

TREE CONSERVATION REPORT – 6688 FRANKTOWN ROAD, OTTAWA

PREPARED FOR:

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INTRODUCTION

The importance of protecting vegetative cover on sites subject to development is specified in Section 4.7.2 of the City of Ottawa's Official Plan. In accordance with this the City of Ottawa's Urban Tree Conservation By-law (By-law no. 2009-200) requires a detailed Tree Conservation Report (TCR) prior to the removal of trees on sites within the urban boundary of Ottawa. In this instance, since the removal of vegetation is outside the urban boundary, this TCR is of a broader scope, detailing groups ('stands') of trees instead of individuals.

The subject property is located at 6688 Franktown Road outside the Village of Richmond. The only portion not forested is a cleared roadway into the property with a roughly graded roadbed. A small opening at the south end of the roadway has been more recently cleared for storage and a gathering area. The entire property covers an area of approximately 7 acres (2.8 hectares).

As presently proposed the development consists of a one-story temple and two-story anti-building to the southwest. To the north and west of the proposed buildings are parking lots and to the east and south is a landscaped amenity area. The total area to be so developed is just under half the entire property.

METHODOLOGY

A survey of the site was completed on April 5, 2018. Tree growth was assessed via a reconnaissance inventory in which the overstory trees and visible understory vegetation was assessed for species, size (average diameter) and general health condition. This information was then compiled so that stand areas could be broadly delineated. These areas can be found on the accompanying tree conservation plan prepared by Gino Aiello, Landscape Architect.

TREE INVENTORY

From a review of historic aerial photography it is apparent the subject property has been heavily forested for at least the last 50 years. Around that time a plantation of Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) was established in the front (northern) half of the property. In the absence of routine management interventions over the years the pines have become senescent and the understory has become colonized with early-successional and invasive woody vegetation. Presently the understory consists mainly of scattered red maple (*Acer rubrum*), ash (*Fraxinus* spp.) – now dead due to Emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*), and balsam fir (*Abies balsamea*). However, the most widespread understory species are buckthorn (*Rhamnus* spp.). These species, common buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*) and glossy buckthorn (*Rhamnus frangula*), both introduced and highly invasive, are concentrated along the roadway, which appears to have been cleared in approximately 2012, and within the understory of the pine plantation. Although, established throughout

the property, buckthorn is most dense in the northern half due to the available sunlight within and adjacent to the failing plantation.

The presence of buckthorn is not surprising as site disturbance in such peri-urban areas encourages the spread of non-native (alien), invasive and naturalized species. No other invasive species are present in significant numbers (except of course, Scots pine – itself non-native and invasive). In fact, the only other species found on site that is not truly native to Eastern Ontario is Manitoba maple (*Acer negundo*). Being intolerant of shade this species is found infrequently, only along forest edges or in open areas. Manitoba maple is a frequent urban species which was not present pre-settlement but now naturalized to Eastern Ontario.

The two other dominant stand types on the property are a lowland mixedwood stand in the eastern-most corner and a lowland hardwood stand in the southern. The mixed wood stand consists of dense groupings of a diversity of tree species: white spruce (*Picea glauca*), trembling aspen (*Populus tremuloides*), balsam fir and red maple. Other native tree species present, though less frequently than four mentioned above, are bur oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*), black cherry (*Prunus serotina*), and eastern white cedar (*Thuja occidentalis*).

The lowland hardwood stand consists of the same species as elsewhere on site, though with markedly less conifers. In particular, there are many older, senescent poplars in this stand. The ash which are present have suffered the same fate as elsewhere – dead due to emerald ash borer. White elm (*Ulmus americana*) were also present in significant numbers in the past but the spread of Dutch elm disease (*Ophiostoma ulmi*) has greatly reduced their frequency. A number of these trees have been removed more recently as storage and gathering areas have been cleared.

The other native vegetation on the site consists of lower growing shrub species: staghorn sumac (*Rhus typhina*), red-osier dogwood (*Cornus stolonifera*) and scrub willow (*Salix* spp.). These species have been able to successfully regenerate primarily on either the margins of the roadway or in low, wet areas due to the lack of shading from a consistent overstory.

Typical vegetative conditions within the subject property are shown in Pictures 1, 2 and 3 on pages 3 and 4 of this report.



