

**VAUGHAN**

Public Works

C	15
Item #	64
Report No.	41 (CW)
Council - December 9/14	

# memorandum

**DATE:** DECEMBER 9, 2014

**TO:** HONOURABLE MAYOR BEVILACQUA AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

**FROM:** PAUL JANKOWSKI, COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS

**RE:** COMMUNICATION – COUNCIL – DECEMBER 9, 2014  
REPORT 41, ITEM #64 – DELAY IN AWARDING TREE STUMPING TENDER

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## Economic Impact

There is no economic impact associated with receipt of this communication.

## Communications Plan

Staff will be preparing a communication strategy to update residents on the future tree stumping question at the start of these activities.

## Purpose

This communication responds to the following request from the December 2, 2014 Committee of the Whole meeting, which recommended:

1. That staff provide a report to the Council meeting of December 9, 2014, on the reasons for the delay in the awarding of the tree stumping contract to the Spring.

## Background

Following the devastating Ice Storm at the end of 2013, approximately 11,000 City of Vaughan street trees were identified for removal. Although, typically stump removal is incorporated into the future re-planting contract, given the anticipated delays in replanting due to the significant unfunded costs, staff had considered completing the stump removal through stand-alone contracts and Ontario Disaster Relief Assistance Program (ODRAP) funding which the City is seeking.

Unfortunately, ODRAP submission guidelines indicate that only costs incurred by municipalities before the end of 2014 may be considered for funding from the program.

City tenders for the tree-stumping contracts were issued on September 25, 2014, and closed on October 14, 2014. The ODRAP funding submission requirements were being updated by the Province through the summer. On September 15, 2015, the Province confirmed that submission requirements would be extended to December 31, 2014. In light of this information, City staff continued to explore other potential sources of funding with the hope of being able to contract for this work, however, alternate sources were not identified. Due to the lack of 2014 budget funding and the probable ODRAP ineligibility of the majority of the costs, as the majority of this work would carry over into 2015, on November 24, 2014, the City cancelled the tenders.

The anticipated \$1.27 million cost of the stumping is now included in the 2015 draft budget submission for Council's consideration. If approved, through the 2015 budget, these tree-stumping activities could be undertaken in 2015 and beyond.

**Report prepared by:**

Jeff Silcox-Childs, Manager of Parks Services  
Paul Jankowski, Commissioner of Public Works

Respectfully submitted,



Paul Jankowski  
Commissioner Public Works

cc: Barbara Cribbitt, Interim City Manager  
Zoran Postic, Director of Transportation Services and Parks and Forestry Operations  
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Asad Chughtai, Director of Purchasing Services  
Jeffrey Abrams, City Clerk