## 11034936 Canada Inc.

## **Tree Conservation Report**

100 Steacie Drive, Ottawa, Ontario

CIMA+ file number: A001489

CIMA+ file number: A001489 August 1, 2024 – Review 000



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|                     |   |

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## **List of Acronyms and Definitions**

DBH Diameter-at-breast Height EIS Environmental Impact Study

ESA Endangered Species Act, 2007 (Provincial)

ISA International Society of Arboriculture

GPS Global Positioning System
NAD 83 North American Datum 1983
UTM Universal Transverse Mercator
LIO Land Information Ontario

MECP Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks MNRF Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

OMNR/MNRF/MNDMNRF Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (old name)

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (old name)

Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and

Forestry

SAR Species at Risk (in this report they refer to species that are provincially or

federally listed as endangered or threatened and receive protection under ESA or

SARA)



### 1. INTRODUCTION

11034936 Canada Inc. (Brigil), the Client, is planning to begin construction on a residential development located at 100 Steacie Drive, part of Lot 6, Concession 3 in the City of Ottawa (formerly Kanata Township). Bowfin Environmental Consulting (Bowfin) previously completed a combined Environmental Impact Study / Tree Conservation Report (EIS/TCR) for this project (Bowfin, 2021). As of 2022, Bowfin merged its services with CIMA+ who has taken over the mandate of updating this Tree Conservation Report (TCR) as per the City of Ottawa's *Tree Conservation Report Guidelines* (2021).

### 1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this TCR is to determine what woody vegetation would be retained and protected on the site. The field methodology and findings of the tree inventory are outlined in the sections below. In addition, this report will help determine the project's potential impacts and provide general recommendations to avoid and/or mitigate tree loss and injury. Note that these avoidance and mitigation measures are also provided in the accompanying updated Environmental Impact Study (EIS) (CIMA+, 2024).



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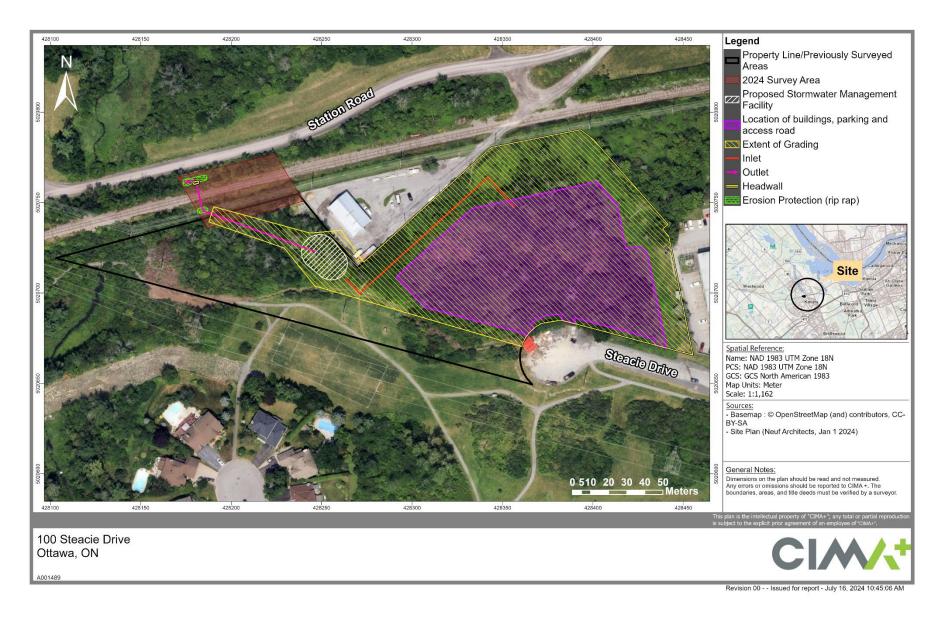


Figure 1: Site Location, Proposed Works, and 2024 Survey Area



#### 2. CITY OF OTTAWA TREE PROTECTION BY-LAW

The Site is located within the limits of City of Ottawa's Tree Protection By-law No. 2020-340 (January 1, 2021). The intent of this By-Law is to protect municipal trees, municipal natural areas within the City of Ottawa, and trees on private property in the urban area of the City of Ottawa.

Under the Tree Protection By-law, the following trees cannot be injured or removed without a permit (City of Ottawa, 2021):

- All City-owned trees throughout the urban and rural area.
- + All trees 10 cm or more in diameter at breast height on private properties within the urban area that are subject to a Planning Act application for Site Plan, Plan of Subdivision, or Plan of Condominium.
- + All trees 10 cm or more in diameter at breast height on private properties within the urban area that are over 1 hectare in size.
- + All distinctive trees on private properties 1 hectare or less in size, where distinctive trees are defined as:
  - Trees measuring 30 cm or more in diameter at breast height within the inner urban area (urban lands inside the Greenbelt).
  - Trees measuring 50 cm or more in diameter at breast height within the suburban area (urban lands outside the Greenbelt).

