

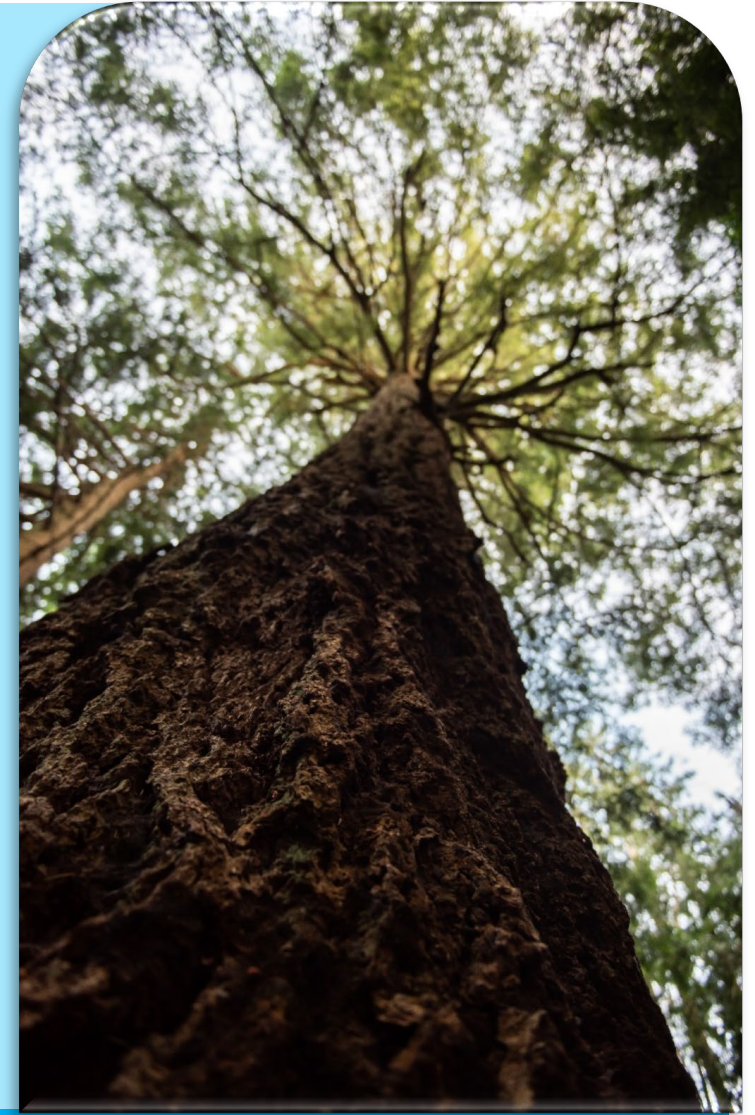
Proposed Bylaw Amendments for the Implementation of the Urban Forest Management Plan

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Presentation Outline

- 1. Background**
- 2. Council Direction**
- 3. Proposed Bylaw Amendments**
 - Tree Bylaw
 - Zoning Bylaw and Tree Density
 - Boulevard Bylaw
 - Environmental Reserve Fund Bylaw
- 4. Recommendations**



1 Background

Background

- 2021 state of the urban forest - tree canopy cover of 51%, loss of 2% from 2018.
- March 2024 - UFMP approved:
 - Established a canopy cover target of 52% by 2036 (15-year timeline).
 - Includes 59 actions to maintain and grow canopy cover.
 - Short-term actions focus on addressing canopy loss on private property due to development.
- Objectives of proposed bylaw amendments:
 1. Strengthen existing regulations for tree protection, tree replacement, and tree permitting on existing properties.
 2. Add new regulations to strengthen tree retention and replacement for developing properties.



2 Council Direction

Council Direction

Nov 18/24 - THAT Council direct that staff focus efforts on actions in 2025 from the Urban Forest Management Plan in the areas of:

1. Managing existing trees by:
 - a) improving tree protection during construction;
 - b) replacement of dead/dying trees on public lands;
 2. Growing urban forest by:
 - a) increasing tree replacement and planting requirements;
 - b) maintaining tree density pre/post construction via the zoning bylaw;
 - c) including provisions for tree replacement within the zoning bylaw;
 - d) implementing a tree give-away/discounted tree program; and
- to bring forward for Council consideration.

3 Proposed Bylaw Amendments

Tree Bylaw

Objective – strengthen tree protection and tree replacement requirements.

