

ITEM	11
MANAGER'S REPORT NO.	10
COUNCIL MEETING	94/02/21

TO: CITY MANAGER 1994 FEBRUARY 16

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING OUR FILE: 08.640 "C"

SUBJECT: CANADA WAY/EDMONDS INTERSECTION - REPLACEMENT OF STREET TREES

PURPOSE: To advise Council of an approach to the replanting of street trees on Canada Way.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council receive this report for information.

REPORT

1.0 BACKGROUND

At its regular meeting of 1994 February 07 Council received a report regarding tree planting on the Edmonds School property. This report assessed the suitability of the Horse Chestnut tree (*Aesculus Hippocastanum*) for planting adjacent to Canada Way near the intersection with Edmonds and noted a number of reasons which did not favour this variety for street side planting. Arising from the discussion Council referred the report back to staff with a request to investigate the use of a different variety of Chestnut tree called the Red Horse Chestnut (*Aesculus X Carnea*) instead of the *Hippocastanum* variety.

This report responds to this direction of Council.

2.0 EVALUATION OF THE RED HORSE CHESTNUT

The Red Horse Chestnut (*Aesculus X Carnea*) is a variety of Horse Chestnut which is generally shorter and grows more slowly than the *Hippocastanum* reaching mature height of up to 20 m (65 ft.). As the Red Horse Chestnut tends to be shallow rooted and requires fertile soil it is not well suited to the more rigorous conditions of street-side planting. It also presents similar maintenance issues as the *Hippocastanum* variety in that it produces prodigious quantities of litter on a year round basis including flowers, twigs, leaves and fruits. As this litter is a maintenance issue and can be a hazard to pedestrians and vehicles Parks staff do not recommend the use of the *X Carnea* variety of Horse Chestnut for street-side planting.

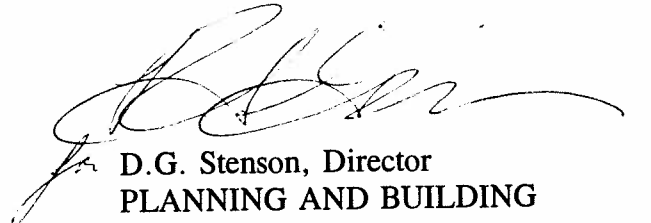
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3.0 EDMONDS SCHOOL PROPERTY HORSE CHESTNUT PLANTING

While the Horse Chestnut tree is not appropriate for street-side planting adjacent to Canada Way it is recognized that the Horse Chestnut variety is favoured from a heritage perspective. As an alternative to street side planting staff would suggest the option of planting a grove of Horse Chestnut trees within the Edmonds School property. This would allow continuation of the Horse Chestnut variety within the Edmonds School property but limit their impact on adjacent streets, vehicles and pedestrians.

If this approach is favoured by Council staff will direct the Ministry of Transportation and Highways to commence work on the street side planting using Maple trees and subsequently bring back a report to Council on the opportunities to develop a Chestnut grove on the Edmonds School property.

Staff would advise Council that the Ministry wishes to undertake the replanting within the next two weeks prior to the start of the growing season. Unless replanting is initiated soon the Ministry advised that it will not be able to tender the replanting until the end of the growing season next September or October. As the Canada Way/Edmonds project may proceed this year this delay in planting could result in the removal of the existing Chestnut trees by the Project prior to the replanting of the new trees.


D.G. Stenson, Director
PLANNING AND BUILDING


RG/db

cc: Director Administrative & Community Services
Director Engineering
Director Finance
Director Recreation & Cultural Services