



City of Port Moody

Report/Recommendation to Council

Date: March 2, 2022
Submitted by: Community Development Department – Policy Planning Division
Subject: Tree Protection Bylaw Update – Proposed Approach and Timeline

Purpose

To present a proposed approach and timeline for integration of the Tree Protection Bylaw Update with the Urban Forest Management Strategy project.

Recommended Resolution(s)

THAT the proposed approach and timeline for integrating the Tree Protection Bylaw Update with the Urban Forest Management Strategy project be endorsed as outlined and recommended in the report dated March 2, 2022 from the Community Development Department – Policy Planning Division regarding Tree Protection Bylaw Update – Proposed Approach and Timeline;

AND THAT the associated budget of \$9,000 be allocated from the Development Process Reserve;

AND THAT the amended timeline for the engagement strategy be approved.

Background

At the February 20, 2020 Regular Council Meeting, the following resolutions were passed:

RC20/114 to 116

THAT staff be directed to update the Tree Protection Bylaw to include the following:

- Specific definitions of “significant,” meaning protected tree, that relate to size and species including DBH (diameter at breast height) for single and multi-stem trees;
- The definitions of a “specimen tree” and “heritage tree”;
- Expansion of protections to trees on private property, including a requirement to consider altering development permits to retain trees in non-ESAs;
- Guidelines for replacement trees, including height at planting, minimum height at maturity, number of replacement trees such that number of required trees increases with the significance of the tree, and that replacement trees are species that will be resilient in a changing climate;
- Guidelines for exemptions to the bylaw, including consideration of wildfire mitigation strategies and private property rights; and
- Protection for significant forest assets;

AND THAT Port Moody outline a process for suggesting/declaring a specimen or heritage tree as recommended in the report dated February 1, 2020 from Councillor Amy Lubik and Councillor Meghan Lahti regarding Updating our Tree Protection Bylaw;

AND THAT staff be directed to report back on the legal implications of the proposed update to the Tree Protection Bylaw.

At the February 8, 2022 Regular Council Meeting, the proposed public engagement strategy for the Urban Forest Management Strategy was presented and the following resolutions were passed:

RC22/057

THAT the Urban Forest Management Strategy Public Engagement Strategy be endorsed as recommended in the report dated January 20, 2022 from the Engineering and Operations Department – Project Delivery Services Division regarding Urban Forest Management Strategy Public Engagement Strategy;

AND THAT the Tree Protection Bylaw Update be included in the Urban Forest Management Strategy, including engagement.

The Tree Protection Bylaw Update is currently identified as Priority Level 3 “As Resources Allow” in the Council Strategic Plan. A project proposal outlining the scope of this project is included as **Attachment 1**.

Discussion

The original project timeline anticipated that the Tree Protection Bylaw Update would be initiated in Jan/Feb 2023 following completion of Urban Forest Management Strategy (UFMS), and ultimately completed in June/July 2023 (see Current Work Plan, top of **Attachment 2**). In response to recent Council direction, staff met with the UFMS consultant to consider how both projects could be undertaken concurrently, including coordinated engagement opportunities. The Proposed New Work Plan in **Attachment 2** reflects the integration of the Tree Protection Bylaw Update and the UFMS for Engagement Phases 1 and 2 and staggered completion dates for each project.

Key timelines in the proposed new work plan are highlighted below:

- Nov 2021 - UFMS project start
- April 2022 - Tree Protection Bylaw Update project start
- Late May 2022 - Launch of Engage Port Moody project page for the UFMS and the Tree Protection Bylaw Update
- May-June 2022 - Engagement Phase 1 – current state, goals, challenges, opportunities, and visions; high-level questions related to trees on private property
- Late Nov 2022 - Engagement Phase 2 – draft UFMS; targeted questions related to the Tree Protection Bylaw
- March/April 2023 - UFMS completed
- March/April 2023 - Engagement Phase 3 – focus on Tree Protection Bylaw Update – proposed changes
- May/June 2023 - Tree Protection Bylaw Update draft presented to Council

Due to staff capacity and launches for other engagement projects, the original timing for Engagement Phase 1 is delayed from late April to late May, however the timing for Engagement Phase 2 in late November remains unchanged. The UFMS completion date is extended from Jan/Feb 2023 to March/April 2023, followed by the presentation of a draft updated Tree Protection Bylaw Update in May/June 2023, one to two months earlier than the original timeline.

Other Option

That Council suggest an alternative approach and timeline for the completion of the Tree Protection Bylaw Update.

Financial Implications

Consultant costs associated with the integration of the Tree Protection Bylaw Update with the UFMS is estimated at \$9,000. These costs are in addition to the \$30,000 budget previously approved for the Tree Protection Bylaw Update project. As Policy Planning staff time required for Engagement Phase 2 preparations will coincide with work related to the OCP interactive engagement in Fall 2022 and exceed policy team capacity, additional staff support from the development team will be needed. It is anticipated that this additional staff support can be accommodated within the auxiliary staff funding requested in the 2022 budget for Community Development.

Communications and Civic Engagement Initiatives

The Public Engagement Strategy for the UFMS was endorsed by Council at the February 8, 2022, Regular Meeting. If endorsed by Council, the Tree Protection Bylaw Update will be integrated with the Urban Forest Management Strategy including coordinated engagement opportunities.

Council Strategic Plan Objectives

The Tree Protection Bylaw Update project is consistent with the strategic outcomes in Environmental Leadership identified in the 2019-2022 Council Strategic Plan.

Attachment(s)

1. Project proposal for the Tree Protection Bylaw Update
2. Proposed approach and timeline for integrating the Tree Protection Bylaw Update and the UFMS

Report Author

Mary De Paoli
Manager of Policy Planning

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Tree Protection Bylaw Update - Proposed Timelines.docx
Attachments:	- Attachment 1 - Project Proposal for Tree Protection Bylaw Update.pdf - Attachment 2 - Current and Proposed Work Plan for UFMS and Tree Protection Bylaw Update.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Mar 7, 2022

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Kate Zanon, General Manager of Community Development - Mar 7, 2022 - 8:57 AM

Ding Yu, Project Manager - Mar 7, 2022 - 9:26 AM

Rosemary Lodge, Manager of Communication and Engagement - Mar 7, 2022 - 10:40 AM

Paul Rockwood, General Manager of Finance and Technology - Mar 7, 2022 - 10:45 AM

Tim Savoie, City Manager - Mar 7, 2022 - 2:05 PM