Definitions:

- Updating or adding definitions for “tree cutting”, “boulevard”, “District Arborist”, “drip line”, “highway”, “retained tree”, “structure”, “watercourse”, and “watercourse protection area” to be consistent with other bylaws.
- Adding “District-owned trees” to Protected Tree list.
- Specifying that a protected tree includes trees measured at 75 cm DBH as well as any trees greater than this size.

Tree Protection:

- Tree protection barriers for all retained trees on/off property property.
- Arborist monitoring when tree protection removed for construction and post-monitoring report/photos required.

Tree Bylaw (continued)

Tree Permitting:

- Tree permit required for protected tree removed due to imminent danger.
- Pruning of protected tree based on recommendations from arborist.
- Identifying infrastructure damage that would merit a tree cutting permit.
- Eliminating the ability to remove a protected tree for wildfire risk.
- Allowance for staff to have greater ability to require relocation of an accessory building or driveway to avoid the removal of any protected trees.

Replacement Trees:

- One replacement tree for every tree removed with security deposit.
- Allowing compensation payment where replanting is not possible.
- Updating tree replacement list.

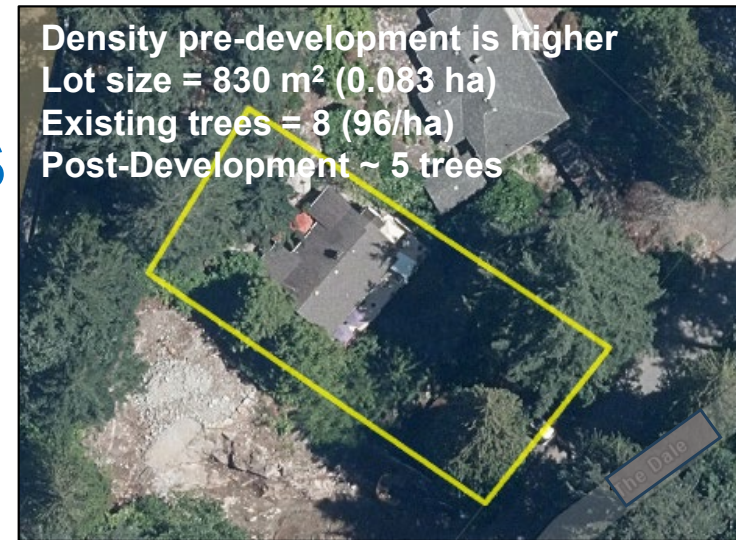
Zoning Bylaw

Objective - align landscaping requirements for new single-family dwellings with tree canopy cover target:

- Requirement of a landscape architect/licensed landscape contractor to complete and sign off on landscaping plan.
- Clarification on details to be provided on landscaping plan (planted/retained trees, spacing, soil volume, permeable area).
- New - plant or retain trees on a property post-development based on required tree density per lot size.
- New - require 30% permeable area for the entire lot to align with permeable area needed for respective tree density.

Tree Density – How it Works

- District-wide canopy cover target - 52% (80 trees per hectare).
- Single family residential canopy cover subtarget – 40% (62 trees per hectare).
- Based on a medium sized tree at maturity provides ~65 m² canopy area.
- Developing properties - plant or retain trees to achieve target tree density based on lot size with combination of:
 - Retained trees >20 cm DBH.
 - Planted trees that are medium or large size at maturity.



Boulevard Bylaw

Objective – alignment with Tree Bylaw:

- Updating definitions of “tree cutting”, “Municipal Tree Contractor”, “Invasive Plant”, and “District Arborist”.
- Requiring a permit or permission to cut hedges.
- Expanding scope of when a permit may not be issued to also consider impacts to health of tree.
- Adding requirement for replanting where appropriate and as determined by the District Arborist.

Environmental Reserve Fund Bylaw

Objective – allow redirection of funds collected for the protection of the natural environment, to the Environmental Reserve Fund:

- Adding definitions of “unclaimed property” and “security”.
 - Allowing other funding sources (compensation payments or “unclaimed” security deposits) from tree permits or natural environment development permits to be put into Reserve.
- Use funds for natural asset management in the District.

4 Recommendations

Recommendations

THAT Council:

- Give the recommended readings to the proposed bylaws; and
- Set the date for the public hearing for the Zoning Bylaw amendment.

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