

Re: Street Tree Removal at 905 Richmond Avenue

A 75 cm DBH Bitter Cherry, *Prunus emarginata*, located at 905 Richmond Avenue is in severe decline and requires removal and replacement.

Please Note: DBH stands for Diameter at Breast Height (diameter measured at 1.4 metres above the ground).

This tree has been posted for 10 days and letters have been dropped to the immediate neighbours. A new tree was planted on this property frontage in 2017. Our goal is to plant an additional replacement tree on the frontage during the spring of 2018.

Caring for Our Urban Forest

Managing a healthy urban forest is a high priority for the City. We manage over 33,000 City-owned trees, most of which are on 300 kilometers of boulevards and in our parks.

In addition to being beautiful, these trees help improve air quality, absorb water during storms and reduce the amount of carbon dioxide in our environment. They also help shade our streets and buildings, helping to cool our city.

Guided by the Urban Forest Master Plan, our arboriculture team develops plans that involve identifying areas for planting new trees to expand the inventory, as well as identifying existing trees that are at the end of their healthy life. Removing unhealthy trees reduces safety risks and opens up space to plant new, young trees which will grow into our future urban forest.

The removal of any tree is always a last resort. Pruning and other options to mitigate the risks of the unhealthy tree are always considered first. Our practice with each removal is for a new tree to be planted, with consideration for the species that will have the best chance for success given a particular location.

We thank you for your understanding as we work to improve the health of our urban trees. Residents that live close to a tree on the removal list will receive a letter and tree removal notices will be posted to each tree.

Please don't hesitate to contact the Parks office at 250.361.0600 or parks@victoria.ca if you have any questions.

Rob Hughes
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City of Victoria
Parks Division