









# Urban Forest Management Plan

Maintaining a healthy, growing and sustainable urban forest canopy that supports biodiversity, human health, recreation and community climate resilience to provide a greener future for generations.

Attachment 4

 <b>GOAL 1</b>	 <b>GOAL 2</b>	 <b>GOAL 3</b>	 <b>GOAL 4</b>	 <b>GOAL 5</b>
<b>Align urban forest planning and management with best practices</b>	<b>Maintain a healthy and safe urban forest</b>	<b>Expand the urban forest canopy</b>	<b>Protect trees and woodlands</b>	<b>Increase community stewardship</b>
<b>STRATEGY 1:</b> Improve urban forest governance through collaboration	<b>STRATEGY 5:</b> Develop a tree risk management policy and operational procedures	<b>STRATEGY 9:</b> Increase tree planting rates to offset losses and achieve larger tree canopy cover	<b>STRATEGY 12:</b> Strengthen partnerships to expand urban forest management capacity	<b>STRATEGY 13:</b> Educate the community to improve awareness of urban forest benefits and care
<b>STRATEGY 2:</b> Establish a sustainable urban forestry program	<b>STRATEGY 6:</b> Reduce the risk of pests, disease and invasive species affecting the urban forest	<b>STRATEGY 10:</b> Restore and expand woodlands to enhance biodiversity and connectivity		<b>STRATEGY 14:</b> Improve educational programming to build public awareness and understanding of the benefits of the urban forest and its management
<b>STRATEGY 3:</b> Improve natural asset inventory and integration into the City's asset management frameworks	<b>STRATEGY 7:</b> Develop monitoring and reporting standards to track progress and inform adaptive management	<b>STRATEGY 11:</b> Review by-laws, policies and procedures to improve tree protection		
<b>STRATEGY 4:</b> Focus on proactive urban forest maintenance	<b>STRATEGY 8:</b> Ensure urban design and development processes are delivering quality urban planting sites			

# Five-Year Priority Action Plan

	 <b>GOAL 1</b>	 <b>GOAL 2</b>	 <b>GOAL 3</b>	 <b>GOAL 4</b>	 <b>GOAL 5</b>
<b>YEAR</b>	<b>Align urban forest planning and management with best practices</b>	<b>Maintain a healthy and safe urban forest</b>	<b>Expand the urban forest canopy</b>	<b>Protect trees and woodlands</b>	<b>Increase community stewardship</b>
<b>2024/2025</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish City-wide forestry working group</li> <li>• Introduce tree inventory software</li> <li>• Engage students to build project-driven roles</li> <li>• Expand the scope of study and management of trees</li> <li>• Update the City's street tree inventory on a seven-year cycle aligned with the grid pruning program</li> <li>• Increase full-time hours worked and seasonal labour</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase proactive tree maintenance funding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plant 900 new trees in addition to tree replacements</li> <li>• Support urban forest management through the Official Plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish by-law enforcement within the Forestry team</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand the Green Guardians Program</li> </ul>
<b>2026</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase full-time hours worked and seasonal labour</li> <li>• Establish plot inventories within City-owned woodlots</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a life-cycle costing approach to maintenance budgets</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare woodlot management plans for 26 locations</li> <li>• Work with external partners to add 70 hectares of canopied area</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a woodland stewardship program</li> </ul>
<b>2027</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrate all classes of forestry assets in city-wide asset management framework</li> <li>• Establish a formal capacity of woodland management</li> <li>• Add a Woodland Co-ordinator position</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Form and implement a tree risk management policy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with York Region to maximize tree planting on regional roads</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish woodland risk initiative</li> <li>• Take inventory, decommission and restore areas where the ecosystem has degraded</li> </ul>	
<b>2028</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a young tree care program</li> <li>• Extend the watering of public trees to five years after planting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support tree planting to maximize canopy area on TRCA lands</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a community board to advise on urban forest management</li> </ul>
<b>2029</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare a planting strategy prioritizing areas with low tree equity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete an integrated pest management policy</li> <li>• Prepare State of the Urban Forest report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertake ecosystem restoration consistent with a warehouse management system</li> </ul>		
<b>ONGOING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re-examine funding to ensure sufficient resourcing</li> <li>• Explore external funding opportunities</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update the City's engineering design criteria and standard drawings for urban and suburban streetscapes</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop programs to leverage community engagement</li> </ul>