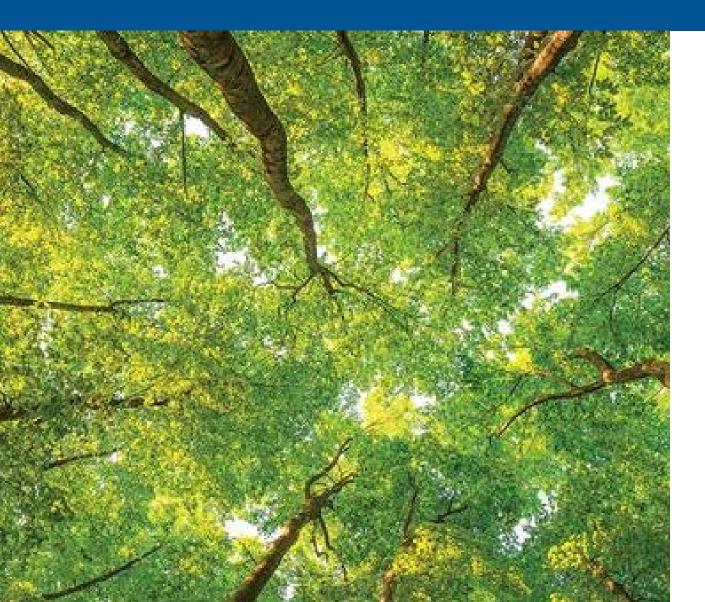


Council Workshop Private Tree Protection By-law



Presented by: Meghan White, Senior Planner and Joerg Hettmann, Forestry Supervisor

Agenda







Proposed Approach



Next Steps



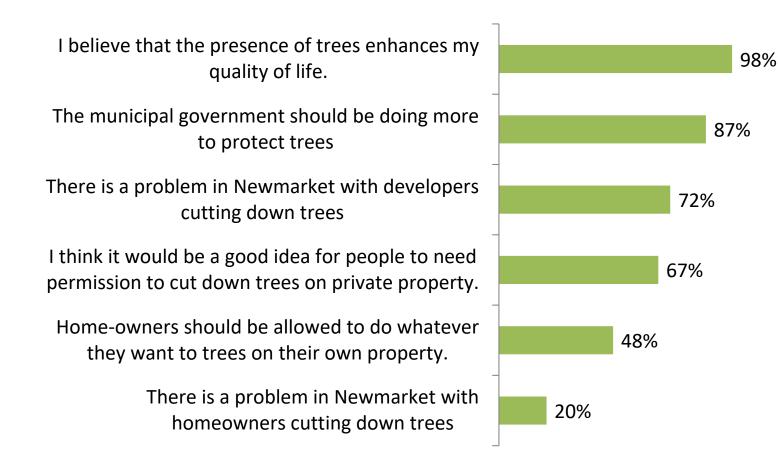


Value of Newmarket's Trees

Reduce

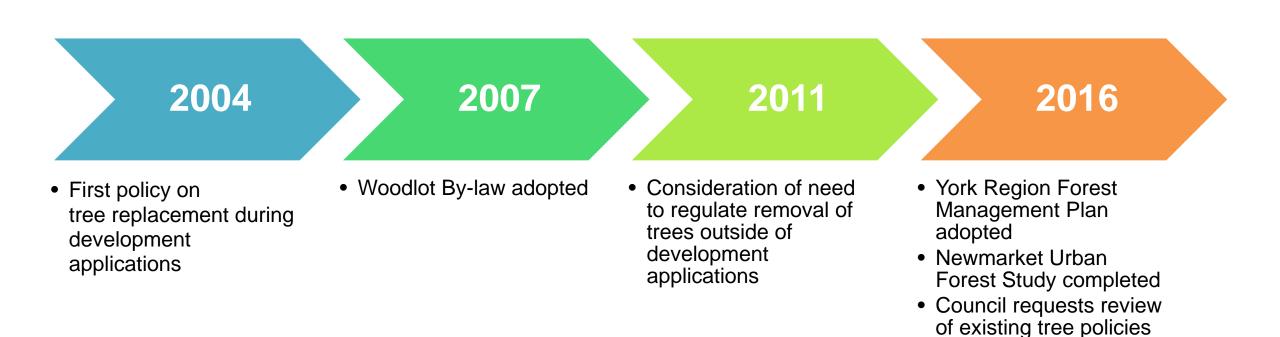
Function	Estimated Value	
Replacement Value	364 Million	
Store 35,345t of carbon	\$2.74 million	
Remove 40t of air pollution	\$321,564 / year	
Reduce residential energy use	\$3,345,533 / year	
Manage stormwater runoff	\$499,950 / year	

