



MEMORANDUM

To: Planning, Zoning, and Architectural Review Commission

From: Cassie Harashe, AICP

Date: April 14, 2021

Subject: Tree Preservation Draft Language

At the March 3, 2021 Planning, Zoning, and Architectural Review Commission meeting the consultant SWT brought forward for discussion their preliminary findings and suggestions for the landscape code update. An area the Commission felt needed further discussion was the Tree Preservation portion of the code.

SWT based on feedback received, SWT drafted the attached language. It discusses the purpose, under what type of applications these requirements would need to be met, what needs to be included on the plan, the types of trees it is applicable to, how to calculate the amount of new planting, protecting trees that are to be saved, establishing a variance procedure, and violations and penalties.

The area of most interest will probably be subsection **5.c-Replacement of Protected Trees**.

- The code establishes that only trees of protected species that are over 18” in diameter or 56.52” around (Circumference: $C = 2\pi r$; $C = 2\pi 9$; $C=56.52$ ”) at breast height (DBH) need to be replaced.
- The code states that 3” should be planted for every 9” removed. If an 18” tree is removed, 6” need to be planted. ($18 \div 9 = 2$; $2 \times 3 = 6$).
- Trees that are planted must be a minimum of 2”, therefore 3 trees need to be planted.
- If they do not wish to plant additional trees or are unable to plant some or all of the trees due to space restrictions, they can contribute to the tree fund in the amount of \$250 per caliper inch required to be planted.
 - Using the example above, the applicant needs to plant three 2” trees. If they can only plant one, they need to contribute \$1000 to the Tree

Fund. ($6 - 2 = 4$; $4 \times 250 = 1000$).

- The applicant can utilize any combination of planting and money to meet the code requirements.

- The City can use these funds to plant trees in other areas of the City to help preserve the tree canopy of the city and to further meet the overall goals of the landscape ordinance.