



CITY POLICY

POLICY NUMBER: C456

REFERENCE:

City Council 1989 11 28

ADOPTED BY:

City Council

SUPERSEDES:

NEW

PREPARED BY: Parks and Recreation

DATE: 1989 11 10

TITLE: Corporate Tree Management

Policy Statement:

All ornamental trees and natural treed areas on city property (with the exception of land which is under the jurisdiction of senior levels of government) are the responsibility of Edmonton Parks and Recreation.

Edmonton Parks and Recreation is responsible for the total management of all ornamental trees and natural treed areas on city properties (with the exception of land which is under the jurisdiction of senior levels of government) which includes procurement, maintenance, protection and preservation.

Where damage to or loss of City trees occurs, as a result of not complying with the Parks and Recreation Department guidelines, equitable compensation for that loss shall be recovered from the civic entity causing the damage or loss and applied to future tree replacements.

Unless otherwise stated, all the work shall be in accordance with bylaw #7829, being a bylaw concerning boulevard flankages, utility lots and boulevard trees within the City of Edmonton (Boulevard Bylaw).

The purpose of this policy is to:

Protect the trees on Municipal property by:

Ensuring the development of the City's tree inventory through new and replacement plantings of first year and other losses, and through proper maintenance and enforcement of Bylaw #7829 (Boulevard Bylaw).

Ensuring that all trees on City properties are adequately protected from unnecessary destruction, loss or damage by civic entities. Where salvage is not possible, to ensure that equitable compensation and/or replacement for all such affected trees occurs as per Bylaw #7829 (Boulevard Bylaw).

Providing for a tree reserve account that enables the carry forward of funds received for tree losses and/or damage to be used for the procurement and planting of trees in subsequent years.

Coordinating all City tree planting programs including boulevards, roadway landscaping, park and facility developments and the Beautification Program.

This policy is subject to any specific provisions of the Municipal Government Act or other relevant legislation or Union Agreement.



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1. DEFINITIONS

- 1.01 Ornamental Trees means all planted landscape trees and shrubs growing on City-owned property.
- 1.02 Natural Treed Areas means those trees occurring as a result of natural succession and not planted by man, growing on City-owned property.
- 1.03 Windbreaks/Shelterbelts trees and/or shrubs either planted or naturally occurring the purpose of which is to provide environmental protection to property.
- 1.04 Parkland means a parcel of land situated within or outside the corporate limits of the City, owned by the City and acquired or set aside and designated as a public park.
- 1.05 Equitable Compensation
- a. For ornamental and all parkland trees means all costs incurred by the City for labour, material, equipment charges and applicable overheads associated with removal, relocation, pruning, other maintenance or corrective measures and, where applicable, the value of the tree as determined by Appendix "A" of Bylaw #7829 (Boulevard Bylaw) and additional charges.
 - b. For natural treed areas outside of parkland means the compensation value for such treed areas as determined by Alberta Agriculture, in A Guide to Determining Replacement Value of Trees and Shrubs in Alberta, Section 3 (4.01 i).
 - c. For Windbreak and Shelterbelt trees, means the compensation for such treed areas as determined by Alberta Agriculture in A Guide to Determining Replacement Value of Trees and Shrubs in Alberta, Section 2.
- 1.06 Additional Costs covers additional and unplanned maintenance and costs associated with 'out of the season' tree relocation or repair or custom work above normal standards or outside of regular schedules.

2. RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.01 The General Manager of Parks and Recreation to:
- (a) Prepare and authorize such instruction or specification necessary to properly implement the requirements of this policy:
 - supply guidelines on tree protection methods
 - supply guidelines on procedures that may harm trees



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- develop an annual training program for staff of and contractors to other civic entities
- (b) Request the necessary resources and provide the direction that may be required to meet the obligations of this policy. Develop and recommend an appropriate budget for the administration and implementation of the tree policy and tree reserve account.
- (c) On the request of other civic entities, inspect trees on City-owned property for possible damage, prior to issuance of a Final Acceptance Certificate.
- (d) To ensure, where feasible, trees whose removal or relocation costs have been paid for by particular civic department, be relocated to another planned, planting area under the jurisdiction of the same department.
- (e) To assist the Planning and Development Department in assessing the monetary value of natural tree standards and windbreaks/shelterbelts located outside of parkland in accordance with the guidelines established by Albert Agriculture.
- (f) Where the size of the treed area is small enough to allow other park requirements to be met and where consistent with Parks and Recreation Policy and the safety and accessibility interests of the public, integrate natural tree stand areas and windbreaks/shelterbelts into the parkland planned for an area.
- (g) Review the "On Street Construction and Maintenance" circulations for projects that impact trees on City property and determine the steps necessary to protect or to relocate trees.

2.02 The General Manager of Finance Department to:

- (a) establish a tree reserve account in accordance with the intent of this policy which enables the carry forward of collected funds for utilization in subsequent years.
- (b) Develop the necessary accounting structure mechanism for the implementation (including collection and disbursement of funds) of this policy.
- (c) Monitor the use of the tree reserve account and provide an annual statement to Parks and Recreation.

2.03 Department General Managers to:

- (a) Ensure that their Departments are aware of this policy, its intent and guidelines.



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- (b) Ensure that the requirement to comply with tree protection and replacement guidelines, is included in contract and tender packages under "special conditions".
- (c) Ensure that Department staff, including inspectors, and contractors to civic entities are annually trained in identifying and preventing tree damage.
- (d) Ensure that Department inspectors identify prospective tree damaging activities, and ensure protective measures are taken as outlined in the Parks and Recreation "Guidelines for Work Near Trees".
- (e) Identify major planned projects that may impact on trees on City property via the "On Street Construction and Maintenance" circulations.