

APPROVED BY THE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES 10/27/2015

**CRITERIA FOR JUDGMENT OF REQUESTS FOR REMOVAL OR MAJOR PRUNING OF PUBLIC TREES**

*\*all pruning levels beyond “maintenance pruning” as defined in the Tree Management Plan according to ANSI A-300 standards*

NOTE: Before requests will be considered, **sufficient public notice must be given**. Upon receipt of a complete request (and before scheduling a review of the request) the TAB will affix a sign to the tree trunk or immediate vicinity stating proposed actions and date of review and the village will publish a notice in the newspaper of record stating same-- the cost of which will be born by the applicant. The sign and newspaper notice must appear at least two (2) weeks prior to TAB review date.

**REVIEW QUESTIONS**

**GROUP 1**

1. Is the tree a “desirable tree” as outlined in the village’s Tree Management Plan?
  - a. *Is the tree of a genus/species on the TMP’s “recommended planting list”?*
  - b. *Is the tree in good health, with less than 25% deadwood and a healthy leaf canopy and root structure?*
  - c. *Is the tree well-sited and likely to do continue to do well on the site?*
  - d. *Does the tree co-exist ok with other village infrastructure, with any major conflicts able to be mitigated in ways other than tree removal?*
  - e. *Is the tree > 15 years old?*

→ If tree meets all the criteria for a “desirable tree”, then tree removal or major pruning should not be recommended.

→ If the tree fails to meet one or more of the criteria for a “desirable tree” further consideration should be given to questions in Group 2.

**GROUP 2**

1. Does the village have a significant interest in removing or majorly pruning the tree (i.e. is it on the TMP’s pruning priority list or likely to be on the list in the next 2 years?)

→ If yes, then tree removal or major pruning, whichever is appropriate as judged by the TAB, may be recommended.

→ If no, go to next question.

2. Can the proposed objectives of the applicant be achieved by means other than tree removal or major pruning?

→ If answer ‘yes’, the applicant should follow these other means and withdraw application.

→ If the answer is ‘no’, further consideration should be given to questions in Group 3.

**GROUP 3**

1. Can the loss of or damage to the tree be offset sufficiently to replace the value of the tree to the village, and is the applicant willing to donate the funds/trees/work in amount equal or greater than replacement?
2. Does the removal or major pruning of the tree represent a net savings and/or gain for the village?
3. Has the TAB given fair consideration to objections from neighbors or the public to the proposed removal or major pruning work?

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- If answer 'yes' to all of the above Group 3 questions, tree removal or major pruning may, at the discretion of the TAB, be recommended.
- If answer 'no' to one or more of the above Group 3 questions, then removal or major pruning should not be recommended.

Upon review of the request according to the above criteria, the Tree Advisory Board shall, by majority vote, make a written recommendation to the Village Board of Trustees. The VBOT will then approve or reject the request and communicate their decision to the applicant.

Avenue for appeal: If, after recommendation is given by the TAB and the VBOT issues its decision, the applicant wishes to appeal the decision, he/she may make such a request to the Village Board of Trustees directly.