



CITY COUNCIL CONSENT ITEM

CITY OF FAIR OAKS RANCH, TEXAS

July 20, 2023

AGENDA TOPIC: Approval of the second reading of an ordinance amending the City of Fair Oaks Ranch Code of Ordinances, Chapter 1 "General Provisions," Article 1.07 "Trees and Shrubs" to include updated definitions, and to add new sections defining the authority and responsibility of public trees

DATE: July 20, 2023

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

PRESENTED BY: Consent Agenda - Kelsey Delgado, Environmental Program Manager

INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND:

The first reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 1 Article 1.07 to include the authority and responsibility for trees on public properties was passed and approved by City Council on July 6, 2023.

These updates included:

- Updating the definitions to include new terms such as "Unimproved Shoulder," "Adjacent Property Owner," "Right-of-Way," etc.;
- Including two new sections that clearly define the authority and responsibility of public trees on public properties and the adjacent property owner's responsibility; and
- Including a new Section that prohibits the harming of trees on public properties.

By amending Chapter 1, Article 1.07 to include these revisions, the City may qualify for Tree City USA® recognition. This program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation and is used to recognize cities that show their commitment to maintaining and protecting their urban forest.

POLICY ANALYSIS/BENEFIT(S) TO CITIZENS:

- Advances Strategic Action Plan Priority 2.5 to Develop, Implement and Update Environmental Sustainability Programs
- Solidifies the responsibility of public trees.
- Helps obtain Tree City USA® recognition for the city from the Arbor Day Foundation.
- Protects trees on public properties and helps maintain the rural hill country aesthetic for which the city is known.
- Shows the City's commitment to environmental stewardship.

LONGTERM FINANCIAL & BUDGETARY IMPACT:

Currently not anticipated.

LEGAL ANALYSIS:

City Attorney has reviewed and approved the ordinance as to form.

RECOMMENDATION/PROPOSED MOTION:

Consent Agenda- I move to approve the second reading of an ordinance amending the City of Fair Oaks Ranch Code of Ordinances Chapter 1 "General Provisions," Article 1.07 "Trees and Shrubs" to include updated definitions, and to add new sections defining the authority and responsibility of public trees.