



One *Learning* Community



SD#61 Forest Presentation

5 March 2018

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Overview

- SD#61 has responsibility for a large forest across the District
- Currently we have approximately 5700 trees on over 55 sites across the District
- Since the start of taking inventory in 2001 - over 2100 trees above 6 inches have been tagged and evaluated for their health and structure condition and the risk to District infrastructure



- Evaluations of the District Forest on are completed on a four year rotating schedule (i.e. 25% of Forest annually)

Overview (Continued)

- **We have the condition of the District Forest rated into four “Risk” categories as follows:**
 - Category 1 - are considered to be those needing the **most serious attention such as complete removal, or removal recommended if core density test not done to determine safety.**
 - Category 2 - are those that need to be **attended to for pruning out damaged and dead limbs, etc., for safety concerns as well.** Also, if the work isn't done they will soon become category 1's. Also need to be more closely monitored.
 - Category 3 - are those that there is **recommended work to be done to either improve the overall continued health, or address some minor safety issues.**
 - Category 4 - are generally in **good health** and only need to be monitored on a routine basis.

Overview (Continued)

- Given current District resourcing – we have only been able to address Category 1 and Category 2 rated trees
- District spends \$30K annually on external contractors. This is expected to grow annually.
- The Preventive Piece is missing (Category 3 and 4)
- Example - Last Year Inventory Status:
 - Category 1 = 67
 - Category 2 = 582
 - Category 3 = 982
 - Category 4 = 758

31% of Inventory on average in Need of Immediate Repair and Maintenance

Current Concerns

- Size of the forest and our inability to complete essential preventive maintenance to our tree canopy
- This brings with it annual loss of our tree canopy and risk to our safety issues to our users, our assets, and to neighbours property
- Over the past few years we have had a number of incidents of trees falling and causing damage
- Specific concerns at this time:
 - Frank Hobbs
 - Hillcrest

Examples Central Middle - 1 March 2018



Frank Hobbs – Damage to Neighbours – Jan 2017



Tree fell into Neighbours yard damaging fence and garden shed – January 2017

Frank Hobbs Elementary
Tree Locations

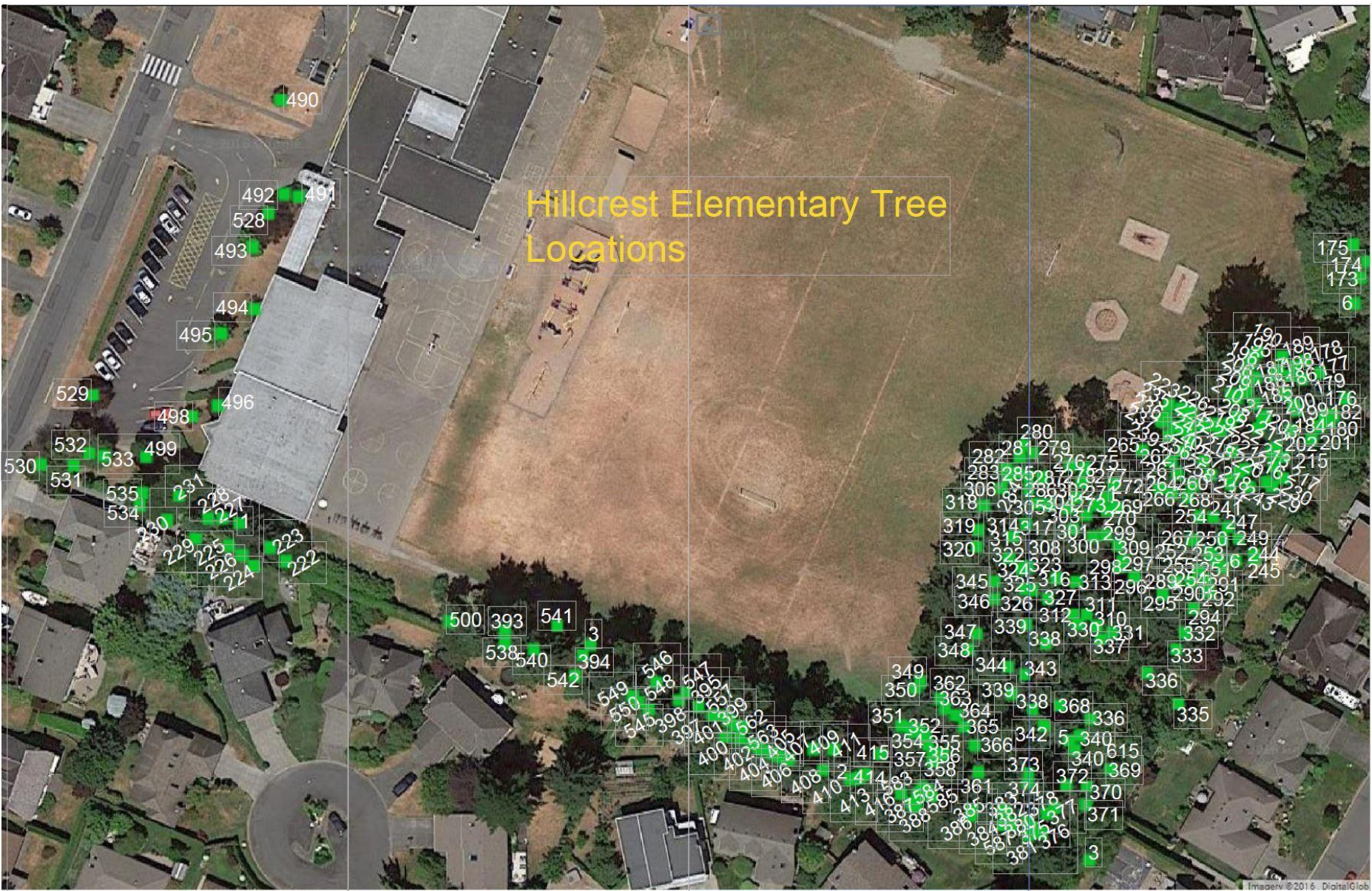
This aerial map displays the campus of Frank Hobbs Elementary, with numerous trees identified by numbered labels. The labels are distributed across the map, with a high concentration in the central and lower-left areas. The numbers are color-coded: green for labels 1 through 100, and black for labels 101 through 364. The map shows a mix of green spaces, paved areas, and surrounding residential neighborhoods.

