

CITY OF HAMILTON
M O T I O N

General Issues Committee Date: January 14, 2013

MOVED BYCOUNCILLOR B. McHATTIE.....

SECONDED BY

Development of an Urban Woodland Conservation By-law

Whereas, the City of Hamilton does not have a tree-cutting bylaw, instead having to rely on a dated Regional Tree-Cutting By-law (prepared under the aegis of the Region of Hamilton-Wentworth), and Tree-Cutting By-laws from the former area municipalities (i.e., Ancaster, Stoney Creek etc.) and;

Whereas, particular land use developers are taking advantage of this lack of up-to-date and effective legislation and are currently clear-cutting significant woodlands in the urban area, and;

Whereas, a draft Private Tree and Woodland Conservation By-law was prepared by City staff in 2009, which may contain information helpful in a new Urban Tree Cutting By-law

Whereas, there is a recognition that the application of a Tree-Cutting By-law in Hamilton may have different characteristics in the urban versus the rural area.

Therefore Be It Resolved:

- (a) That staff report back to the Planning Committee on options for a draft Urban Woodland Conservation By-law, specifically addressing current urban woodland clear-cutting, and;
- (b) That staff consult with the Agriculture and Rural Advisory Committee on options to protect woodlands in rural Hamilton, taking into account the traditional interests of farmers who already manage their woodlands in a proper fashion, but noting that other rural landowners may be engaging in woodland clear-cutting.