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# Staff Report

## Community Services

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**Report To:** Committee of the Whole  
**Meeting Date:** April 24, 2017  
**Report Number:** CSPW.17.050  
**Subject:** Georgian Trail Tree Cutting  
**Prepared by:** Terry Green, Manager of Parks and Trails

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### A. Recommendations

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THAT Council receive Staff Report CSPW.17.050 entitled "Georgian Trail Tree Cutting" for information purposes.

### B. Overview

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This report is to provide Council with an update on an operational project planned for tree removal along the Georgian Trail.

### C. Background

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Town of The Blue Mountains Staff are now responsible for the maintenance of the portion of the Georgian Trail from Christie Beach Road to Grey Road 21.

As per the 2016 Georgian Trail Recreational Trail Standards, which has been adopted by all three municipalities (Town of Collingwood, Town of The Blue Mountains and Municipality of Meaford), this work achieves the following sections;

- **Section 1.3** Width of the travelled portion of the Trail: The width of the travelled portion of the Georgian Trail will be designed to 2 meters where possible but shall be no less than 1.5 meters where drainage, topographical challenges and soil types do not allow 2 meters
- **Section 1.4** Clearance of Trail; Vertical clearance for the entire length of the Georgian Trail shall be 4 meters high to allow for emergency vehicle access. No branches, tree limbs or vines shall encroach the travelled portion of the Georgian Trail

### D. Analysis

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The trees along the section of the Georgian Trail from Highway 26 to Grey Road 40 are encroaching the travelled portion of the trail. Staff plan on having the trees cut back to the

ditch line on both sides to improve the clearance on the travelled portion of the trail as well as improve the drainage along this section.

Staff will install signs on the section of Georgian Trail from Highway 26 to Grey Road 40 and post a notice on the Town's website in advance of commencing the work.

## **E. The Blue Mountains Strategic Plan**

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Goal #3: Support Healthy Lifestyles

Goal #4: Promote a Culture of Organizational & Operational Excellence

Goal #5: Ensure Our Infrastructure is Sustainable

## **F. Environmental Impacts**

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Maintaining the Georgian Trail in a sustainable manner.

## **G. Financial Impact**

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Funding for this project will come from the 2017 approved Parks and Trails operating budget.

## **H. In consultation with**

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Arbtech Tree Care Services

Director of Community Services

## **I. Attached**

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1. Photos of Trail Sections

Respectfully submitted,

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Terry Green  
Manager of Parks and Trails

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Shawn Everitt  
Director of Community Services

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