SUBJECT: Tree Removal and Replacement, 383 Main Street East (Hamilton) (PED06057) (Ward 3)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the removal and replacement of one Municipal street tree along the east side of Emerald Street South be approved, and that all costs associated with the removal and replacement of the tree by City staff, determined to be $522.40, including applicable taxes, be at the sole expense of the owner of the lands, known as 383 Main Street East, attached as Appendix “A” to Report PED06057.

Lee Ann Coveyduck
General Manager
Planning and Economic Development Department

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In order to facilitate the construction of an access driveway and new parking lot, the removal of one street tree is required. In addition, the owner is proposing five replacement street trees to be planted along Emerald Street East, located on municipally owned lands.

BACKGROUND:

On October 5, 2005, the Manager of Development Planning approved the site plan for 383 Main Street East (DA-05-132). The subject lands are located at the northeast corner of Main Street East and Emerald Street South, within the Landsdale Neighbourhood of the former City of Hamilton (See Appendix “A”). The site plan is for the construction of a church (See Appendix “B”).
One of the conditions of Site Plan approval related to the submission and approval of a Tree Conservation Plan (see Appendix “C”). This plan identified one municipal street tree that would need to be removed to accommodate construction activities and the construction of the new driveway and parking area (see Appendix “B”). Upon review of that plan, the Public Works Department (Forestry and Horticulture Section), advised that the tree, while in decline, did not meet the criteria for removal and, as such, Council approval would be required.

The owner is also proposing to add five street trees along the flankage of the property to be located on municipally owned lands on Emerald Street South (see Appendix “D”). By planting these trees, a reduction of $450.00 per tree is granted for a total of $2,250.00.

City staff has determined the tree removal cost is $162.40, and tree replacement cost is $2,610.00, including applicable taxes. Removal of the required tree is to be conducted by the Forestry and Horticulture Section, although the removal of the stump shall be the responsibility of the developer. The tree replacement cost is reduced by $2,250.00, based on credit received for the five trees to be planted on municipally owned lands. Therefore, the total money owning for tree removal and replacement, less credit granted, is $522.40, including applicable taxes.

All costs associated with the removal and replacement is at the sole expense of the owner, The President of the Lethbridge Stake, a sole corporation (The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Canada).

**ANALYSIS/RATIONALE:**

The proposed tree removal can be supported as it is necessary in order to implement development approved through Site Plan Control Application DA-05-132. In addition, while the tree did not meet the City of Hamilton criteria for removal, the tree was found to be in decline. The owner is responsible for all costs associated with removal and replacement, and five new street trees would be planted within municipal property in the flankage yard of 383 Main Street East on Emerald Street South.

**ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION:**

Should Council not approve the removal of the municipal tree, the development of the property could not proceed in accordance with the approved site plan.

**FINANCIAL/STAFFING/Legal IMPLICATIONS:**

- Financial – Not Applicable.
- Staffing – Not Applicable.
- Legal – Not Applicable.
POLICIES AFFECTING PROPOSAL:

With the construction of the access driveway and parking area, the removal of one street tree will be required.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION:

- Public Works Department (Forestry and Horticulture Section).

CITY STRATEGIC COMMITMENT:

By evaluating the “Triple Bottom Line”, (community, environment, economic implications) we can make choices that create value across all three bottom lines, moving us closer to our vision for a sustainable community, and Provincial interests.

Community Well-Being is enhanced. ☑ Yes ☐ No
Public services and programs are delivered in an equitable manner, coordinated, efficient, effective and easily accessible to all citizens.

Environmental Well-Being is enhanced. ☑ Yes ☐ No
Ecological function and the natural heritage system are protected.

Economic Well-Being is enhanced. ☑ Yes ☐ No
Cultural industries are enhanced.

Does the option you are recommending create value across all three bottom lines? ☑ Yes ☐ No

Do the options you are recommending make Hamilton a City of choice for high performance public servants? ☐ Yes ☑ No

:GM
Attachs. (4)