The Tree Protection By-law requires permits to be obtained before City-owned trees or protected privately owned trees are removed. It also sets out requirements for compensation to be provided when trees are removed, so that they can be replaced.

A Tree Conservation Report (TCR) is required as a part of the application package for all Plans of Subdivision, Site Plan Control Applications, Common Elements Condominium Applications, and Vacant Land Condominium Applications where there is a tree of 10 centimeters in diameter or greater on the site and/or if there is a tree on an adjacent site that has a Critical Root Zone (CRZ) extending onto the development site. The purpose of the TCR is to demonstrate how tree cover will be retained and protected on the site, including mature trees, stands of trees, and hedgerows, using a design with nature approach. A design with nature approach incorporates the natural features of a site into the design and engineering of a proposed development. The TCR will also show which trees must be removed on a site to accommodate the proposed development.

#### 3. METHODOLOGY

The initial tree inventory was undertaken by Bowfin staff in 2020, with methods and results presented in the previous iteration of the TCR (Bowfin, 2021). One additional site visit was completed in 2024 to collect data for areas that were not previously captured. As a result of a change in design, the wooded areas along the new alignment for the proposed stormwater management outlet needed to be inventoried (**Figure 1**).



#### Information collected on individual trees included:

- + UTM coordinates using a high-precision GPS unit (Arrow 100® Submeter GNSS Receiver) set at 18T NAD83
- + Species
- + Diameter-at-breast height (dbh)
- Overall health
- + Presence/Absence of species at risk (SAR) trees (butternut, black ash)

The location of individual trees are depicted on Map 1 and Map 2. Note that for Tree Groupings A to C, the largest dbh within the range of trees surveyed was used to determine the critical root zone. Nomenclature used in this report follows the Southern Ontario Plant List (Bradley, 2007) for both common and scientific names which are based on Newmaster *et al.* (1998). Authorities for scientific names are given in Newmaster *et al.* (1998).

#### 1.1 Tree Size

Size refers to trunk diameter at breast height (DBH or caliper) measured in centimetres at 1.4 m above the ground. Where trees had more than one trunk from the base, the size of each trunk was recorded. Where trees forked to codominant trunks, each trunk was measured, or the diameter was measured at the narrowest point below the fork.

#### 1.2 Tree Condition

Each tree was given an overall health condition rating of: Good, Unhealthy, or Dead. The following is a summary of how the ratings are determined:

GOOD: No apparent or minor problems with health and/or structural form.

UNHEALTHY: Major problems with health and structural form. For *Fraxinus* spp., includes

evidence of infestation by the emerald ash borer (EAB).

DEAD: Dead.

#### 4. RESULTS & DISCUSSION

### 4.1 2024 Survey Results

The site visit was completed on July 9, 2024, by Jake Zientek (GDip Fish & Wildlife Tech) and Amal Siddiqui (B.Sc. Biology, Master of Forestry & Conservation). The weather was cloudy (cloud cover of 100%) and calm (Beaufort scale of 0). The air temperature was 24°C.

Only trees with a dbh equal to or greater than 10 cm were recorded. Of the twelve (12) additional trees identified, one (1) green ash is anticipated to be removed (Map 2). All twelve individuals were City-owned, falling within the railroad corridor, which is listed as City of Ottawa Lands on geoOttawa's Public Owned Lands layer. Results from the 2024 visit are summarized in Table 1 below, as well as in Appendix B.



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| Species      | Scientific<br>Name        | Count | Size<br>Range<br>(DBH cm) | No. Live | No.<br>Unhealthy | No.<br>Dead | No. to be<br>Removed |
|--------------|---------------------------|-------|---------------------------|----------|------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| American Elm | Ulmus<br>americana        | 2     | 14-20                     | 2        | 2                | 0           | 0                    |
| Black Cherry | Prunus<br>serotina        | 1     | 13                        | 1        | 0                | 0           | 0                    |
| Green Ash    | Fraxinus<br>pennsylvanica | 9     | 10-22                     | 9        | 9                | 0           | 1                    |
| Total        |                           | 12    | 10-22                     | 12       | 11               | 0           | 1                    |

### 4.2 Overall Results (2020 and 2024 combined)

The property (roughly 2.2 ha) was composed primarily of cultural thicket and manicured lawn (parkland) with small communities of cultural meadows, green ash (inclusion), and windrows. The woody vegetation was dominated by shrubs (i.e., Tatarian honeysuckle, staghorn sumac). The majority of trees identified were green ash, with some American elm, white ash, and black cherry. The property was flat with bedrock knoll on the east side. In the adjacent lands to the west was Kizell Drain and its associated valley, and a railroad ditch to the north (see EIS, CIMA+, 2024).

