



Motion Memorandum

SUBJECT: Treeing the Crosstown Trail

TO: Environment, Infrastructure & Community Services
Cttee.

FROM: Councillor Rory Nisan, Ward 3

Date to Committee: October 5, 2023

Date to Council: October 17, 2023

Motion for Council to Consider:

Direct the Executive Director of the Environment, Infrastructure and Community Services to explore the feasibility of planting trees within the existing Hydro One corridor (Crosstown Trail), including but not limited to attaining all necessary approvals from Hydro One and Infrastructure Ontario, as well as providing a cost estimate to design, consult, and administer tree planting operations, and identify opportunities where the tree planting reserve fund could be utilized to offset total contract costs. Report back in Q1 2024.

Reason:

To adapt to the effects of climate change, we must plan ahead. Planting trees today will ensure that Burlington can handle the warmer, wetter, nastier weather that is predicted. The Crosstown Trail is already a very hot trail in the summer with no shade.

The initiative will be funded through the tree planting reserve fund, which is presently well endowed. Forestry staff have noted the challenge of deploying the fund due to limited space availability and support utilizing the Crosstown Trail.

The initiative supports key strategic outcomes related to adapting to climate change, increasing the tree canopy and active transportation, as well as responding to city growth in a city that will increasingly rely on our trails as a way of getting around.

Outcome Sought:

An improved Crosstown Trail that is more comfortable, resilient to the effects of climate change and acts as a carbon sink. Healthier residents using active transportation to get around the city and exercise.

Vision to Focus Alignment:

(check those that apply)

- ☒ Increase economic prosperity and community responsive city growth
- ☒ Improve integrated city mobility
- ☒ Support sustainable infrastructure and a resilient environment
- ☒ Building more citizen engagement, community health and culture
- ☐ Deliver customer centric services with a focus on efficiency and technology transformation

Share with Senior Staff ☒

Approved as per form by the City Clerk,

Reviewed by the City Manager - In accordance with the Code of Good Governance, Council-Staff Relations Policy and an assessment of the internal capacity within the City to complete the work based on a specific target date (quarter/year).

Comments:

City Clerk: Approved as per Form

City Manager: Approved