Picture 1. Typical understory conditions below the pine plantation on the subject property – dense buckthorn.



Picture 2. Typical conditions within the lowland hardwood stand on the subject property.



Picture 3. Typical conditions within the lowland mixedwood stand on the subject property

USE OF EXISTING VEGETATION

The size of the development in relation to the overall property will leave much room for the retention of existing trees. Vegetation clearing will be restricted to the roadway and building envelopes proposed for the centre of the subject property. Because of this the majority of trees and treed areas will be retained. The retained forested areas will serve as a screen around almost the entire periphery of the property.

ENDANGERED SPECIES

No butternuts (*Juglans cinerea*) were found on the subject property. This tree species is listed as endangered under the Province of Ontario's Endangered Species Act (ESA), (2007) and so is protected from harm.

PROTECTION MEASURES

The following measures are recommended by the City of Ottawa to ensure tree survival during construction:

1. Erect a fence at the critical root zone (CRZ¹) of trees;
2. Do not place any material or equipment within the CRZ of the tree;
3. Do not attach any signs, notices or posters to any tree;
4. Do not raise or lower the existing grade within the CRZ without approval;
5. Tunnel or bore when digging within the CRZ of a tree;
6. Do not damage the root system, trunk or branches of any tree;
7. Ensure that exhaust fumes from all equipment are NOT directed towards any tree's canopy.

¹ The critical root zone (CRZ) is established as being 10 centimetres from the trunk of a tree for every centimetre of trunk Diameter at breast height (DBH). The CRZ is calculated as DBH x 10 cm.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions concerning this tree conservation report

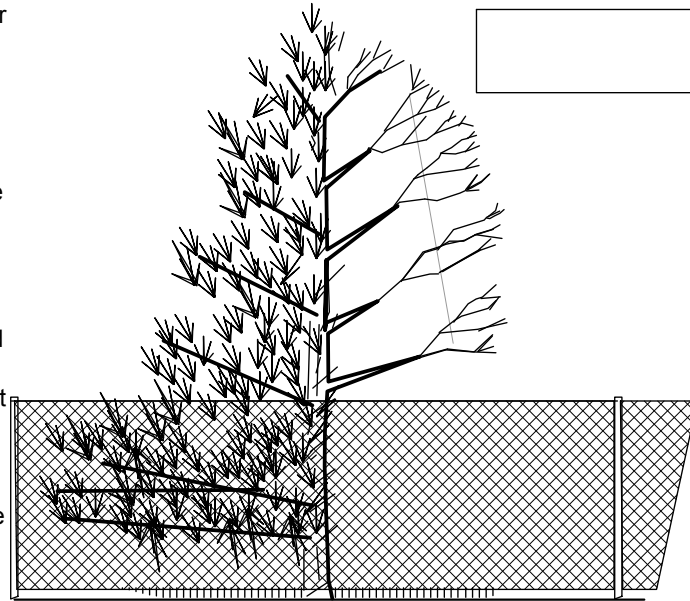
Yours,

Andrew Boyd

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ISA Certified Arborist #ON-0496A and TRAQualified
Butternut Health Assessor #513

