

**Date:** March 17, 2022  
**To:** Community Services Committee  
**From:** Ron Diskey, Commissioner, Community Services Department  
**Re:** **Optional Street Tree Installation (Report CS-21-133)**

File: 03-05

## Background

At its December 6, 2021 meeting, the Community Services Committee considered Report [CS-21-133](#) concerning an optional street tree installation program.

At that meeting, the following motion was moved:

“That based on Report CS-21-133, dated December 1, 2021, concerning Optional Street Tree Installation, Option 2 be implemented to allow residents to opt out of the tree planting program in accordance with the opt-out criteria specified under Option 2 with the fee set at \$50.00.”

Rather than voting on that motion, the Committee referred report CS-21-133 concerning the optional street tree installation to the Oshawa Environmental Advisory Committee (O.E.A.C.) for input.

Staff attended the January 11, 2022 O.E.A.C. meeting and provided a presentation highlighting Report CS-21-133 and the options. Following the presentation, O.E.A.C. moved to strike a “Tree Planting Working Group” to review and provide comment on the Optional Street Tree Installation Report.

At the February 1, 2022 meeting of the O.E.A.C. the following comments of the Tree Planting Working Group (OEAC-22-09) were endorsed and forwarded to the Community Services Committee:

“After some discussion, we decided that since planting trees on the City owned boulevards is for the common good, that private citizens should not be able to opt out. If the City retains an opt out clause under the program, \$2,000.00 is a reasonable amount to ask. In our opinion, that money should be used for pollinator gardens of planting native species throughout the City”.

At its meeting of February 14, 2022, the Community Services Committee considered Item CS-22-11, being the first report of the Oshawa Environmental Advisory Committee (OEAC-22-09) being their comments regarding the Optional Street Tree Installation. Item CS-22-11 was referred to staff for a report back in March.

The purpose of this memo is to seek direction from the Community Services Committee concerning the Optional Street Tree Installation.

## **Recommendation**

That the Community Services Committee is to select one of the following options to recommend to City Council:

Option one Status quo:

That based on Report CS-21-133, dated December 1, 2021, concerning Optional Street Tree Installation, that the current operating practices and planting programs remain status quo.

OR

Option 2 Opt-out with a \$2,000 fee:

That based on Report CS-21-133, dated December 1, 2021, concerning Optional Street Tree Installation, Option 2 be implemented to allow residents to opt out of the planting program in accordance with the opt-out criteria specified under Option 2 that includes a \$2000 compensation fee to be paid by the resident.

OR

Option 3 Opt-out with a \$50 fee:

That based on Report CS-21-133, dated December 1, 2021, concerning Optional Street Tree Installation, Option 2 be implemented to allow residents to opt out of the tree planting program in accordance with the opt-out criteria specified under Option 2 with the fee set at \$50.00.