1. **Health** -
to remove deadwood and branches affected by disease or insects.

2. **Structure** -
to remove weakly attached and broken branches, as well as branches that conflict with each other.

3. **Safety** -
to provide sidewalk and street clearance for pedestrians and motorists, to eliminate traffic sight obstructions, to prevent damage to street trees caused by trucks clipping branches as they pass under them, and to keep trees clear of traffic signals, street lights, etc.

4. **Trimming Cycle** -
with over 127,000 trees to take care of, it can be as long as 11 years before a Forestry crew can return to prune the same tree again. That means arborists may have to cut enough to keep branches at a safe height, not just for now, but for the next 11 years.

5. **Future Growth** -
since the Forestry Section may not be able to return for up to 11 years to prune a tree again, it is necessary to plan for the future by removing branches now to promote growth which will not conflict with the site and to make smaller pruning cuts now instead of larger ones later.