



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Brad Reid, Director of Parks and Recreation

Date: May 12, 2015

Reference: Presentation related to recommendations by the Tree Board to make changes to the Tree Preservation Ordinance

2030: **Sustainable City Government:** Green City Operations and Facilities

Introduction:

The Tree Board responded to a request by the Coppel Historical Society tree subcommittee to evaluate and update the city's 1996 Tree Preservation Ordinance with an emphasis on identifying and conserving historic trees, adjusting mitigation fees and clarifying ordinance terminology. The Tree Board formed a subcommittee of its own at the March 3, 2014 meeting. The subcommittee consisted of two board members (Maureen Corcoran and Philip Houm) and two staff members (Guy McLain and John Elias). The board subcommittee proceeded to conduct meetings with the Coppel Historical Society, the City of Coppel Economic Development Committee and citizens of Coppel to collect information about potential impacts and conflicts. A Tree Ordinance comparison was conducted which included documents from the cities of Grapevine, Southlake, Frisco, Flower Mound and Allen. On March 2, 2015 the board subcommittee presented proposed recommended changes to the Tree Preservation Ordinance to the Tree Board. The Board approved making a recommendation to City Council for the proposed changes to the Tree Preservation Ordinance.

Analysis:

The Tree Board recommends the following changes to the current Division 2. Tree Preservation Requirements (of Chapter 12 – Zoning. Article 34. - Landscape Requirements):

Sec. 12-34-2-4. Definitions:

(F) RECOMMEND: Change the definition of "Historic Tree" to include a size/age qualification (40"+ or 100+ years old)

(N)RECOMMEND: Change definition of "Specimen Tree" to include a size qualification (24"+)

Sec. 12-34-2-11. Tree Removal Permit

RECOMMEND: Add the following: (F) “After permit is issued, higher mitigation fees will apply. Trees requested to be removed at this point will be mitigated at two (2) times the new standard fee proposed in Sec. 12-34-2-12 (\$400 per one inch DBH).

Sec. 12-34-2-12. Protected Tree Replacement

(B) 1. RECOMMEND: For protected trees, reparation will be made in the amount of \$200 per one inch DBH from the \$100 current fee.

(B) 2. RECOMMEND: Include language that Historic Trees must be preserved and cannot be removed unless “hardship” is applied for and approved by the City Council.

Legal Review:

Agenda item does not require legal review.

Fiscal Impact:

No fiscal impact will result from this item

Recommendation:

No Council action is required on this item at this time. The item will be brought back as an ordinance revision at a later date if the Council is favorable to the changes.