Consultation and Public Input



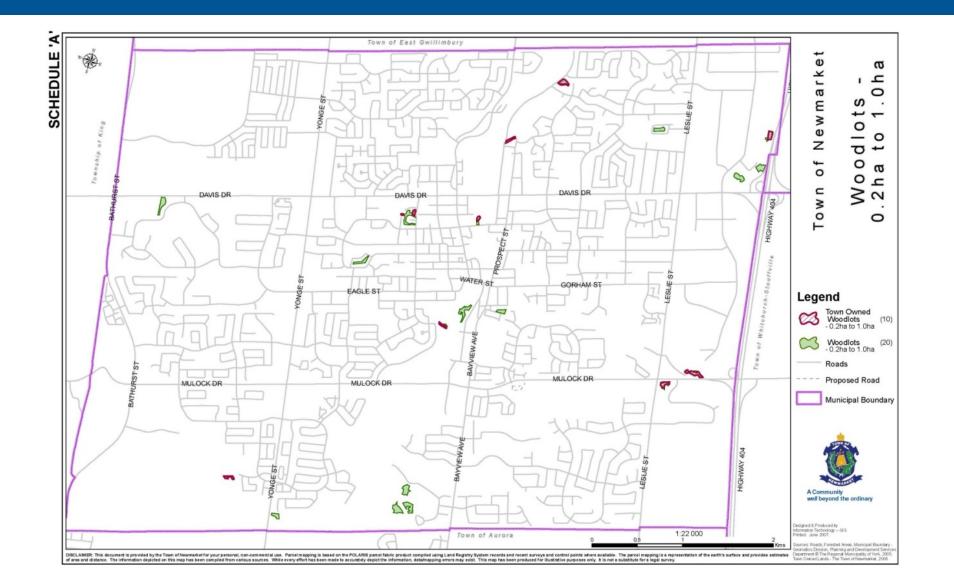


Background





Present Day



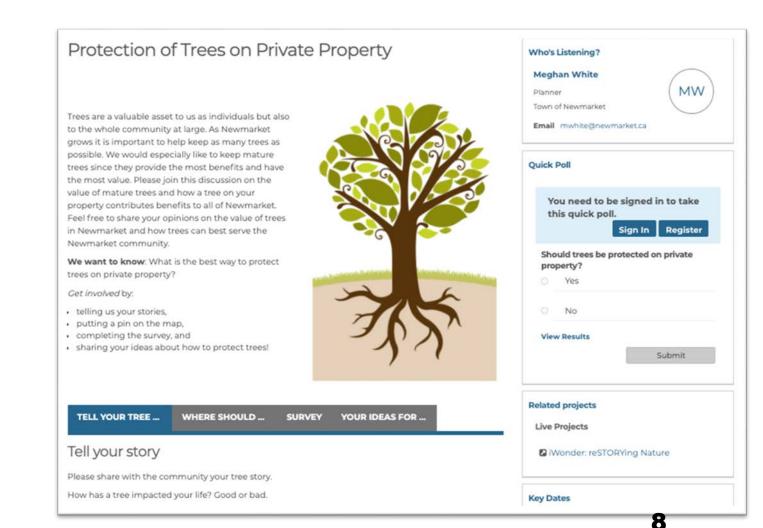


Background



Consultation and Public Input

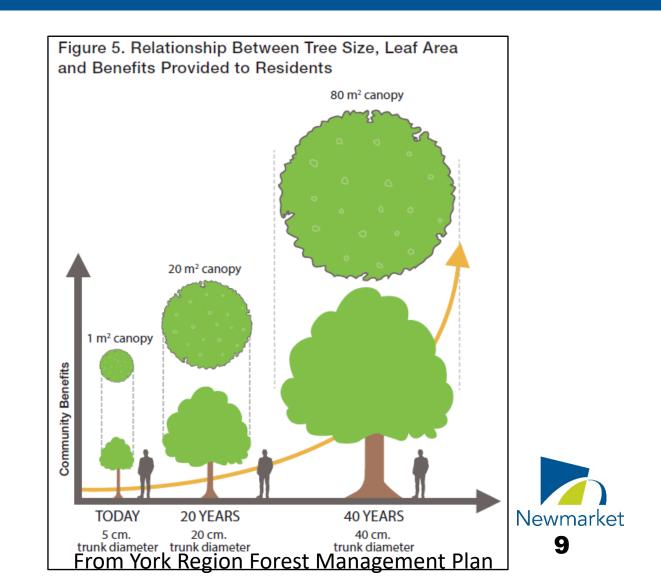
- Randomly-selected phone survey (Fall 2018)
- HeyNewmarket online consultation
- Reports and information on Town website



