

Hello,

We are writing to provide comments regarding the proposed severance of 61 Hearn Avenue - B-10/23. It should be noted that the proposed property to be severed contains a huge Black Walnut tree. The tree is very large, with a diameter of approximately 1.0 meters and a crown diameter of over 25 meters. No details of the tree were provided in the material submitted by the applicant.

Based on the City's own information (see: <https://guelph.ca/living/environment/trees/street-tree-ownership/>), the tree is a Boundary Tree, indicating that it is partly on the subject property and partly on City property. This status as a Boundary Tree means that the tree is common property between the subject property and the City. Under the Ontario Forestry Act, it would be an offence to injure or cut down this tree without the City's permission. As the tree is so large, the potential critical rooting area would be approximately 12 meters, which is well inside the proposed building footprint. The tree canopy also overhangs the proposed location for the structure.

Trees of this size are extremely rare in Guelph, and this is the largest tree in the neighbourhood. This tree provides significant neighbourhood value and should be protected.

Based on the above information, we request that the proposed severance be denied, as the construction of a building on the severed lot will significantly impact the tree or necessitate the removal of this extremely large and important tree. The City must take steps to protect trees of this calibre on City property.

Regards,

Ryan and Lauren Hamelin

■ Alma Street N, Guelph, ON