



100 John West Way  
Aurora, Ontario  
L4G 6J1  
(905) 727-3123  
aurora.ca

Town of Aurora  
**Memorandum**  
Operational Services

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**Re:** Tree Removal Permit Application – 53 Metcalfe Street  
**To:** Heritage Advisory Committee Members  
**From:** Sara Tienkamp, Manager, Parks and Fleet  
**Date:** September 14, 2020

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## Recommendations

1. That the memorandum regarding Tree Removal Permit Application – 53 Metcalfe Street be received; and
2. That the Heritage Advisory Committee provide comment with respect to the proposed Tree Removal Permit Application for 53 Metcalfe Street.

## Background

The subject property is listed on the Town of Aurora's Register of Properties of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest under Tree Protection Bylaw 5850-16. Section 9 (1) (b) states:

If a tree subject to an application is found by the Director to be a Heritage Tree, the Director shall not issue a permit unless the injury, destruction or removal is approved by Council following a review by the Town's Heritage Advisory Committee.

On August 19, 2020, the Owner at 53 Metcalfe Street arranged for the removal of a 45 cm Black Walnut tree. A concerned resident called the Town regarding tree cutting and Bylaw Services deployed an officer to the site. When the officer arrived, the tree company was actively removing the tree and approximately 40 percent of the crown of the tree had been removed. The Officer immediately asked for the work to cease, explaining that the tree was on a Listed Property and that its removal was not permitted, without the approval of a Tree Removal Permit by Council, after review by the Heritage Advisory Committee.

The Town's Forestry Technician attended site and has confirmed that the tree is in good health. While the tree has been aggressively pruned with the intention of removal, what remains is viable and structurally sound; however, it is not aesthetically pleasing and crown is unbalanced.

On August 28, 2020, the Parks Division received a formal Tree Removal Permit Application from the owners of 53 Metcalfe Street. Included as supporting documentation are photos of the tree and letter explaining the desire to remove the tree, due to safety concerns for their children, home and property.

The Heritage Advisory Committee's comments on this application should be on based the impact on the heritage character of the neighbourhood, not the physical condition of the tree.

## **Attachments**

Attachment #1 – Tree Removal Permit Application

Attachment #2 – Letter from Property Owners & Neighbour

Attachment #3 – Photo of Black Walnut Tree for Removal