Example of Tree Evaluation

Tree # (tag missing)	Tree Tag	Tree Species	Diameter At Breast Height (dbh)	Health	Structure	Observations	Height	Potential Targets
	16	Douglas-fir	94cm	Fair	Fair	Surface rooted, deadwood, endweighted.	31.5	B N
	17	Douglas-fir	78cm	Fair	Fair	Surface rooted, pitching from lower trunk, small deadwood, endweighted.	31.5	B N
	18	Douglas-fir	75cm	Fair	Fair	Surface rooted, small deadwood. Pitching from trunk seam.	31.5	B N
	19	Western Red cedar	49cm	Fair	Fair	Small deadwood	19.5	PE B
	150	Yew	51cm	Fair	Fair	Small deadwood	6.5	F PE M
	151	Lawson cypress	34cm	Fair	Fair	Multiple tops	13	F MP H M
	152	European birch	33cm	Poor	Poor	Sapsucker injury, bronze birch borer-dead top with fruiting bodies attached.	8	F MP
	154	Lawson cypress	37cm	Fair	Fair	Co-dominant tops	12.5	F N
	156	Lawson cypress	20cm	Fair	Fair/poor	Multiple tops, will compete with Garry oak in future for light.	5.5	F N
	158	Douglas-fir	85cm	Fair	Fair	Deadwood, endweight.	29.5	F N
	162	Douglas-fir	80cm	Fair	Fair/poor	Structure suggests previous topping, endweighted, growing in close proximity to arbutus.	20.5	F N
	163	Douglas-fir	85cm	Fair	Fair/poor	Structure suggests previous topping, one sided canopy.	14	N F
	165	Shore pine	44cm	Fair	Fair	Small deadwood	19	F N
	166	arbutus	78cm	Dead	Dead	Recently reduced nature snag	6.5	F N
	167	Douglas-fir	77cm	Fair	Fair	Pini fruiting bodies attached to trunk.	30	F N
	168	Douglas-fir	44cm	Fair	Fair	Trunk seam, suppressed, small deadwood	17.5	F N
	176	Douglas-fir	82cm	Fair	Fair	Deadwood, endweight	26.5	N F
	178	Douglas-fir	40cm	Fair	Fair/poor	Suppressed growth form. Deadwood.	14	F N
	179	Douglas-fir	84cm	Fair	Fair	Large deadwood, endweight.	25.5	N F
	180	Grand fir	87cm	Fair	Fair	Small deadwood	30	F N
	181	Douglas-fir	63cm	Fair	Fair	Deflected trunk suggests previous topping, small deadwood.	26.5	F N
	182	arbutus	80cm	Fair	Fair	Deadwood, trunk and branch canker with associated decay	26.5	F

Frank Hobbs Forest

- **Special Assessment done on this specific forest**
- **Trees Rated Good/Fair/Poor/Dead based on Health and Impact to Infrastructure**
- **Forest on the school property consists of 336 trees**
- **Majority of Trees Rated as Fair or Poor**
- **Concerns about falling trees that can:**
 - damage neighbours properties
 - seriously hurt students playing outside in the field
 - damage school property – currently the forest is prematurely aging the building envelope including moss growth on roof and now on new siding.



Hillcrest Forest

- **Special Assessment done on this specific forest**
- **Trees Rated Good/Fair/Poor/Dead based on Health and Impact to Infrastructure**
- **Forest on the school property consists of 289 trees that are rated as follows:**
- **Majority of Trees Fair/Poor**
- **Concerns about falling trees that can:**
 - damage neighbours properties
 - seriously hurt students playing outside in the field
 - damage school property

Specific Recommendations – Frank Hobbs/Hillcrest

- Staff contract for the significant thinning of both the Hillcrest and Frank Hobbs forests in order to minimize safety risks to community users, staff and students, and to protect school and neighbours property from potential damage and loss
- Consultation with Municipalities will be completed and permits acquired as required
- That a Public Notification and Consultation process be undertaken to inform public of plan and the reasons for tree cutting program
- Tress removed be saved and used for future District projects (Outdoor Classrooms and Nature-based Play Structures)
- That the tress that are removed be replaced in another area of the site or District as offsets for the lost tree canopy



Questions