A summary of trees surveyed by Bowfin (2020) and CIMA+ (2024) is provided in **Appendix B**. Note that one (1) SAR butternut was identified on the Site with a dbh of 7 cm; this is discussed in the accompanying EIS. Due to its size (<10 cm dbh), the butternut is not included in this report. There were no other species at risk or special concern trees with a minimum dbh of 10 cm.

#### 5. IMPACT ASSESSMENT

An impact assessment was undertaken to determine impacts to trees on-Site as a result of the project's activities. Trees within the extent of grading, dead trees, or individuals with CRZs within the extent of grading, are all recommended for removal. Trees outside the construction limits that will likely not be impacted by the project are proposed for retention and protection through the mitigation measures outlined below. The results of the impact assessment are summarized below in Table 2.

A total of 74 surveyed trees are planned for removal, with 72 being privately owned by the Client (Map 1, Map 2, Table 4). The remaining 13 trees fall outside the area to be graded, and along with portions of groupings B and C, are to be retained, except for one (1) City-owned green ash individual planned for removal due to the installation of erosion protection measures (Map 2). One (1) dead American elm outside the limits of construction is also planned for removal; this individual is City-owned (Map 2). Critical root zones for areas to be retained within groupings B and C fall within construction limits; mitigation measures are provided below.

Of the trees recommended for removal, 25 are green ash in poor condition, 12 are American elm, and 13 are black cherry (**Table 4**). The 13 trees that could be retained are all outside the limits



of construction, though most ash individuals surveyed were in poor condition and the American elm individuals to be retained were deemed to be unhealthy.

Table 2: Impact Assessment for Trees on Site (dbh ≥10 cm)

| Trees to be Removed | Trees to be Pruned | Trees to be Retained |
|---------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| 74                  | 0                  | 13                   |

# 6. MITIGATION MEASURES AND CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

#### 6.1 Tree Protection Measures

As noted above, avoidance and mitigation measures associated with other natural heritage features are provided in the accompanying EIS. The EIS must be referenced when planning the timing of tree removal.

The most typical construction damage to trees is root damage from compaction and severance. While the drip line of a tree's canopy is typically thought to be associated with the root area, the root zones can extend significantly beyond the drip line of the tree, sometimes up to 2 or 3 times the height of the tree.

While the trees to be retained have their CRZs outside of the extent of construction, they would still be at risk of contact with and damage from heavy equipment. Generally, to protect these trees, the movement of heavy equipment should remain outside of the CRZs, and workers educated on the protection measures outlined below.

To successfully preserve trees that are recommended for on-site retention, as well as those identified as being impacted, the following series of mitigation measures is recommended. These recommended measures largely center on the minimum CRZ of trees, as defined by the City's Tree Conservation Report Guidelines (2021). Again, a copy of these measures is in the updated EIS (CIMA+, 2024) which provides a single source for all natural heritage measures.

#### **Avoidance and Mitigation Measures for Trees**

- + Refer to the EIS (CIMA+, 2024) for appropriate timing windows for tree removal to avoid impacts to other natural heritage features (i.e., bird nests, species at risk and their habitat)
- + A permit for the removal of trees that are 10 cm or larger in diameter is required from the City of Ottawa.
- + The edge of the property and the extent of construction/grading should be clearly defined on the site plans and in the field.
- + All trees within the work area/area to be graded will be removed. When clearing near trees next to neighbouring lands, mitigation measures to prevent harm to the root systems of trees adjacent to the proposed works will be implemented to protect them from indirect harm:
  - Sturdy fencing will be installed outside of the Critical Root Zone (CRZ) (defined by the City as 10x the DBH) of the trunk of the closest trees to the work area. Fencing



will be retained until construction activities have been completed, as per City of Ottawa's Tree Protection (By-law No. 2020-340), Part VI:

- Tree protection fencing shall be at least 1.2 metres in height and installed in such a way that the fence cannot be altered.
- No grading or activities that may cause soil compaction (such as heavy machinery and stockpiling of materials) will be allowed within the fenced area.
- Furthermore, no machinery maintenance or refueling or stockpiling is permitted within 5 m of the outer edge of this fencing.
- Exhaust fumes from all equipment will be directed away from the canopy of the trees to be retained.
- If roots of trees on adjacent lands become exposed during site alterations, they will be buried immediately with soil or covered with filter cloth or woodchips and kept moist until the roots can be buried permanently.
- Any roots that must be cut will be cut cleanly to allow for healing.
- + Do not place any material or equipment within the CRZ of a tree to be retained.
- + Do not raise or lower the existing grade within the CRZ of a tree to be retained.
- Do not extend any hard surface or significantly change landscaping within the CRZ of a tree to be retained.
- + If the construction will have to encroach into a tree's minimum CRZ, installing a temporary layer of 150 mm deep partially composed wood chips mulch over the root zone can help to protect roots from compaction damage, and conserve soil moisture levels.
- + Ensure that exhaust fumes from all equipment are not directed towards any tree's canopy.
- No signs, notices or posters should be attached to any trees;
- + Any landscape plans will include native species as much as possible. Exceptions would only be made based on the advice of the landscape consultant. It is our understanding that the plantings of native trees and shrubs is typically not an issue, but that herbaceous vegetation can often not withstand the pressures from road maintenance etc.

