



## CITY OF LANGLEY

### COUNCIL MEMBER MOTION

#### **Tree Protection During Redevelopment – Councillor Pachal**

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##### **Background:**

Langley City Council has approved developing an Urban Forest Management Plan in the 2022 budget.

Growing the tree canopy in urban centres helps mitigate the impacts of the "Urban Heat Island" effect and helps communities adapt to climate change.

The benefits of growing a healthy tree canopy include: creating shade during the summer, capturing, infiltrating and storing rainfall, cleaning stormwater run-off, sequestering carbon, preventing erosion, buffering noise, and improving wildlife habitat.

During redevelopment in Langley City, the current practice is to clear-cut all trees from a lot.

It can take several decades before trees reach maximum diameter, providing the full benefits of their canopy, so it makes sense to retain mature or significant trees when possible.

Within the areas of Langley City noted in the Official Community Plan for Urban Residential and Suburban Residential, there is a significant opportunity to retain mature or significant trees during redevelopment.

##### **Motion:**

THAT Staff consider utilizing the Metro Vancouver Tree Regulations Toolkit when developing the Urban Forest Management Plan

THAT Staff include, as part of the Urban Forest Management Plan, policy recommendations that support retaining as much of the existing tree canopy as practically possible on private property during redevelopment with a focus on the Urban Residential and Suburban Residential land-use areas of Langley City

THAT Staff include, as part of the Urban Forest Management Plan, policy recommendations that support growing the tree canopy on private property in the Industrial, Service Commercial, and Mixed-Employment land-use areas of Langley City.