

Create code for native tree protection

The need to create a code for the local tree population is important. It should cover residential single family, multi family, public and commercial property, so it covers all trees within the city limits specimen and native trees that meet the criteria of being over 24" or over 50 years old will be covered. No protected tree shall be intentionally removed, destroyed, or disturbed without the written consent of the city arborist in the form of an approved tree conservation plan, tree disturbance permit, tree removal permit or tree information permit. The city will create a tree advisory board.

The following are prohibited acts under this chapter unless expressly exempted:

A. Landmark Tree. To prune, injure, or to remove without a permit, a landmark tree located anywhere in the city.

B. Native Tree. To injure, or to remove without a permit, any native tree located in the established front yard, required side yard, established corner yard, or required rear yard of all property located in a single-family residential or RM-12 multifamily residential zone, and in all areas of all other zoning district anywhere in the city.

City Wide

*A goal amount of 25 percent tree canopy coverage, 45 percent in parks and public spaces and parking lots

*No new building, parking lots or trenching within 35' of grand oaks trunk respecting the health of rootball of the tree, giving a 35 ft space for critical root zone. Permeable pavement utilized when appropriate.

* Any permit or approval will be required which will result in injury to or removal of a mature, landmark tree

*Removal of public protected trees shall require approval required by commission

*create a 50-foot setback around wetlands

*the city will make an effort to trim dead limbs instead of remove entire tree, if that tree is the only tree in the area that provides shade

Arborist responsibilities

*The City Arborist should have the flexibility to protect healthy trees from being clear cut to the ground and make determinations on the future of the trees.

*The City Arborist will maintain a comprehensive inventory of protected century trees

*The City Arborist should have the flexibility to protect healthy trees from being clear cut to the ground. Make determinations

*City Arborist can take up to 10% of land when a healthy tree over the estimated age of 100 years if on the property, especially when it is near the perimeter. Limits of disturbance: areas where trees, vegetation, and soils are to be protected and preserved and areas where trees, vegetation, and soils are to be removed or modified. This includes indicating proposed grading, utilities, and improvements as well as access, staging, and storage areas. The plan shall graphically identify each tree to be saved or removed. A minimum of 10 percent of the total land area of the development shall be devoted to greenspace

*Any person or city agency may propose to the historic preservation commission that a tree meets the criteria. The city arborist will hold the responsibility to inspect and grant approval of status.

* City Arborist has the authority to grant or deny request to permit tree removal

Residential Property

*If multiple trees are on the property that are requesting to be taken down. If over 60% of trees are saved, than fees waived.

*Applicant investigated and submitted alternative site designs and building footprints for inspection and review of the city arborist and approval of city commission

*Where a property owner wishes to remove a tree protected under this ordinance must be evaluated by the city arborist and then approved by the commission

*any person who wishes to trim a protected tree on an adjoining property, the process remains the same.

When requesting to remove a landmark-eligible, century, grandfather, native or specimen tree protected under this chapter shall be denied unless one of the following findings is made

Tree is a hazard

Tree is unhealthy

When site removal of protected tree is approved, the developer may request the following

Planting a replacement of equaling 50% of total inches of tree removed. A 24 inch diameter tree measured at Caliper, is removed, than 12" of tree must be planted within 6 months. Caliper: The diameter measurement of a tree's trunk taken six (6) inches above the ground for trees up to and including four (4) inches caliper size, and twelve (12) inches above the ground for trees exceeding four (4) inches caliper size.

To pay a fee instead of planting on site at \$100 per diameter inch up to \$10,000. If tree is removed or pruned to the detriment of tree without approval, fine will be automatically billed at maximum.

Any person aggrieved by a decision may appeal to the city manager and request a public hearing

Recommended Categories

Native

Grand

Specimen

Request to establish a Tree preservation committee that will meet and review all request for removal, trimming or establishing of any of the trees protected in this ordinance and give their recommendations to the City Commission.