



**GARRY OAK MEADOW
PRESERVATION SOCIETY**

Sunday, November 17, 2024

Dear Langford Mayor and Council,

I'm writing in regard to item 5.1 on the Nov 18th Council agenda.

Please support the Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) and the hiring of an arborist.

Wildlife-inclusive city planning and design, which views wildlife habitat and well-being as part of a healthy urban system, requires collaboration across disciplines.

Urban policy, planning and design can only adequately address wildlife citizens by incorporating experts such as arborists who can advise and provide technical expertise and biologically relevant data to inform the production of the urban forest strategy and renewal. However, the arborist cannot be the only one who can persuade the implementation of the UFMP's priorities. There needs to be an ongoing commitment of the Council and staff leadership to revisit and act upon the UFMP's priority recommendations to demonstrate good governance in urban forestry leadership.

Thank you,

Carollyne Yardley, B.A., M.F.A

Board Director, Garry Oak Meadow Preservation Society