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Town of Aurora
Memorandum
Operational Services

Re: Tree Removal Permit Application – 126 Temperance Street
To: Heritage Advisory Committee Members
From: Sara Tienkamp, Manager, Parks and Fleet
Date: September 14, 2020

Recommendations

1. That the memorandum regarding Tree Removal Permit Application – 126 Temperance Street be received; and
2. That the Heritage Advisory Committee provide comment with respect to the proposed Tree Removal Permit Application for 126 Temperance 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.

In early June 2020, the owner at 126 Temperance Street contacted the Parks Division to inquire about removal of a dying locust tree from their property. The tree apparently was dropping branches and causing a safety concern for the resident and their children when in the rear yard.

The Town's Forestry Technician attended site to determine if tree was of immediate danger or an imminent threat. It was determined that the tree is in a state of decline, due to the extreme deep freeze temperature variance over the past couple years. This extensive dieback in the crown is due to ruptured cells in the structure of the limbs. The arboriculture field has observed this problem throughout out the Region of York.

Staff advised the resident that the locust tree was alive and though in decline, staff could not authorize removal as it was not an immediate danger and the property is listed on the Town's Registry of Properties of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest under Bylaw 5850 -16. The Owners were advised that their application for removal would need to proceed through the Heritage Advisory Committee as per the bylaw for review, followed by Council approval.

On July 21 2020, the Parks Division received a formal Tree Removal Permit Application from the owners of 126 Temperance Street included as supporting documentation are photos of the tree, proposed replanting plan and letter explaining the desire to remove the tree.

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

Attachment #3 – Photo of Locust Tree for Removal

Attachment #4 – Replanting Plan