

Request for Decision



To: Committee of the Whole
From: **Outside works**
Date: April 9, 2018
Subject: Tree Policy
Recommendation: **THAT Committee of the Whole recommends to Council to adopt the Urban Forest Policy # 1105 at the April 23, 2018 Regular Meeting.**

Background

The Urban Forest Policy regulates the management of trees on City property, for example, on roads, parks, and boulevards. It covers the reasons for maintaining an urban forest, risk assessment, species at risk and habitat, tree donations, and removal criteria. The policy covers the broad criteria for planting, pruning, or removing trees and vegetation. It allows Council to set targets for staff to follow, for example, replacing every removed tree with two new trees where possible.

The City does not have a current policy that guides tree maintenance. Creating this policy makes sure that the criteria are consistently applied and clarifies the decision making process. It also serves as a values statement by setting the compliance and direction of the City's actions in maintaining green infrastructure and the reasons for managing an urban forest.

Benefits or Impacts

General

Staff will have increased guidance on tree maintenance decisions. Residents will have a more consistent explanation for why trees are being removed, replaced, or pruned.

Policy/Legislation

This establishes a new policy.

Attachments

Urban Forest Policy # 1105

Recommendation

THAT Committee of the Whole recommends to Council to adopt the Urban Forest Policy # 1105 at the April 23, 2018 Regular Meeting.

Options

1. RESOLVED THAT Committee of the Whole accepts the report.
2. RESOLVED THAT Committee of the Whole does not accept the report.
3. RESOLVED THAT Committee of the Whole refers the matter back to staff for further information.