### 6.2 Tree and Root Pruning

- No trees have been recommended for pruning, as their minimum CRZ are untouched by the grading limits. If, during excavation, any roots are encountered while working outside the CRZ, they should be cut off cleanly with sharp pruning tools rather than allow them to be torn by large equipment; clean cuts will help to minimize decay and entry points for disease.
  - Do not damage the root system, trunk, or branches of any tree.
  - All exposed roots of trees to be retained should be covered in a minimum of 5 cm of firm soil within 24 hours of exposure.
- + If root pruning is implemented, the crown of the tree should be reduced proportionately under the direction of a Certified Arborist or Registered Forester, to decrease wind sail. Pruning should be kept to thinning cuts (no major limb removal), and crowns should be



- monitored, and maintenance carried out for two (2) years after root pruning to remove any dieback under the direction of a Certified Arborist or Registered Forester.
- Where branches are likely to hang in the way of passing equipment, the branches should be pruned by a Certified Arborist or Registered Forester to avoid tearing and undue injury to the tree.
- All pruning work must be performed under the supervision and guidance of a qualified tree
  professional in accordance with the latest ANSI A300 Pruning Standards and best
  management practices identified by the International Society of Arboriculture.

#### 7. CONCLUSIONS & NEXT STEPS

The City of Ottawa's Tree Protection By-law No. 2020-340 describes the rules that govern tree ownership in Ottawa and the responsibility of tree maintenance, including administration and enforcement. As per Part IV: Sections 42 – 44 Prohibition: *No person shall injure or destroy a tree without a permit*. Sections 45 to 48 - Application for tree permit stipulates the process to apply for a permit under this by-law.

Therefore, it is recommended that consultation should be undertaken with the City prior to construction to confirm the requirements for tree removal permits associated with the municipal tree protection by-law. Where required, tree removal permits must be obtained from the City **prior** to the start of construction.

Follow appropriate timing windows for clearing of vegetation to protect wildlife and migratory birds (i.e., birds and bats) as indicated in the EIS (CIMA+, 2024) or most recent guidelines available at the time of clearing.

### **8. STUDY LIMITATIONS AND CONSTRAINTS**

The assessment presented in this report has been made using accepted standard arboriculture techniques as outlined in the *Council of Tree and Landscape Appraisers Guide for Plant Appraisal, 10th Edition, Second Printing (2020)*. These techniques include visual examination of above-ground parts of each tree or trees in each group. The trees observed were not climbed, cored, or dissected, and excavation for detailed root crown inspection was not performed. Since some symptoms may only be present seasonally, the extent of observations that can be made may be limited by the time of year in which the inspection took place.

Since trees are living organisms, their health and vigour continually change over time due to seasonal variations, changes in site conditions, and other factors. For this reason, the assessment presented in this report is valid at the time of inspection, and no guarantee is made about the continued health of trees that are deemed to be in good condition. It is recommended that the trees be reassessed periodically to identify changes in condition. While every standing tree has the potential for failure and therefore poses some risk, a tree assessment is a good indication of present health and potential problems that could arise in the future.



**CIMA+** has prepared this report for the sole use of the client. Any use of this report by a third party, as any decision based on this report, is the singular responsibility of the third party. **CIMA+** will not be held responsible for eventual damages towards a third party resulting from decisions taken, or based, on this report.

#### 9. REFERENCES

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Bradley, David. 2007. Southern Ontario Vascular Plant Species List. Prepared by Southern Science and Information Section, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Peterborough, Ontario. 57pp.