Canopy Targets

• Region's Target to increase Newmarket canopy cover from 25% to 35%

 Existing Newmarket canopy cover is approximately 24%



Council Strategic Priority

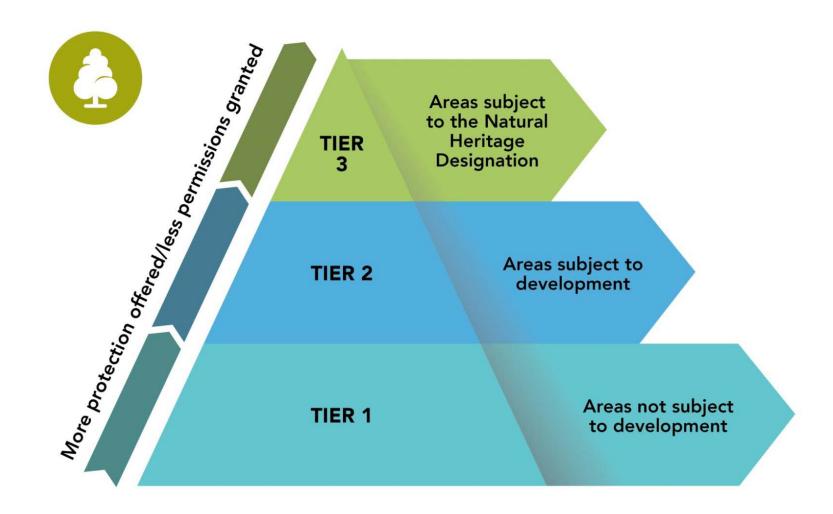


Environmental Stewardship

Leading proactive planning and action related to climate change and other environmental initiatives



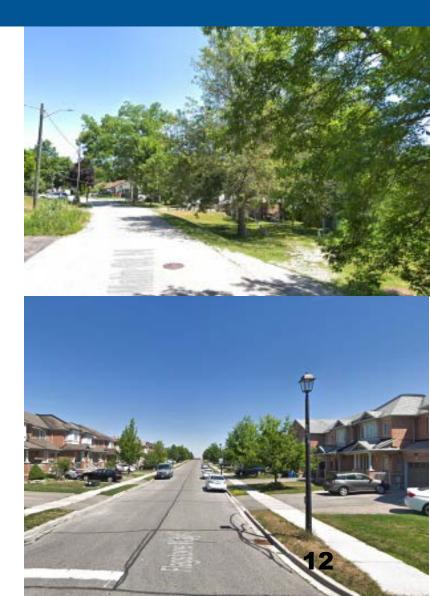
3-Tiered Approach





Tier 1: Areas not subject to a development application

- Allow residents to remove trees on private property provided replanting or compensation is provided
- Respect private property rights by allowing tree removal
- Ensure commitment to environmental sustainability by requiring replanting or compensation



Philosophy of the By-law

Vision Statements

- Customer Service Focused
- Help residents preserve their trees
- Trees have value that needs to be preserved, and captured
- Compensation rates help residents reconsider removing trees but allow them to do it, if it's necessary
- Fines are punitive (it's better to follow the permit process than to skip it and get fined)





Proposed By-law

Trees 20cm dbh or greater cannot be removed.

Exceptions:

- Tree is dead, dying, or hazardous
 - Damage to property
 - For a building permit or pool
 - Nuisance trees



