

AGENDA INFORMATION☐ Regular Meeting

Date: _____

☐ Other:

Date: _____

Dept.
Manager_____
GM/
Director_____
CAO

The District of North Vancouver

REPORT TO COUNCIL

June 22, 2026

File:

AUTHOR: Councillor Lisa Muri**SUBJECT:** Environmental Policies re: Replanting of Trees**RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT Council direct staff to report back in a workshop setting on the following items:

1. Existing bylaws, policies, and practices related to tree protection, replacement tree requirements, and environmental compensation measures, including how these requirements are applied across various project types and development contexts; and
2. How the District of North Vancouver measures environmental and urban tree canopy loss, including environmental impact such as increased carbon, altered water displacement and drainage patterns affecting the biodiversity of surrounding areas, and how we mitigate these critical losses to protect existing ecosystems.

REASON FOR REPORT:

Part 3 of the Official Community Plan (OCP) establishes objectives and policies related to the protection of the natural environment, ecosystems, biodiversity, wildlife corridors, greenways, and streamside areas.

As the community continues to grow, Council requires a clear understanding of how tree removal, canopy loss, and broader environmental impacts are evaluated and mitigated within public and private projects, and how environmental considerations are balanced with other community objectives.

As an example, with respect to the Riverside Drive and Lillooet Road social housing projects, staff are requested to advise Council on the significant loss of trees on lands that were previously zoned parkland and how those losses will be mitigated over the long term. Specifically:

- A. how the requirements of Tree Protection Bylaw 7671 are applied;
- B. how tree retention options, environmental impacts, and associated trade-offs are identified and communicated to Council, including opportunities available for Council direction during project planning and approval processes;

- C. whether any exemptions or alternative compliance measures related to tree protection, replacement tree requirements, or environmental compensation measures are applied in either project; and
- D. Opportunities for additional replacement tree planting, restitution planting, canopy restoration, and urban forest enhancement associated with, but not limited to, the Riverside Drive and Lillooet Road projects, including feasibility, costs, and implementation considerations.

SUMMARY:

This report reflects Council's interest in understanding how tree protection, retention, replacement, restitution, and environmental compensation practices are currently applied across development projects, and how environmental impacts are balanced with other community objectives, and the steps the District of North Vancouver is taking to follow Part 3 of the Official Community Plan as it relates to the protection of the natural environment, ecosystems, biodiversity, wildlife corridors, greenways, and streamside areas.

BACKGROUND:

The District rezoned the Lillooet Road housing site in 2023. Additional information is available on the DNV website¹.

The District rezoned the Riverside Drive housing site in 2021. Additional information is available on the DNV website².

EXISTING POLICY:

The District's Official Community Plan (OCP) includes policies related to:

- Protection of natural ecosystems and biodiversity;
- Urban forest and tree canopy retention;
- Streamside and environmentally sensitive areas; and
- Climate action, including greenhouse gas reduction.

Tree Protection Bylaw No. 7671 establishes requirements related to tree protection, removal permits, replacement trees, restitution, and environmental compensation.

ANALYSIS:

Environmental Impact:

The requested information will support ongoing DNV alignment with OCP objectives, including:

- Protection of natural ecosystems and biodiversity;
- Urban forest and tree canopy retention;
- Streamside and environmentally sensitive areas; and
- Climate action, including greenhouse gas reduction.

¹ [Lillooet Road housing site](#)

² [Riverside Drive affordable housing site](#)

Conclusion:

As the District continues to grow Council must balance multiple priorities, including environmental protection. This report will provide Council with a clearer understanding of how tree protection and replacement practices are currently applied, how environmental trade-offs are evaluated, and what options exist to strengthen future policy direction.

Options:

1. That the motion, as presented, be supported; or,
2. That the motion, as presented, be amended; or,
3. That the motion, as presented, is not supported.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Muri
Councillor

REVIEWED WITH:					
☐ Business and Economic	_____	☐ Finance	_____	External Agencies:	
☐ Bylaw Services	_____	☐ Fire Services	_____	☐ Library Board	_____
☐ Clerk's Office	_____	☐ GIS	_____	☐ Museum and Archives	_____
☐ Climate and Biodiversity	_____	☐ Human Resources	_____	☐ NSEM	_____
☐ Communications	_____	☐ Integrated Planning	_____	☐ NS Health	_____
☐ Community Planning	_____	☐ ITS	_____	☐ NVRC	_____
☐ Development Engineering	_____	☐ Parks	_____	☐ RCMP	_____
☐ Development Planning	_____	☐ Real Estate	_____	☐ Other:	_____
☐ Engineering Operations	_____	☐ Review and Compliance	_____		
☐ Environment	_____	☐ Solicitor	_____		
☐ Facilities	_____	☐ Utilities	_____		

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