



Oak Bay Tree Protection Bylaw Questionnaire

January 29, 2020

The District of Oak Bay is undertaking the development of a new Tree Protection Bylaw. This new bylaw would support the vision and direction of the District's Urban Forest Management Strategy.



let's talk trees

Did You Know...

- The District of Oak Bay is working to ensure the health of our urban forest and increase the number of trees planted on both public and private property.
- The Urban Forest Management Strategy was endorsed by Council in 2017, and provides a range of activities to increase the amount and health of our urban forest.
- The proposed Tree Protection Bylaw is a direct result of Official Community Plan policy and implementation of the Urban Forest Management Strategy.
- The proposed Tree Protection Bylaw, if adopted, will replace the current Tree Protection Bylaw that was originally adopted in 2006.
- Trees provide a host of benefits to our community, including removing air pollution, controlling flooding, lowering air temperature, providing wildlife habitat, reducing noise, and improving property values.



Priorities for Tree Protection

Please label your **TOP THREE** priorities for tree protection regulations, from 1 to 3, from the following 5 items. *The purpose of this question is to understand key community priorities when it comes to tree protection.*

Protecting a More Diverse Variety of Trees

— The proposed bylaw would add shore / contorta pine to the list of protected tree species.

Protecting a Broader Range of Tree Sizes

— The proposed bylaw would decrease the size of protected trees from 60 cm dbh to 30 cm dbh, thereby protecting a greater range of tree sizes.

Setting Tree Canopy Cover Targets in the Bylaw

— Tree canopy cover targets are currently listed in the Urban Forest Management Strategy, and are proposed for inclusion in the Tree Protection Bylaw, with the target set according to the applicable zone.

Replacement Trees for Sick and Dying Trees

— 86% of trees removed from Oak Bay since 2013 were dead, diseased or dying. The proposed bylaw would include a requirement to replace dangerous or sick and dying trees with a new tree.

Significant Trees

— Most of Oak Bay's significant trees are located on municipal property, typically within our boulevards. Consideration is being given to developing a program that would encourage homeowners to add their significant trees to the current list.

Other

Are we missing a priority for tree protection (please explain).

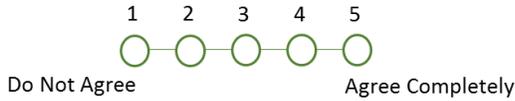
Tree Protection Regulations

On a scale of 1 to 5, tell us how much you agree with each of the following statements.

PROTECTED TREES

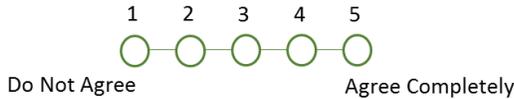
1. Tree Species

Shore / Contorta pine trees should be included in the list of protected trees—in addition to the already protected Garry Oak, Arbutus, Pacific (Western) Yew, Black Hawthorn and Pacific (Western Flowering) Dogwood.



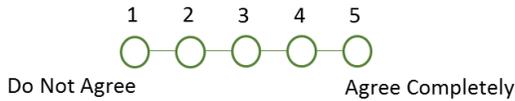
2. Tree Size

Protected tree sizes should be reduced from the current 60 cm dbh to 30 cm dbh, and tree height for protected native trees should be reduced from 2 metres to 1 metre.



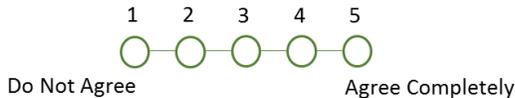
3. Tree Canopy Cover Targets

Tree canopy cover targets should be achieved whenever new construction or exterior renovations / additions are underway.



4. Tree Canopy Cover and Tree Selection

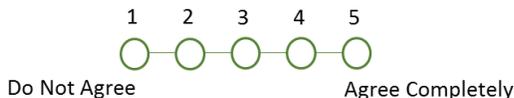
Being able to use a variety of trees, of different sizes and species, to reach tree canopy cover targets is a reasonable approach.



REPLACEMENT TREES

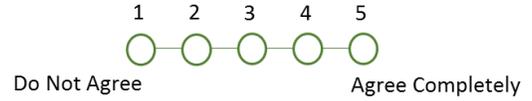
5. Construction of a Building

Two replacement trees should continue to be required when a tree is removed for new building construction.



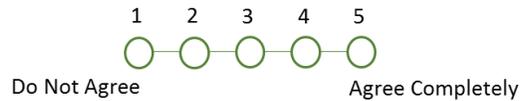
6. Parking and Services

One replacement tree should continue to be required where a tree is causing damage to a building or utilities, or where an area is needed for service installation or vehicle parking.



7. Dangerous, Sick or Dying Trees

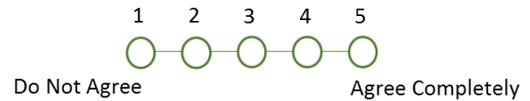
One replacement tree should be required where a tree is removed because it is dangerous, or sick or dying.



SIGNIFICANT TREES

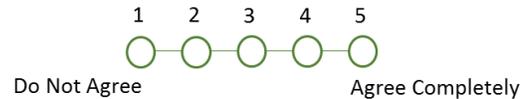
8. Building the Significant Tree Inventory

The District of Oak Bay should start a program to designate more trees on both private and public property as significant trees



9. Significant Trees on Private Property

I would consider having one or more of the trees on my property designated as a significant tree.



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trees

dbh = diameter at breast height

