



ARBORIST LETTER

July 6, 2015

Catalina Developments c/o Glen Schnarr & Associates Ltd. – Proposed Residential Development

8, 10, 12 Lindsay Court & 13758, 13764 Highway 7 – S/E of Highway 7 & Trafalgar Road
Georgetown, Ontario – *SBK Project No.: 12-4330*

INTRODUCTION

Strybos Barron King Ltd. was retained by Catalina Developments to prepare an Arborist Letter and Tree Inventory and Preservation Plan for the above development. This letter provides an overview of existing conditions within and immediately adjacent to the subject properties and makes recommendations for the preservation of existing trees within the context of the proposed works. A residential development is proposed for the site. The property is currently comprised of 5 large lots; 3 residential, one mixed residential/commercial and one institutional. All of the lots contain existing buildings (single family residential, commercial or institutional), associated access driveways and landscaping. The lots abut an active railway corridor to the south.

TREE INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT (refer to attached *V100 – Tree Inventory & Preservation Plan for details pertaining to specific trees*)

Site Review

The trees and vegetation groupings described in this letter and noted on the V100 drawing were inventoried during field studies at the subject site; initially in 2012 by ISA Certified Arborist Matthew Gehres from Strybos Barron King Ltd., and again on June 2 2015 by ISA Certified Arborist Joshua Beitz from Strybos Barron King Ltd. Topographic survey plans provided by Clipsham Limited (original dated February 17 2012 and revised dated April 9 2015) noting existing topography, in conjunction with a Development Concept Plan provided by Glen Schnarr & Associates Inc. were utilized to determine the locations of existing trees and vegetation groupings in relation to the proposed limits of development. The stem diameter of trees was measured in centimetres using a caliper tape and measured at a height of 1.4 m from existing grade. The trees and tree groupings were analysed on site and classified according to species, age, health and form.

Vegetation Assessment

The trees identified within and immediately adjacent to the subject lands are described within 2 categories: **1 – Internal Landscape Trees** and **2 – Hedgerow and Naturalized Trees** (refer to attached *V100 – Tree Inventory and Preservation Plan* prepared by SBK for location of trees and details pertaining to general health and condition). In general, the trees noted throughout the site are in fair health and condition with the exception of all Ash trees (noted to be in poor health and in a state of decline due to Emerald Ash Borer) and several trees that were likely damaged during the most recent ice storm.

1 – Internal Landscape Trees

Trees were identified throughout each lot that can be described as stand-alone trees. Generally, these consist of planted trees, likely installed as part of the original landscape. They consist of a combination of deciduous and coniferous semi-mature planted trees including White Birch, Norway Maple, Norway Spruce, Colorado Spruce and White Ash. The majority of the trees are in fair health and condition. Several trees exhibit one sided forms due to crowding, elevated crowns due to pruning and/or some level of branch dieback.

2 – Hedgerow and Naturalized Trees

Several Hedgerows were identified within and along each of the lot limits. These include a range of immature to mature and planted to naturalized groupings in fair health and condition. Several mature planted coniferous hedgerows were identified along lot lines, dividing the properties. These most commonly include White Spruce and Norway Spruce. Immature White Cedar hedges were also located along laneways and lot lines and defining landscape spaces. Several mixed hedgerows, consisting of both planted and naturalized trees were also inventoried. These are located primarily in the east portion of the subject lands, along lot lines. Species of note included in these rows are Sugar Maple, Black Walnut, Scots Pine, White Pine, White Elm, Basswood and Manitoba Maple. A small buffer of intermittent hedgerows separates the subject lots and the active railway corridor to the south. The majority of these trees are located within the rail lands and consist of predominantly immature to semi-mature Silver Maple, Basswood and Sugar Maple trees, including some White Elm and Poplar species scattered throughout. The majority of the hedgerows identified on site are in fair health and condition. The trees exhibit one sided forms and self-pruned lower branches typical of a hedgerow condition.

Observations and Recommendations

Due to the constraints of the site development proposal, the majority of trees within the subject lands will require removal. There are some opportunities for preservation along the perimeter of the site and within the future parkland, pending the detailed grading requirements in these areas. All trees on adjacent properties are to be preserved and protected in accordance with acceptable arboricultural standards. Tree protection hoarding should be installed by the developer prior to mobilization within the site (refer to attached V100 – *Tree Inventory and Preservation Plan*).

Compensation Planting

A total of 42 trees with a preservation priority of Medium or High will require removal. In accordance with City requirements, a 2:1 ratio of replanting will be required (total of 84 trees). There are several re-planting opportunities within the site, particularly within the future railway buffer. Based on a review of the development plan, it is expected that the required compensation trees can be planted within the site.

CONCLUSION

Strybos Barron King Ltd. was retained by Catalina Developments to prepare an Arborist Letter and Tree Inventory and Preservation Plan for the proposed development. The report provides an overview of the existing conditions within and immediately adjacent to the property and makes recommendations for the preservation of existing trees. Implementation of the proposed site development plan will require the removal of the majority of the trees within the subject lands, but presents opportunities for preservation in specific areas pending detailed grading requirements. The exact limits of tree preservation should be determined on site with the City and Consulting Arborist once this level of detailed design has been finalized. All trees on adjacent lands are to be preserved and protected throughout the site construction process (refer to V100 – *Tree Inventory and Preservation Plan* for details). Under the current development proposal, there are opportunities for replanting of required compensation trees in order to offset the proposed removals. It is anticipated that these replacements (a total of 84 trees) can be planted on site.

PREPARED BY

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