Mayor Lehman, Members of Council

I'm writing to you on behalf of the Allandale Neighbourhood Association with regard to the current Ash Tree Removal and Replacement Project. We have recently been advised by neighbours who have received a "door knocker" and letter from The City of Barrie "Urban Forestry Department" that they are moving forward between May and November removing Ash Trees.

While we understand the Management Strategy, we do take issue with the number of trees scheduled to be removed in the Allandale area this season. The letter from the City was addressed to Dear Resident and not the actual homeowner. Fortunately we do have home owners who have asked the City if they would be open to allowing the owners to pay to have the healthier trees treated rather than removed. We are very proud of our 75-100 year old trees and hope to work with the City to save the ones we can.

We have had one quote completed from Lakeside Tree Service who is the City contractor currently. There are 3 trees scheduled to be removed 2 on Bayview (between Cumberland and Burton Ave) and 1 at the corner of (Bayview and Burton) which will have a huge impact on the character in this immediate area. As we reviewed the list of schedule trees to be removed in our area, we find a staggering number. As many as 10 on some streets. Again this will have a huge impact.

Some of these trees are still very healthy. We would like to request a meeting to review strategy and current schedule for this area. Even if we simply request a short term moratorium on the tree removals in Allandale, until folks have a chance to get quotes and determine if the tree is actually infected, dead or can be treated. We do realize some trees will need to be removed.

The neighbours would like to participate and partner with the City, even if it means home owners bore the cost. We need time to act, and would appreciate the opportunity to help save what can be saved in our Historic neighbourhood.

This is an urgent matter as trees are in the process of being removed!

Sincerely

Cathy Colebatch - ANA Executive Member