

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS*

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF THE BURNABY TREE BYLAW

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council endorse the resolution, as outlined in Section 3.0 of this report.

REPORT

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Environment Committee, at its meeting held on 2022 April 27, received and adopted a Notice of Motion from Councillor Keithley and Councillor Gu recommending that Council direct staff to begin an interdepartmental review of the Burnaby Tree Bylaw to better protect mature trees and improve tree canopy throughout Burnaby.

Arising from discussion, the Committee recommended Council endorse the resolution, as outlined in Section 3.0.

2.0 POLICY SECTION

This report supports the following goal and sub-goal of the City's Corporate Strategic Plan:

- A Healthy Community
 - Healthy Environment –
Enhance our environmental health, resilience and sustainability

3.0 RESOLUTION

Burnaby's Urban Forest Management Strategy is currently being developed to build on the City's strong foundation for a greener future, and help Burnaby become carbon-neutral by 2050, a goal outlined in the City's Climate Action Plan. An interdepartmental

To: His Worship, the Mayor and Councillors
From: Environment Committee
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review of the Burnaby Tree Bylaw, which was last updated in 2014, would allow trees to better play a role in Burnaby's climate emergency response.

As such, the following resolution has been prepared for Council's consideration:

WHEREAS mature trees bring in an extremely wide range of benefits, including but not limited to: significant cooling, water retention, filtration of air and water, and benefits to biodiversity;

WHEREAS the tree bylaw was last updated in 2014, when the climate emergency was not yet a major point of discussion or consideration;

WHEREAS public lands in Burnaby, including parklands, City-owned properties, and streets and boulevards, include a significant portion of the City's existing tree canopy;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that an interdepartmental review of the Burnaby Tree Bylaw be started, to better protect mature trees and improve tree canopy throughout Burnaby, including on sites to be redeveloped, with the intention of developing policy recommendations to allow trees to better play a role in Burnaby's climate emergency response;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the interdepartmental review of the Burnaby Tree Bylaw should coincide and be coordinated with the Urban Forestry Management Strategy that Burnaby staff is currently undertaking that has the goal of enhancing and protecting Burnaby's tree canopy throughout the entire city.

4.0 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The Committee recommends Council endorse the resolution, and direct staff to begin an interdepartmental review of the Burnaby Tree Bylaw, coinciding with the Urban Forestry Management Strategy that is currently underway.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor J. Keithley
Chair

Copied to: Chief Administrative Officer GM Corporate Services GM Engineering GM Planning and Development GM Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services

Councillor C. Jordan
Vice Chair