

Urban Forest Innovations Inc.  
1331 Northaven Drive  
Mississauga ON L5G 4E8



April 13, 2021

**The Town of Newmarket**

395 Mulock Drive, P.O. Box 328, STN Main  
Newmarket ON L3Y 4X7  
c/o Devon Morton – Planner

Re: 1200 Stackhouse Road – Committee of Adjustment – Arborist Peer Review

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Mr. Morton,

As you have requested, Urban Forest Innovations, Inc. (UFI) has reviewed the arborist report and related application information submitted in support of a proposed Site Plan Application at 1200 Stackhouse Road, Newmarket, ON.

This letter report outlines our review methodology and presents our comments.

***Methodology***

*Document review*

The following documents, provided by the Town of Newmarket, were reviewed:

- Arborist Report, prepared by D. Andrew White, dated September 10, 2020
- Tree Inventory and Preservation Plan, prepared by Insite Landscape Architects Inc., dated September 17, 2020

Additional documents provided in the submission package were reviewed briefly for context, but did not form a substantive part of this peer review.

With the exception of documents submitted prior to April, 2018, all reviewed documents are evaluated against the latest revised version of the Town of Newmarket *Tree Preservation, Protection, Replacement and Enhancement Policy* (April 2018 or latest version), hereinafter referred to as the *Policy*.

### *Site visit*

A site visit was undertaken on March 3, 2021, to assess the site and verify the tree inventory details.

### **Comments**

Based upon our review of the above-referenced documents, we offer the following comments:

#### *Site conditions*

1. It was noted during the site visit that construction work is currently underway on site and tree #5 has been removed, as proposed in the current arborist report to facilitate the site works. No immediate action required; this comment is provided for informational purposes only.

#### *Tree appraisal*

2. The revised arborist report must provide a monetary value for all Town-owned trees to be preserved on or adjacent to the subject lands, i.e., trees #1-4. These values must be calculated using methods in accordance with the Council of Tree and Landscape Appraisers (CTLA) Guide to Plant Appraisal, 9<sup>th</sup> edition, and the International Society of Arboriculture, Ontario Chapter, (ISAO) Regional Plant Appraisal Committee (RPAC) guidance for application of the Trunk Formula Method. Importantly, the applied appraisal methodology must not utilize a generic Unit Tree Cost (or basic tree cost) of \$6.51/cm<sup>2</sup>. Although the use of a generic Unit Tree Cost was considered acceptable in the past, its use is no longer supported. Current guidelines instruct that actual Unit Tree Costs must be determined for every species considered in an appraisal based upon market prices for nursery stock (or reasonable substitutes) and tree installation. The Unit Tree Cost shall be derived by dividing Installed Cost (cost of tree stock plus installation cost) by the Cross Sectional Area of the Replacement Tree (largest commonly available stock, typically 90 mm for many common species).

#### *Tree compensation*


3. A compensation amount calculated using the Depreciated Aggregate cm Method (DAM) (as outlined in the *Policy*) must be provided only for trees proposed for removal that are equal to or greater than 20cm diameter at breast height (DBH) and are located on or within 4.5 metres of the subject lands. Compensation calculations have been provided for trees #1-4, which are proposed for retention and do not require DAM compensation

amounts to be provided in the revised arborist report, although see comment #2 above for valuation requirements for retention trees.

Additional comments on trees affected by this application will be provided when the requested additional information is available for further review.

We trust that this letter will suffice for your current needs. Should you have any questions or require further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Respectfully submitted by,



**Philip van Wassenauer, B.Sc., MFC**  
ISA Certified Arborist ON-0361A  
Member – ASCA, SMA, SAG Baumstatik  
E: pwassenauer1022@rogers.com



**Shane Jobber, B.Sc.F.**  
ISA Certified Arborist ON-1746AM  
E: shane@urbanforestinnovations.com

**Urban Forest Innovations, Inc.**  
1331 Northaven Drive  
Mississauga ON L5G 4E8  
T: (905) 274-1022 F: (905) 274-2170  
[www.urbanforestinnovations.com](http://www.urbanforestinnovations.com)

### ***Limitations of Assessment***

It is our policy to attach the following clause regarding limitations. We do this to ensure that the client is aware of what is technically and professionally realistic in assessing and retaining trees.

The assessment(s) of the tree(s) presented in this report has been made using accepted arboricultural techniques. These may include, among other factors, a visual examination of: the above-ground parts of the tree(s) for visible structural defects, scars, external indications of decay such as fungal fruiting bodies, evidence of pests or pathogens, discoloured foliage, the condition of any visible root structures, the degree and direction of lean (if any), the general condition of the tree(s) and the surrounding site, and the proximity of property and people. Except where specifically noted, the tree(s) was not cored, probed, climbed or assessed using any advanced methods, and there was no detailed inspection of the root crown(s) involving excavation.

Notwithstanding the recommendations and conclusions made in this report, it must be recognized that trees are living organisms, and their health and vigour constantly change over time. They are not immune to changes in site or weather conditions, or general seasonal variations. Weather events such as wind or ice storms may result in the partial or complete failure of any tree, regardless of assessment results.

While reasonable efforts have been made to accurately assess the overall condition of the subject tree(s), no guarantee or warranty is offered, expressed or implied, that the tree(s) or any of its parts will remain standing or in stable condition. It is both professionally and practically impossible to predict with absolute certainty the behaviour of any single tree or its component parts, regardless of the assessment methodology implemented. Inevitably, a standing tree will always pose some level of risk. Most trees have the potential for failure under adverse weather conditions, and the risk can only be eliminated if the tree is removed.

Although every effort has been made to ensure that this assessment is reasonably accurate, the tree(s) should be re-assessed periodically. The assessment presented in this report is only valid at the time of inspection.