



LYTTON PARK RESIDENTS' ORGANIZATION INC.
Box 45031, 2482 Yonge Street
Toronto, M4P 3E3

lyttonparkresidentsorg@gmail.com

19 October 2019

Emailed: connie.pinto@toronto.ca

Attention: Connie Pinto

Program Standards & Development Officer
Urban Forestry Policy & Planning
City of Toronto

Dear Connie Pinto:

Tree Canopy Study

Reduce Minimum Tree Diameter to 0.20m for Mandatory Tree Protection; Enforce Policy

Toronto's tree canopy can and needs to be much better protected whenever development occurs.

Trees have a cooling effect in the warm months, improve the health of those living nearby, help absorb stormwater, provide insect habitat, provide oxygen, help purify the air through the removal of airborne pollutants, help buffer noise, mitigate climate change, etc. - all factors that make Toronto more livable. Trees also support Toronto's Biodiversity Strategy, Bee City aspirations, and Toronto's recent Climate Emergency Declaration. Each tree protected from damage and removal saves the cost of planting another tree and saves the time for a new tree to grow to maturity.

Tree roots can extend out two to three times the dripline of the tree. This area needs protection from construction excavation. Measures to help protect Toronto's tree canopy should be included in the Urban Forestry's Tree Canopy Study. These include:

- Reduce the minimum tree diameter for mandatory tree protection to 0.20 m from 0.30 m at 1.2 meters above the existing grade, in order to better protect mature trees from being destroyed.
- Ensure that Urban Forestry's *Tree Protection Policy and Specifications for Construction Near Trees* for residential new builds and additions are enforced for all residential new-builds and additions at all approval stages from the zoning review to TLAB, and during actual construction.

Thank you for taking a stronger protection of our City's trees which are so important to us.

Sincerely,
Maureen Kapral
Vice-President, Lytton Park Residents' Organization

c: Councillor Mike Colle, City of Toronto, Ward 8, councillor_colle8@toronto.ca