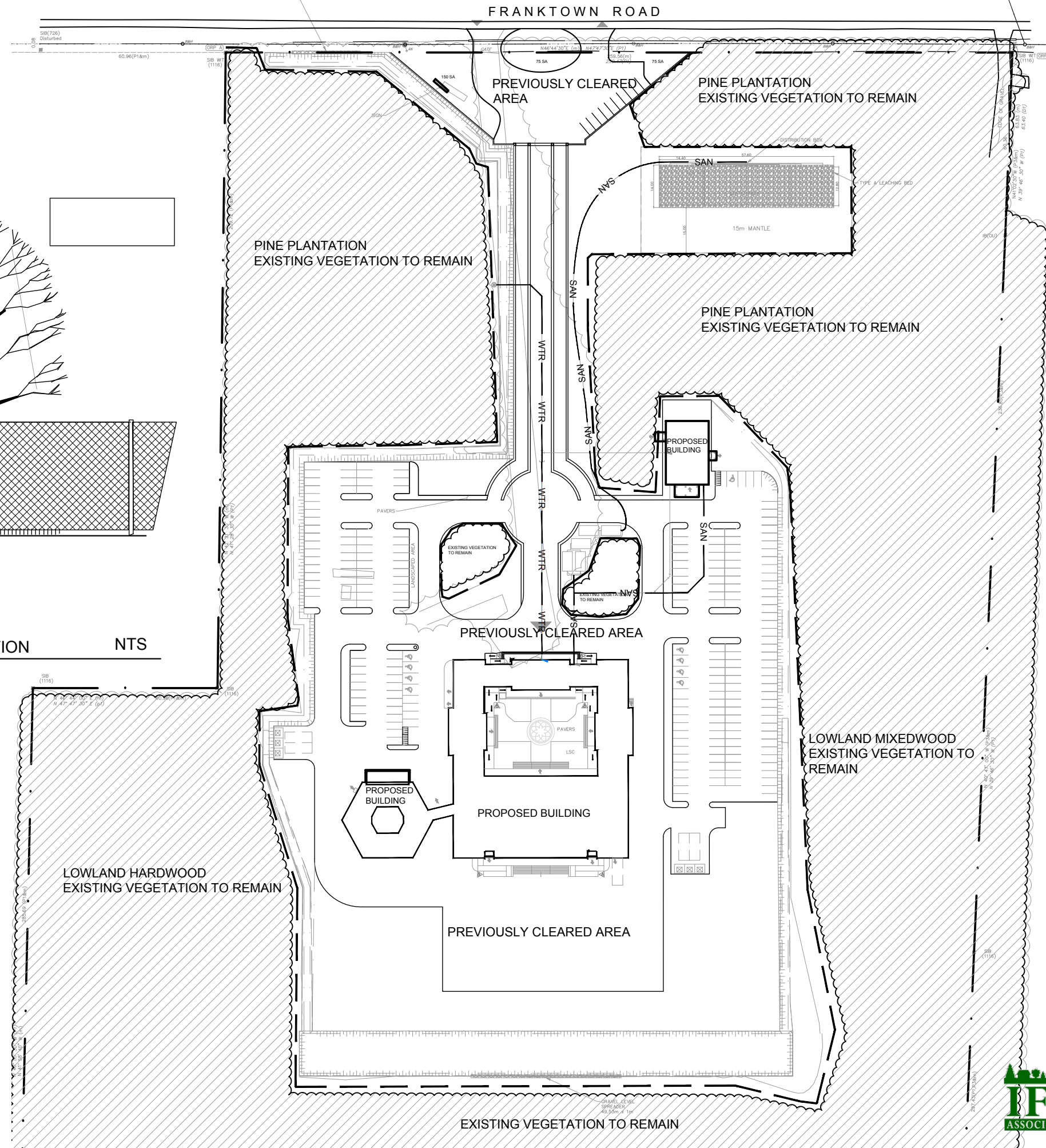
The following protection measures must be implemented for retained trees, both on site and on adjacent sites, prior to any tree removal or site works and maintained for the duration of construction on site:

- Under the guidance of an arborist, erect a fence at the critical root zone (CRZ) of trees where the CRZ is established as being 10 centimetres from the trunk of a tree for every centimetre of trunk diameter at breast height. The CRZ is calculated as DBH X 10 cm.;
- Do not place any material or equipment within the CRZ of the tree;
- Do not attach any signs, notices or posters to any tree;
- Do not raise or lower the existing grade within the CRZ without approval;
- Tunnel or bore when digging within the CRZ of a tree;
- Do not damage the root system, trunk, or branches or any tree;
- Ensure that exhaust fumes from all equipment are NOT directed towards any tree canopy.



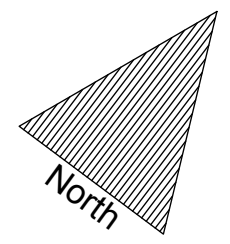
Erect Fence at edge of CRZ

TYPICAL TEMPORARY EXISTING TREE PROTECTION NTS



TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH IFS ASSOCIATES REPORT "TREE CONSERVATION REPORT "6688 Franktown Road Ottawa"

- Existing Vegetation To Remain
- Protection for Existing Trees



TCR TREE CONSERVATION REPORT

6688 Franktown Road Ottawa