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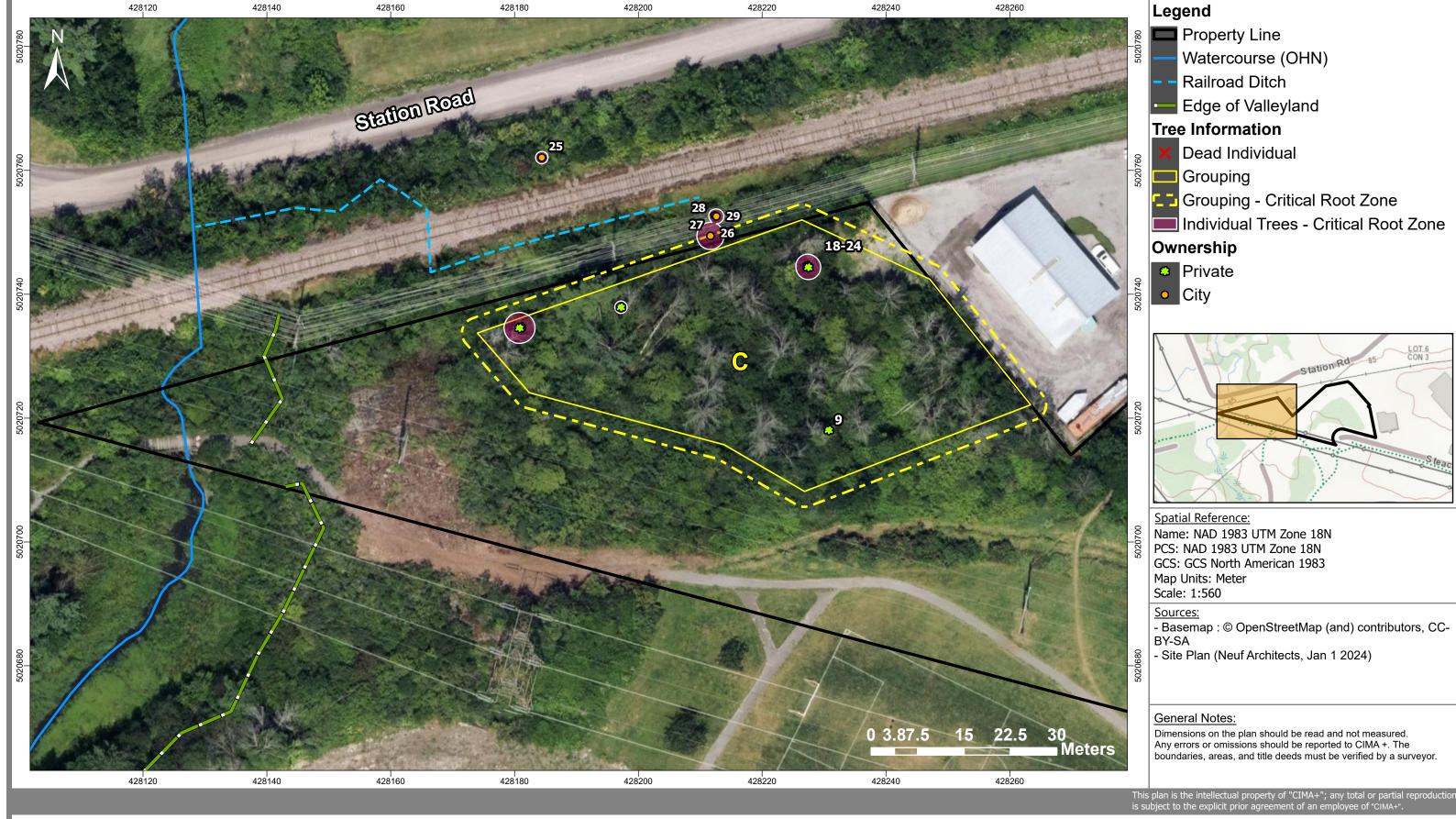
City of Ottawa. (2020) Tree Protection (By-law No. 2020-340).



