

**Dripping Springs ISD
Interlocal Agreement Summary
April 21, 2026**

Tree Mitigation			
Topic	Code (CODS)	ILA Proposal (DSISD)	Comparison / Impact
Heritage Tree Definition	Heritage tree = 18" DBH or greater, except certain small species that qualify at 8" DBH.	Heritage tree = 24" DBH or greater, and 18" for small tree species.	ILA raises the threshold, meaning fewer trees qualify as heritage trees, reducing protection requirements.
Standard Tree Definition	Standard trees are protected trees defined in the code and counted toward preservation requirements.	Standard tree defined as 8"-23.9" DBH.	ILA creates a simplified size-based definition that may differ slightly from the code's species-based thresholds.
Standard Tree Preservation Requirement	40% of total DBH inches of standard trees must be preserved through the tree preservation plan.	20% of total DBH inches of standard trees preserved.	Half required preservation from standard code
Heritage Tree Preservation Requirement	Heritage trees must be preserved unless a waiver is granted by the Development Review Committee.	Heritage trees do not require a removal waiver but must be mitigated.	Code prioritizes preservation, while the ILA allows removal with mitigation only.
Heritage Tree Mitigation Ratio	3:1 replacement ratio (three inches planted per inch removed).	1:1 mitigation ratio.	ILA significantly reduces mitigation requirement.
Standard Tree Mitigation Ratio	1:1 replacement ratio.	Not explicitly modified.	Appears consistent unless further modified in the ILA.
Heritage Tree Mitigation Fee	\$450 per inch DBH (removed).	\$150 per inch DBH (removed).	ILA is 1/3 code fee.
Maximum Tree Mitigation Fee	No per-acre mitigation cap referenced in the code section.	Maximum mitigation fee capped at \$10,000 per acre.	ILA introduces a hard cap that could greatly reduce mitigation payments on large school sites.
Alternative Mitigation Options	Code primarily relies on replacement trees or mitigation fee.	Allows alternative strategies (rainwater reuse, condensate reuse, drought-adapted landscaping).	ILA expands mitigation tools beyond tree replacement.
Fees			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Base Fees – Waived • 3rd Party Review Fees – Cost+20% (unchanged from fee schedule) • District to grant easement for Rathgeber park at no cost to the City. 			

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Lighting Compliance	Subject to full Lighting (Dark Sky) Ordinance, including curfews and shielding requirements.	Must comply with Lighting Ordinance but with modified operational allowances.	ILA generally maintains compliance but introduces operational flexibility.
Lighting Curfew	Strict curfew limits for non-residential uses.	Lights allowed 30 minutes before and up to 1 hour after events or staff activities.	ILA relaxes curfew standards for school operations.
Athletic Facility Lighting	Subject to standard lighting restrictions.	Explicitly allowed with extended hours tied to events.	ILA provides clarity and expanded use for athletic facilities.
Sign Permit Requirements	Permits generally required depending on sign type and location.	No permit required for most school signage unless visible from ROW or noncompliant.	ILA reduces administrative oversight of signage.
Internal / Campus Signage	Regulated under sign ordinance.	District has full control of internal signage (except ROW).	ILA shifts control to District for on-campus signage.
Monument Signs	Subject to size and type restrictions under code.	Allowed up to 8' height, 14' length, 84 sq ft, including electronic.	ILA establishes specific allowances that may differ from code limits.
Electronic Signs	Strict regulations on size, frequency of change, and display characteristics.	Message may change more frequently; no flashing/scrolling.	ILA loosens operational restrictions on electronic signage.
Windscreens	Typically regulated as signage depending on visibility.	Allowed, including outward-facing on tennis courts.	ILA clarifies and expands allowable use of windscreens.