

COUNCIL POLICY
5.3.3 – Protection of Plants and Trees
on District of Sechelt Public Lands

POLICY NAME	Protection of Plants and Trees on District of Sechelt Public Lands	POLICY NO.	5.3.3
POLICY OWNER	Director of Corporate and Community Services	REVIEW PERIOD	2029
EFFECTIVE DATE	June 5, 2024	RESOLUTION NO.	2024-6A-05
AMENDMENT DATE		AMENDMENT RESOLUTION NO.	

PURPOSE

To provide direction for Public Works, Community Services and Bylaw Enforcement staff in administering the provisions of the Highways and Parking Bylaw No. 516, 2012

OBJECTIVES

This policy seeks to:

- Direct how staff should apply the provisions of Bylaw No. 516 for damage to trees.
- Protect natural assets within the District.
- To provide means for trees to be removed when necessary.

SCOPE

- Trees on District lands.

DEFINITIONS

- As per District of Sechelt Highways and Parking Bylaw No. 516, 2012, and its amendments.

POLICY

1. The District of Sechelt endeavours to protect and preserve trees that are on District lands that are not within Parks or other similarly regulated areas.
2. Persons may request the removal of trees on District lands:
 - a. That are dangerous or hazardous as determined by an ISA certified Arborist.
 - b. As part of an approved development

3. Requests shall be in the form required by the Manager of Community Services; the District Arborist will review the request and make recommendations regarding the removal requests including but not limited to the number and species of trees for replacement and replanting and the maintenance of the replacement trees.
4. The Manager of Community Services or his/her designates will have the discretion to negotiate with property owners and make recommendations regarding tree removals and replanting.
5. Criteria for Approving Removal

a) Dangerous or Hazardous Trees

- Where the District of Sechelt Arborist has examined a tree or reviewed a report from a ISA certified arborist and submitted a report to the Manager of Community Services stating that the tree may pose or poses an imminent threat to public safety or a valid risk for damage to property.

b) Development or Driveways

- Removal of trees for development, access to a development or a driveway permit; application for removal must be made to the Manager of Community Services for all removals
- Roots of a tree are damaging infrastructure and there is no other means of mitigating the damage

c) Trees will not be removed for views or aesthetic reasons.