



**May 28, 2024 City Council Meeting
Ordinance No. 5145 (Docket G 3-23). Chapter 17.58 "Trees" –
Zoning Ordinance Amendments**

Ordinance No. 5145

Docket G 3-23. Chapter 17.58 "Trees" Amendments

- **Follow Procedure for an Ordinance.** Consider Ordinance No. 5145 / Planning Commission recommendation to City Council for Legislative Amendment to Zoning Ordinance.

Ordinance No. 5145

Docket G 3-23. Chapter 17.58 "Trees" Amendments

- **Legislative Amendment to Zoning Ordinance.**

- Amend provisions of Chapter 17.58 "Trees" of the Zoning Ordinance
- Create categories of "Simple" and "Complex" permits for Street Tree Removal, and add related definitions
- Also amends 17.06.045 – Tree-Related Definitions relating to the new terms "simple" and "complex" permit applications

- **Staff Review:**

- Applications for "Simple" Removal Permits and Major Pruning

- **Landscape Review Committee Review:**

- Applications for "Complex" Removal Permits

- Update provisions for internal consistency

- Update provisions for administration of tree permits

Ordinance No. 5145

Docket G 3-23. Chapter 17.58 "Trees" Amendments

Criteria:

- Consistency with the Comprehensive Plan
- Consistency with the Purpose of the Zoning Ordinance
- Consistency with the Purpose of Chapter 17.58 (Trees)

Ordinance No. 5145

Docket G 3-23. Chapter 17.58 "Trees" Amendments

Background and Summary:

- Landscape Review Committee worked with staff on amendments. Docket G 3-23 originally included amendments to Chapter 17.57 (Landscaping) and Chapter 17.58 (Trees).
- Work has been split to allow additional time to work on Landscape Amendments with the Landscape Review Committee (LRC) while this part of work moves forward.
- Currently, all street tree removal permit applications are reviewed by the LRC (except those in Downtown Tree Zone, limited exemptions)
- Current proposal will allow for staff review of applications for "Simple" tree removal permits and major pruning* without sending all applications to the LRC. (Permits are not required for minor pruning).
- These are applications that are routinely approved by the LRC and typically require replacement with new street trees.

Major Pruning – Removal of over 20 percent of the tree's canopy, any tree topping, or disturbances of over 10 percent of the root system.

Ordinance No. 5145

Docket G 3-23. Chapter 17.58 "Trees" Amendments

Background and Summary:

- **Streamline routine processing at this time**
- Build on prior work of LRC and Staff
 - Update applicability as recommended by LRC
 - Update criteria for "Simple" removal permit applications
 - Differentiate/add criteria for Major Pruning permit applications
 - Add criteria for "Complex" removal permit application
 - Reconcile code sections for internal consistency
 - Add definitions per Planning Commission recommendation
 - Update provisions re: administration of permits
- Leave tree/infrastructure separation standards as-is at this time
 - Work with other staff/agencies and bring back at time of Landscape Amendments
- No major policy change components at this time such as Goal 5 natural feature provisions, which will come later.

Ordinance No. 5145

Docket G 3-23. Chapter 17.58 "Trees" Amendments

- **Planning Commission:**

- Planning Commission **recommended approval** of Docket G 3-23
- No public testimony at April 18, 2024 Planning Commission hearing
- Ordinance No. 5145 reflects Planning Commission recommendation, incorporating definitions, typographical corrections
- Updated provisions re: permit administration

- **Fiscal Impact:**

- Most common street tree removal permit applications require review by the Landscape Review Committee
- Routinely approved and conditioned on replacement trees
- Disproportionate share of staff and LRC time and resources
- Adoption of Ordinance would allow **administrative processing of routine permits** by staff achieving **significant efficiency**

Ordinance No. 5145

Docket G 3-23. Chapter 17.58 "Trees" Amendments

- **City Council Options:**

- Adopt Ordinance No. 5145
- Adopt Ordinance No. 5145 in an amended form
- Call for a Public Hearing
- Refuse to adopt the Ordinance

- **Recommendation:**

- Staff recommends approval of Ordinance No. 5145, consistent with the Planning Commission recommendation for the proposed Zoning Ordinance amendments (Docket G 3-23).

- **Thank you!**

- Questions for Staff?