



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Planning Committee **Date:** October 14, 2021
From: James Cooper, Architect AIBC **File:** 12-8360-01/2021-Vol
Director, Building Approvals 01
Re: **Increase of maximum fines for Tree Protection Bylaw 8057**

Staff Recommendation

That Tree Protection Bylaw No.8057, Amendment Bylaw 10307 increasing the maximum fine to \$50,000 for an offence be introduced and given first, second, and third reading.

James Cooper, Architect AIBC
Director, Building Approvals
(604-247-4606)

REPORT CONCURRENCE		
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Law	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS: 	APPROVED BY CAO

Origin

The Provincial Government has amended the Community Charter, permitting local Governments to seek maximum Bylaw fines of up to \$50,000.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2018-2022 Strategy #2 A Sustainable and Environmentally Conscious City:

Environmentally conscious decision-making that demonstrates leadership in implementing innovative, sustainable practices and supports the City's unique biodiversity and island ecology.

2.2 Policies and practices support Richmond's sustainability goals.

Background

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to amend Tree Protection Bylaw 8057 by raising the maximum allowable fine under the Bylaw from the current \$10,000 per offence to a maximum of \$50,000 to reflect the recent updates to the Community Charter. The maximum fine is the upper limit a City can seek in Provincial Court commensurate with the severity of the offence. The final fine amount is ultimately determined in Provincial Court determining the penalty for an offence.

Analysis

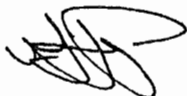
Raising the maximum fines permitted under Tree Protection Bylaw 8057 would act as a deterrent for illegal tree removal or other offences under the Bylaw and send a signal to the community that City Council takes these issues very seriously.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

This report recommends that Council endorse the proposed change to raise the maximum fine permitted under Tree Protection Bylaw 8057, ensuring important City objectives related to tree preservation and policy supporting the protection of a sustainable, resilient urban forest are being advanced.



Gordon Jaggs
Program Lead, Tree Preservation
(604-247-4910)

GJ:gj



**Tree Protection Bylaw No. 8057,
Amendment Bylaw No. 10307**

The Council of the City of Richmond enacts as follows:

1. Tree Protection Bylaw No. 8057, as amended, is further amended at Part 7: Offence and Penalties by:

a) deleting section 7.1 and replacing it with the following:

“7.1 Any person who:

- a) contravenes or violates any provision of this bylaw or of any **permit** issued under this bylaw; or
- b) suffers or allows any act or thing to be done in contravention or violation of this bylaw or any **permit** issued under this bylaw; or
- c) fails or neglects to do anything required to be done under this bylaw or any **permit** issued under this bylaw,

commits an offence under this bylaw and upon conviction is liable to a fine of not less than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) and not more than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000), and each day that such violation is caused, or allowed to continue, constitutes a separate offence.”

b) deleting section 7.3 and marking it “Repealed”; and

c) deleting the words “section 7.3” in section 7.4 and replacing them with the words “section 7.1”.

2. This Bylaw is cited as **“Tree Protection Bylaw No. 8057, Amendment Bylaw No. 10307”**.

FIRST READING

SECOND READING

THIRD READING

ADOPTED

MAYOR

CORPORATE OFFICER

CITY OF RICHMOND
APPROVED for content by originating Division

APPROVED for legality by Solicitor
BRB