

April 10, 2017

Letter of Understanding for Esplanade Boulevard Trees fronting 12 K de K Court
between
City of New Westminster and Dockside Strata (NW2459)

This letter of understanding will serve to further elaborate on the objectives and intended actions to be taken by the City of New Westminster (Parks and Recreation Department) with specific respect to the **two Yellowwood trees** and **one Black Gum tree** fronting the Dockside Strata at 12 K de K Court.

Background

The City has worked with representatives from Dockside Strata to draft a document entitled “Quayside Esplanade Boulevard Maintenance Program for Trees on upland side of esplanade (planted in 2007)” (attached to this letter) that outlines the objectives behind of the tree maintenance program for the esplanade and identifies the specific actions the City intends to take to achieve those objectives. It is recognized that while the esplanade boulevard trees fronting the Dockside Strata have been placed generally in keeping with the pattern and spacing of the remaining esplanade boulevard trees planted in 2007, the specific positioning of the Yellowwood and Black Gum trees at 12 K de K Court has resulted in the trees being closer to the building face than other trees along the esplanade. It is also recognized there is a unique history between the City and the Dockside Strata Council regarding planting of the trees. These facts, combined with the massing of a significant portion of the Strata building close to the property line and the elevation of the ground floor units relative to the elevation of the trees, is contributing to a greater sense of impact on views towards the river than in other locations along the esplanade. Accordingly, action is warranted to further address this specific situation above and beyond the typical measures that will be undertaken for the maintenance of all other esplanade boulevard trees planted in 2007.

Actions to be taken by the City

In consideration of the above described circumstances unique to the Dockside Strata and the adjacent esplanade boulevard trees, the City will undertake the following additional measures for the two Yellowwood and one Black Gum boulevard trees to those actions outlined in the maintenance program as follows:

- a. The Dockside Strata will be consulted as part of the City’s three year pruning cycle and as part of annual inspections during intervening years.
- b. During the initial 2017 pruning cycle, the overall tree canopy (width and circumference) will be managed through the removal of materials to a target of 25% taking into consideration the need to also not compromise the health of the trees.
- c. During subsequent pruning cycles, the overall tree canopy (width and circumference) will be managed through the removal of materials to a target of 15 – 20% taking into consideration the need to also not compromise the health of the trees.
- d. Following the initial 2017 pruning cycle, a benchmark for future pruning can be established for reference in subsequent years as part of the annual inspection of the trees to determine:
 - the extent to which the intended maintenance program objectives (including managing overall crown width and shape, maintaining view corridors, and tree health) are achieved,
 - if a different course of action (which may include measures up to removal and replacement of the trees) is warranted.

Notwithstanding the rights of the Council of the City of New Westminster to introduce resolutions or bylaws that may supersede this Letter of Understanding, the City of New Westminster and the Dockside Strata agree that this Letter of Understanding shall remain in effect for the duration of the life of the existing two Yellowwood trees and one Black Gum tree, or until such time as the parties mutually agree to end this agreement.

For Dockside Strata

For City of New Westminster

Print Name

Print Name

Attachment: Quayside Esplanade Boulevard Tree Maintenance Program (April 2017)