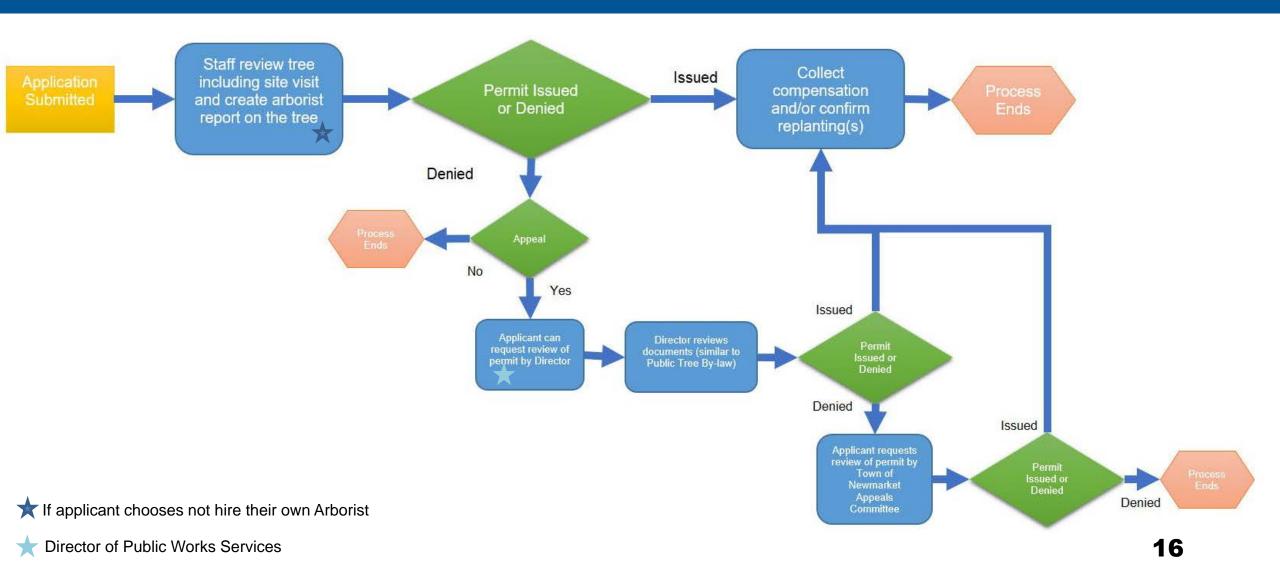
Compensation

Compensation is cash-in-lieu or replanting, calculated by Aggregate Inch Method

- Dead or hazardous tree: no compensation
- Removal required under Property Standards By-law: no compensation
- Building Permit or Pool Permit: 100% compensation
- Nuisance Trees: 200% compensation



Permit Process



Role of the Staff Arborist

- Take in and process application
 - Site visit, create arborist report on tree (if applicant has not hired their own Arborist)
- Work with applicants to preserve tree(s), if possible
- Ensure protected trees are protected confirm measures are in place before construction starts
- Ensure protected trees are still healthy
- Ensure compensation plantings are planted
- Act as expert witness in compliance issues
- Investigate with By-laws compliance issues (i.e. tree removed without permit)



Municipal Role

Enhanced Customer Service	Reviewing Only	External Consultant
 Town staff does work of Arborist 	 Applicant hires own Arborist 	 Applicant hires own Arborist
 Minimal work by applicant, all done by Town Staff 	 Town staff review arborist report 	 Town utilizes consulting arborist to review permits
 Highest application cost, lower overall cost 	 Lower application cost 	 Highest cost to applicant

• Well beyond the ordinary customer service

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Cost to Applicants

- Administration of permit (fixed fee)
- Arborist report work by external arborist or internal staff
- Review of permit by internal staff or external consultant
- Compensation costs
- Replanting costs



Costs

Costs to Applicant	Enhanced Customer Service	Reviewing Only	External Consultant
Permit Cost	\$1,043.68	\$397.59	\$99.40
Arborist Report	Included in Permit Cost	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Compensation	Does not change	Does not change	Does not change
Replanting Costs	Does not change	Does not change	Does not change
Cost of Review	Included in Permit Cost	Included in Permit Cost	\$856.00
TOTAL	\$1,043.68	\$1,397.59	\$1,955.40

Behind the numbers:

- Costs shown are examples for discussion and comparison purposes
- Estimate number of permits reviewed in a year 186
- Permit Cost assumes full cost recovery of processing and reviewing permit
- Compensation and replanting costs application specific
- Generally other municipalities charge an application fee plus per tree amount & only provide review services
- External Arborist Report approximately \$450 to \$1500 depending on complexity



Enforcement

Fines for removing a tree without permission to be large enough to ensure participation in program

Fines for damaging a tree & damaging a neighbour's tree; including root systems

Can issue an Order to stop work (i.e. damaging tree)

AMPS will be used

By-law and Forestry work together for enforcement

Appeals heard by the Appeals Committee



Implementation

Education and Awareness Campaign

- Homeowners: social media, mail outs, newspaper coverage
- Industry: Lunch & Learn, webpage, video

Phased-In Approach

- New staff on contract
- Use consultant for a year
- Review of fees charged
- Review of customer service offered
- Could phase in application fee over two years



Next Steps

- Draft by-law to public
- Report to Committee of the Whole Q3
- By-law Adoption Q3
- Education & Awareness Campaign, after By-law adoption











Proposed Approach



Next Steps



Questions/Discussion