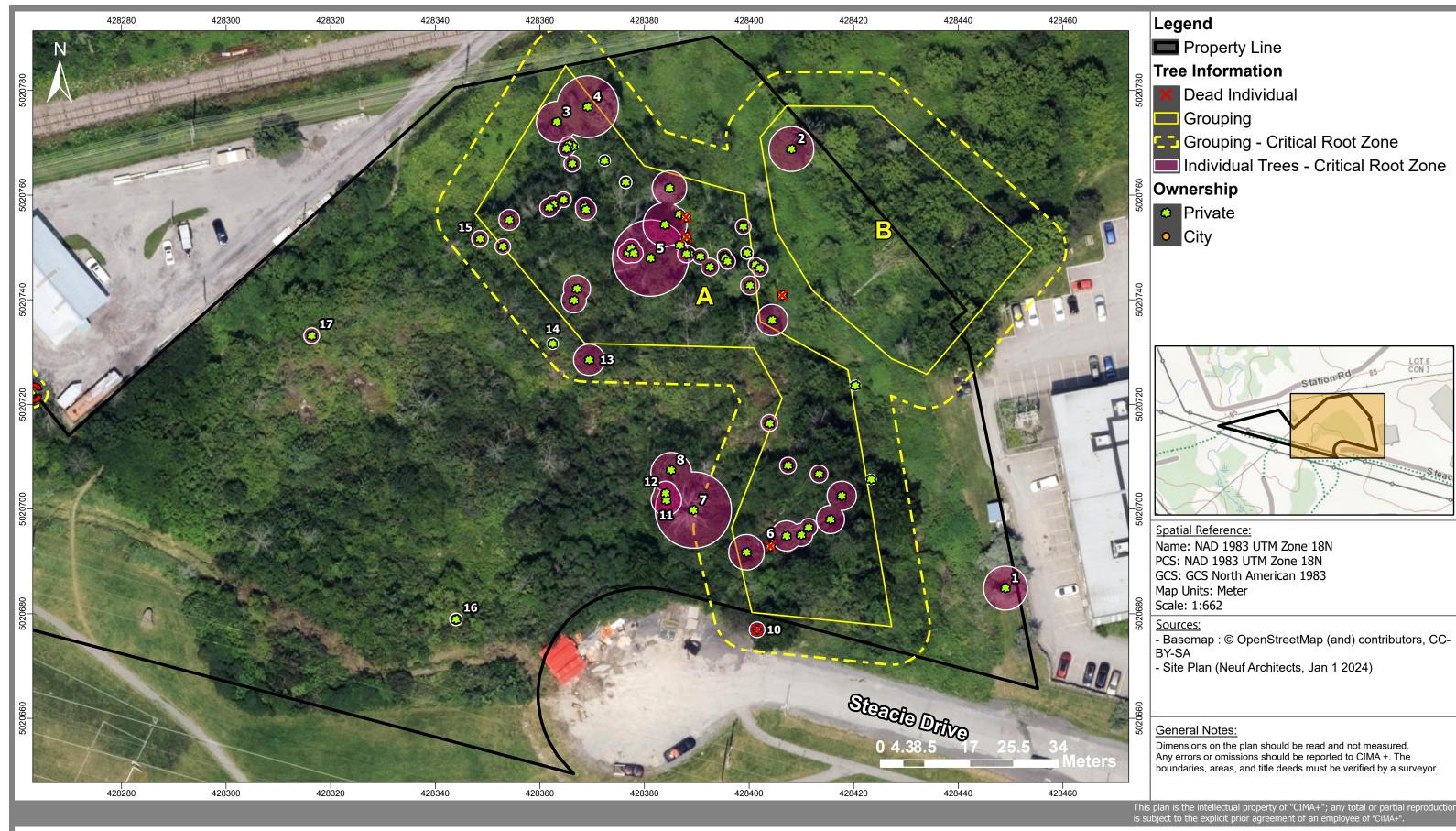


Appendix A Tree Conservation Report Maps 1, 2

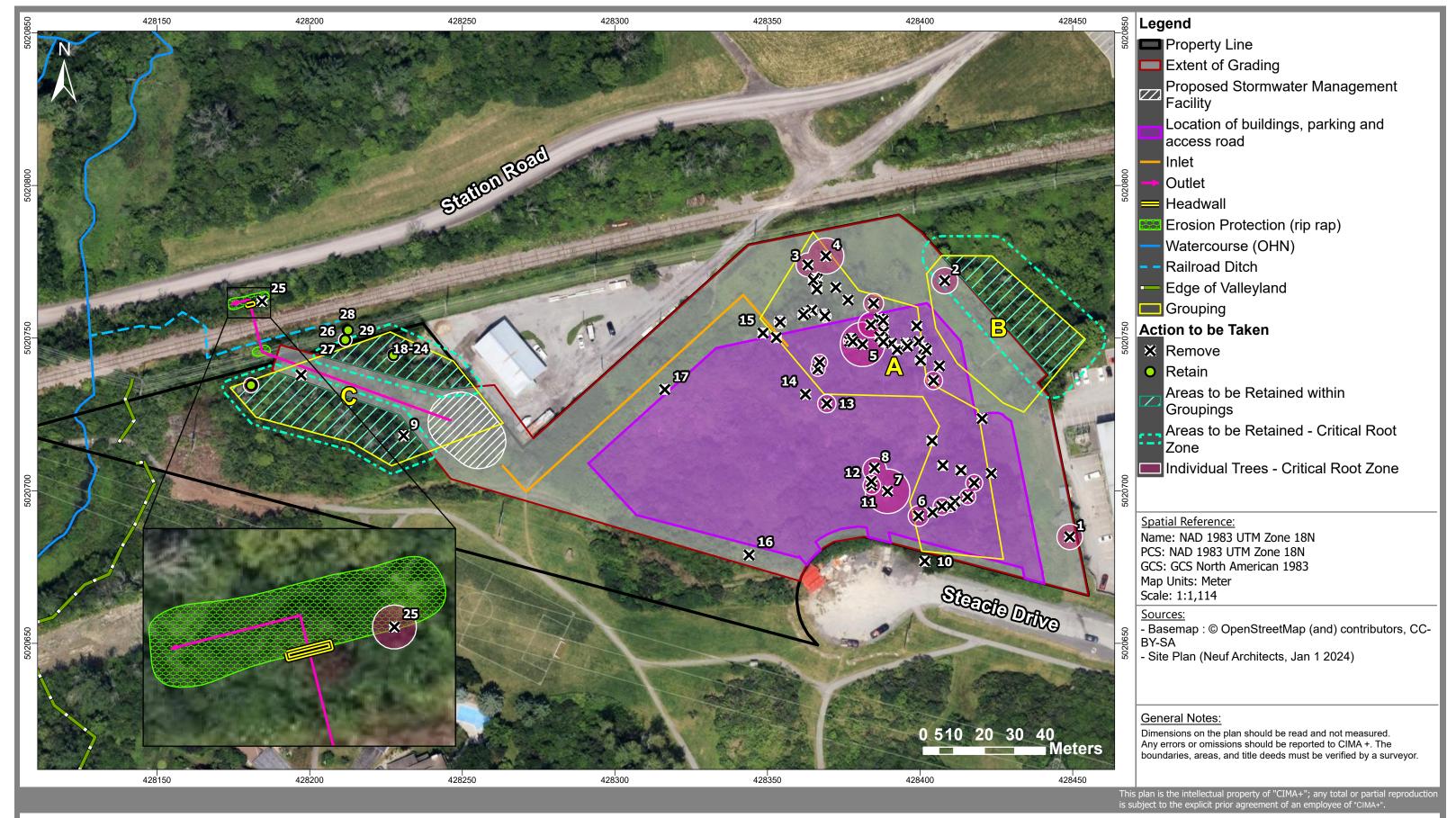




100 Steacie Drive Ottawa, ON CIMA



100 Steacie Drive Ottawa, ON CIMA



100 Steacie Drive Ottawa, ON CIMA

B

Appendix B
Detailed Tree Grouping and Tree Information (2020, 2024)



Table 3: Detailed Information on Tree Groupings and Individuals Surveyed (2020, 2024)

| Tree ID | Species   | UTM<br>Coordinates<br>(NAD 83) | DBH<br>(cm) | Health        | Comments  | Ownership  | To Be<br>Removed               |
|---------|---|--------------------------------|-------------|---------------|---|--|--------------------------------|
|         |   |                                |             | Tree G        | Froupings   |  |                                |
| Α       | American Elm Black Cherry Black Walnut Freeman's Maple Grey Birch Manitoba Maple Trembling Aspen White Ash White Spruce | 18 T 428354<br>5020705         | 10-73       | Good          | Most ash in poor condition or<br>dead. Most American elm dead.<br>Average DBH: 20cm | 3223701 Canada Inc.  | Y (Within<br>Subject<br>Lands) |
| В       | Manitoba Maple  | 18 T 428435<br>5020729         | 13-65       | Good          | Average DBH: 20cm   | 3223701 Canada Inc.<br>and adjacent landowner<br>(41 Station Road) | Y (Within<br>Subject<br>Lands) |
