

CITY POLICY



POLICY NUMBER: C456C

REFERENCE:

Community Standards Bylaw 14600
Parkland Bylaw 2202
Traffic Bylaw 5590
Zoning Bylaw 12800
Natural Area Systems Policy C531
North Saskatchewan River Valley Area Redevelopment Plan
Bylaw 7188
Natural Connections Strategic Plan
Integrated Pest Management C501
Urban Forest Management Plan
Breathe Strategy
Open Space Policy C594
Reserve and Equity Policy C217D

ADOPTED BY: City Council

October 7, 2020

SUPERSEDES:
C456B

PREPARED BY: City Operations

DATE: October 1, 2020

TITLE: **Corporate Tree Management Policy**

Policy Statement:

Trees help purify the air we breathe, contribute to urban biodiversity, provide wildlife habitat, beautify and enrich our lives throughout the year, sequester carbon, and provide a sense of well-being in our urban environment. These valuable assets require our dedicated care and attention.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure growth, sustainability, acquisition, stewardship, tree maintenance, protection and preservation of the City of Edmonton Urban Forest (CoE Urban Forest) and to promote public education and engagement opportunities. CoE Urban Forest includes all Boulevard and Open Space Trees and Natural Stands. These are located on City-owned land including, but not limited to, titled City land, Parkland, road rights of way, environmental reserves, municipal reserves, public utility lots and urban services zones with the exception of trees and shrubs on land which is under the jurisdiction of senior orders of government.

This policy is subject to any specific provisions of the Municipal Government Act or other relevant legislation or Union Agreement.

This policy is in direct alignment with objectives of the City of Edmonton Urban Forest Management Plan.

Work on City Trees will be in accordance with the applicable bylaws, policies, approved strategies and plans referenced above concerning boulevards, utility lots, and City Trees on any public place and City properties (with the exception of land which is under the jurisdiction of senior orders of government) within Edmonton.

The purpose of this policy is to:

Ensure the orderly development and growth of the CoE Urban Forest through new plantings, replacement plantings and inventory from new development and capital programs in accordance with applicable bylaws, policies, approved strategies and plans.

Preserve and protect City Trees by ensuring work on or near City Trees is in accordance with the *City of Edmonton Tree Preservation Guidelines*.

Promote stewardship of Natural Stands in alignment with the guiding principles and objectives outlined in approved natural area management plans. The nature and extent of stewardship of Natural Stands will be in accordance with the applicable bylaws, policies, approved strategies and plans referenced above including the *Natural Area Systems Policy C531*.

Provide a tree reserve account that enables the recovery and distribution of funds received from City Tree losses and/or damages, in accordance with the *City of Edmonton Corporate Management and Tree Reserve Procedure*, to ensure sustainability, protection and preservation of CoE Urban Forest.

Equitable compensation for the loss and/or damages to City Trees will be recovered in accordance with the *City of Edmonton Natural Stand Valuation Guidelines* and/or the *City of Edmonton Guidelines for the Evaluation of Trees*.

Adopt research and development, best management practices, educational and engagement strategies, and innovations that contribute to the goals of urban forestry acquisition, protection and preservation, and tree maintenance.

The Corporate Tree Management Policy will be administered in accordance with the *City of Edmonton Corporate Tree Management and Tree Reserve Procedure*.