include the willow in their plans.

Thank you,  
Elizabeth Knight