| С       | American Elm<br>Bur Oak<br>White Ash<br>White Pine  | 18T 428206<br>5020743          | 10-25       | Poor          | Average DBH: 20cm   | 3223701 Canada Inc.  | Y (Within<br>Subject<br>Lands) |
|         |   |                                | ı           | ndividual Tre | es (Bowfin 2020)  |  |                                |
| 1       | Willow Species  | 18 T 428449<br>5020686         | 42          | Good          |   | 3223701 Canada Inc.  | Υ                              |
| 2       | White Spruce  | 18 T 428408<br>5020770         | 43          | Good          |   | 3223701 Canada Inc.  | Y                              |
| 3       | White Ash   | 18 T 428365<br>5020762         | 46          | Poor          | 2 Stems   | 3223701 Canada Inc.  | Y                              |
| 4       | White Ash   | 18 T 428363<br>5020775         | 39          | Unhealthy     | 2 Stems   | 3223701 Canada Inc.  | Y                              |
| 5       | Willow Species  | 18 T 428369<br>5020778         | 59          | Good          | 2 Stems   | 3223701 Canada Inc.  | Υ                              |
| 6       | Freeman's Maple   | 18 T 428381<br>5020749         | 73          | Good          | 2 Stems   | 3223701 Canada Inc.  | Υ                              |
| 7       | White Ash   | 18 T 428404<br>5020694         | 35          | Dead          | Some shoots   | 3223701 Canada Inc.  | Y                              |



