

CITY OF HAMILTON

MOTION

Climate Change Advisory Committee: April 28, 2026

MOVED BY F. Lenarduzzi.....

SECONDED BY

Exemption of Tree Removal Requirements for Non-Profit Affordable Housing Providers

WHEREAS, through a Planning Act application requires a 1:1 replacement of trees on private property which need be demonstrated through a Landscape Plan or Tree Planting Plan as per the City’s Tree Protection Guidelines.

WHEREAS, all public tree removals are subject to a Public Tree Removal Permit and Loss of Canopy Fees for Removal of Public Tress. These are Council approved User Fees and based in accordance with industry standard methodology including the Reproduction Method of the Formula Method (TFM), as per the Guide for Plant Appraisal.

WHEREAS, a potential conflict arises when sustainable affordable housing necessitates the removal of city owned or publicly owned trees to make room for housing; and

WHEREAS, the costs to remove trees for non-profit organizations can represent a significant cost barrier to providing affordable housing;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Climate Change Advisory Committee requests that Council direct staff to conduct a review of the City’s Tree Protection Guidelines for private tree removal and the Public Tree Removal Permit with a report back to Planning Committee by November 30th, 2026, with recommendations on minimizing the burden to sustainable housing

providers with respect to the fees associated with public and private tree removals to sustainable affordable housing non-profit organizations.