

TO: CITY MANAGER

1996 OCTOBER 23

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING & BUILDING

OUR FILE: 11.701

SUBJECT: BURNABY TREE BYLAW

PURPOSE: To inform Council of two minor amendments to the Burnaby Tree Bylaw which appears elsewhere on this evening's agenda for three readings.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council receive this report for information purposes.

REPORT

1.0 BACKGROUND

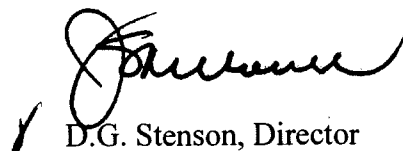
At its meeting of 1996 August 26, Council received a report outlining a draft bylaw to regulate the removal and damaging of trees in response to increasing community concern and complaints about unnecessary tree removal prior to and during single and two-family development and redevelopment. Council, at that time, authorized the introduction of a Tree Protection Bylaw based on the draft bylaw as submitted.

Staff have been making arrangements prior to the introduction of the bylaw through the development of tree tags, application forms, explanatory and other materials to ensure a smooth implementation process. The bylaw appears elsewhere on the agenda for the initial Three Readings.

2.0 TWO ADJUSTMENTS

For consistency and ease of implementation, two minor adjustments have been incorporated in the bylaw in relation to demolition permits and submittal of tree plans. Under the draft bylaw submitted to Council, a tree permit would not be required for the removal of trees within the defined building envelope for the applicable zoning category in the case of a demolition permit application. This differed from a building permit application where the direct exemption for a tree permit related to the removal of trees within 1.5m (4.921 ft.) of the exterior walls or face of the proposed building. An adjustment has been made so that the defined exemption for a demolition permit and a building permit are the same (i.e. 1.5m from the exterior walls or face of an existing or proposed building) so as not to encourage the unnecessary removal of trees at the time of demolition and prior to the submittal of actual building plans.

The second adjustment relates to the submittal of tree plans. In the draft bylaw, provision was made for the submittal of tree plans only at the time of an application for a tree cutting permit. In order to ensure that the proper identification of remaining protected trees occurs at the time of development, even when a tree cutting permit is not being applied for, it is necessary for a tree plan to be submitted at the time an application is being made for a demolition or building permit on a residential lot. This will greatly assist the arborist in defining protective measures for trees on lots during the construction period, in those instances when an application is not being made for a tree cutting permit.


D.G. Stenson, Director
PLANNING & BUILDING

JSB/db

cc: Director Engineering
Director Recreation & Cultural Services
City Solicitor
Chief Building Inspector