| Tree ID | Species        | UTM<br>Coordinates<br>(NAD 83) | DBH<br>(cm) | Health             | Comments  | Ownership           | To Be<br>Removed |
|---------|----------------|--------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|---|---------------------|------------------|
| 8       | White Ash      | 18 T 428389<br>5020701         | 73          | Unhealthy          |   | 3223701 Canada Inc. | Y                |
| 9       | Black Cherry   | 18 T 428385<br>5020708         | 39          | Good               |   | 3223701 Canada Inc. | Y                |
| 10      | American Elm   | 18T 428401<br>5020677          | 15          | Dead               |   | City                | Y                |
| 11      | Black Cherry   | 18T 428384<br>5020701          | 29          | Good               |   | 3223701 Canada Inc. | Y                |
| 12      | Black Cherry   | 18T 428384<br>5020702          | 23          | Good               |   | 3223701 Canada Inc. | Y                |
| 13      | Black Cherry   | 18T 428369<br>5020728          | 30          | Good               |   | 3223701 Canada Inc. | Y                |
| 14      | American Elm   | 18T 428362<br>5020731          | 11          | Good               |   | 3223701 Canada Inc. | Y                |
| 15      | Green Ash      | 18T 428348<br>5020751          | 16          | Unhealthy          |   | 3223701 Canada Inc. | Y                |
| 16      | Manitoba Maple | 18T 428343<br>5020678          | 12          | Good               | 7 stems   | 3223701 Canada Inc. | Y                |
| 17      | Manitoba Maple | 18T 428316<br>5020733          | 15          | Good               |   | 3223701 Canada Inc. | Y                |
|         |                |                                |             | Individual Tre     | ees (CIMA+ 2024)  |                     |                  |
| 18      | Black Cherry   | 18T 428227<br>5020744          | 13          | Good               |   | 3223701 Canada Inc. | N                |
| 19      | American Elm   | 18T 428227<br>5020744          | 14          | Unhealthy          |   | 3223701 Canada Inc. | N                |
| 20      | American Elm   | 18T 428227<br>5020744          | 20          | Unhealthy          |   | 3223701 Canada Inc. | N                |
| 21      | Green Ash      | 18T 428227<br>5020745          | 19          | Unhealthy<br>(EAB) |   | 3223701 Canada Inc. | N                |
| 22      | Green Ash      | 18T 428227<br>5020745          | 12          | Unhealthy<br>(EAB) | Poor health, evidence of emerald ash borer present on all individuals | 3223701 Canada Inc. | N                |
| 23      | Green Ash      | 18T 428227<br>5020743          | 11          | Unhealthy<br>(EAB) |   | 3223701 Canada Inc. | N                |
| 24      | Green Ash      | 18T 428227<br>5020743          | 10          | Unhealthy<br>(EAB) |   | 3223701 Canada Inc. | N                |



| Tree ID | Species   | UTM<br>Coordinates<br>(NAD 83) | DBH<br>(cm) | Health             | Comments | Ownership | To Be<br>Removed |
|---------|-----------|--------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|----------|-----------|------------------|
| 25      | Green Ash | 18T 428184<br>5020762          | 10          | Unhealthy<br>(EAB) |          | City      | Y                |
| 26      | Green Ash | 18T 428211<br>5020749          | 13          | Unhealthy<br>(EAB) |          | City      | N                |
| 27      | Green Ash | 18T 428211<br>5020749          | 22          | Unhealthy<br>(EAB) |          | City      | N                |
| 28      | Green Ash | 18T 428212<br>5020753          | 10          | Unhealthy<br>(EAB) |          | City      | N                |
| 29      | Green Ash | 18T 428212<br>5020753          | 12          | Unhealthy<br>(EAB) |          | City      | N                |

Table 4: Summary of 2020 and 2024 Data for Individual Trees on Site with dbh ≥10 cm

| Species         | Scientific Name        | Count | Size Range (dbh<br>cm) | No. Live | No. Dead | No. to be<br>Removed | No. to be<br>Retained |
|-----------------|------------------------|-------|------------------------|----------|----------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| American Elm    | Ulmus americana        | 14    | 10-28                  | 10       | 4        | 12                   | 2                     |
| Black Cherry    | Prunus serotina        | 16    | 10-39                  | 16       | 0        | 15                   | 1                     |
| Black Walnut    | Juglans nigra          | 2     | 10-19                  | 2        | 0        | 2                    | 0                     |
| Bur Oak         | Quercus macrocarpa     | 1     | 12                     | 1        | 0        | 1                    | 0                     |
| Green Ash       | Fraxinus pennsylvanica | 35    | 10-33                  | 35       | 0        | 25                   | 10                    |
| Grey Birch      | Betula populifolia     | 1     | 16                     | 1        | 0        | 1                    | 0                     |
| Manitoba Maple  | Acer negundo           | 2     | 12-15                  | 2        | 0        | 2                    | 0                     |
| Silver Maple    | Acer saccharinum       | 1     | 42                     | 1        | 0        | 1                    | 0                     |
| Trembling Aspen | Populus tremuloides    | 1     | 20                     | 1        | 0        | 1                    | 0                     |
| White Ash       | Fraxinus americana     | 13    | 15-55                  | 13       | 0        | 13                   | 0                     |
| White Pine      | Pinus strobus          | 1     | 18                     | 1        | 0        | 1                    | 0                     |
| То              | tal                    | 87    | 10-55                  | 83       | 4        | 74                   | 13                    |

