

- Review formal submissions of applications and reports
- Assess fees and securities (if applicable)
- Complete pre-construction site visits
- Conduct inspections during construction
- Complete post-construction site visits

Total time required for each review varies based on the size and type of application. At a minimum, 40 to 50 hours per review are estimated given the highly technical nature of the work, which may include field work, ecological surveys and other technical analyses.

Service Impact

As this added workload and responsibilities are transitioned to the City, funding for new staff is required to ensure consistent service delivery of development application reviews within established timelines. Without these resources, the existing natural heritage system would be at risk and the investments and benefits of this system (which have been developed over time) would no longer be available for residents and visitors to enjoy. All natural heritage system considerations will be examined as part of the review process with an emphasis on protection and enhancement.

BR #12124 – Forestry Growth

Description of Budget Request

This BR is for the labour, materials and supplies that are required to maintain 2,365 newly planted caliper trees, and over 27 hectares (67 acres) of newly naturalized and acquired land with existing trees and natural areas. Key services including tree pruning and maintenance, contract administration, grass cutting and horticulture services along boulevards will be carried out by three new permanent FTEs (one in 2026 and two in 2028).

Why Staff Recommend this Initiative

This initiative ensures that new City-owned trees and naturalized areas are maintained to current service levels. It provides Parks, Forestry & Environment with the necessary resources to ensure that services are delivered in a cost-effective manner. The Forestry growth model has informed the resources included in this initiative by considering the increased volume of trees and natural areas, what resources they require to be sustainable long-term, and what existing resources are available.

Details of Service Change

This initiative requests the operating budget for the maintenance of an additional 2,365 caliper trees and over 27 hectares (67 acres) of newly naturalized areas starting in 2025. Resources required for redevelopments are solely based on the new amenities added.