

January 9 2019 meeting with Stephen Willis and team

Agreed action in both short and medium-term:

Short term:

- **Enforcement:** Steps can be taken now to establish, circulate and actively promote information on best practices in tree conservation consistent with the current by-laws and Canadian standards. In our view attention needs to be given to physical barriers and better practice to reduce the inadvertent destruction of trees damaged during construction.
- **Data collection:** The City can improve now the terms of reference for annual reporting on implementation of the Urban Tree Conservation bylaw and the Municipal Trees and Natural Areas Protection bylaw by incorporating additional information as per recommendations we provided to you.

Medium term:

- **Trees, Green Space and the Official Plan:** There is a very strong rationale for making tree conservation and tree planting a much higher priority in the upcoming Official Plan (essentially, by providing equitable access to the environmental, health and financial benefits of trees). Our view is that this can be done in part by updating and renewing the Green Space Master Plan, and giving the Green Space Master Plan status in the Official Plan equal to transportation and infrastructure Master Plans. Integrating trees (both public and private) into the City's assessment management plan would also help consolidate the central role trees and green space play in a healthy, sustainable and equitable city.
- **Trees and infill development:** Revisions to the infill development application process are urgently needed. In our view the integration of trees and green space as a priority in the Official Plan will also help ensure that tree conservation and tree planting measures are negotiated earlier and more forcefully in the infill development process.
- **Tree By-law Review:** We are in general agreement on both the need for, urgency and importance of the Tree by-law review. Our specific recommendations for changes to the Urban Tree Conservation By-law, endorsed by 23 community associations from across the city, have already been shared with your office ([available through this link](#)).
- **Street Trees:** Further effort and investment is needed to make effective use of the City's Right of Way and arrangements with private property owners to enhance streetscapes with trees. In our view the investment is justified by the strong role trees can play in storm water management and to bringing the multiple benefits of trees to neglected neighbourhoods.

Daniel Buckles, Heather Pearl and Paul Johanis