

Dear Fairfield Gonzales Neighborhood Association,

Re: 2018 Summer City Tree Removals

The purpose of this note is to advise your neighbourhood association about the upcoming removals of City trees in your area that are at the end of their healthy lifespan.

2018 Summer Tree Maintenance Program

This spring 49 City trees were identified as either dead or in significant decline and require removal.

There are 15 trees in your neighbourhood that have been identified for removal. The specific trees, their conditions and their locations are as follows:

Address:	Species:	Diameter:	Condition:
• 1443 Brooke St	Prunus serrulata	24cm DBH	Root plate movement with a significant lean.
• Beacon Hill Park	Pinus speices	12cm DBH	Excessive lean obstructing traffic in the service yard.
• Beacon Hill Park	Acer platanoides	58cm DBH	Extensive crack in the union.
• Beacon Hill Park	Acer species	35cm DBH	Canopy decline with decay in the trunk.
• 1403 Fairfield Rd	Prunus serrulata	46cm DBH	Canopy decline, basal decay and Cherry Bark Tortrix.
• Robert Porter Park	Prunus serotina	9cm DBH	Severe decline with less than 5% live crown ratio.
• Robert Porter Park	Prunus subhirtella	31cm DBH	Severe canopy decline.
• 920 Park Boulevard	Prunus serrulata	24cm DBH	Poor structure with canopy decline.
• Pioneer Square	Pinus sylvestris	50cm DBH	Dead
• 1221 Richardson St	Cornus species	70cm DBH	Canopy decline with extensive decay throughout the trunk.
• 850 Rupert Terrace	Prunus serrulata	26cm DBH	Dead
• 1833 Gonzales Ave	Acer macrophyllum	86cm DBH	Significant decay throughout the base and trunk of the tree.
• 1677 Hollywood Cr	Ulmus carpinifolia	84cm DBH	Severe decline in the canopy.

- 340 Richmond Ave Betula pendula 58cm DBH Canopy decline with bleeding sap on the trunk.
- 330 Robertson St Prunus cerasifera 44cm DBH Significant lean with fruiting bodies and decay at the base of the tree.

These tree removals will take place between July 12th and August 31st 2018. New trees will be selected and plantings will begin in the fall of 2019.

Caring for Our Urban Forest

Planning for a healthy urban forest is very important to the City of Victoria. We manage 33,000 City-owned trees, most of which are on 300 kilometers of boulevards and in our 137 parks and open spaces.

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 City of Victoria Urban Tree Inventory completed in 2012 found that 64% of public trees are in good or excellent condition and 30% are in fair condition and 6% are in poor condition.

This spring, 49 trees were identified as either dead or in significant decline and require removal. Each tree was identified through a 'request for service' from the public or by City staff, and was inspected by our Certified Arborists, using an internationally recognized assessment process.

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.