



CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP

CITY OF FAIR OAKS RANCH, TEXAS

February 2, 2023

AGENDA TOPIC: Tree Preservation Workshop
DATE: February 2, 2023
DEPARTMENT: Public Works Department
PRESENTED BY: Emily Stroup, City Council Member Place 1
Kelsey Delgado, Environmental Program Manager

INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND:

In November 2022, a resident voiced concerns regarding tree removal on a neighboring property. Currently, there is no city ordinance that disallows the removal of trees on existing residential lots. To further explore this topic, a future agenda item was requested by Council. This workshop presentation was developed in response to that request and to gauge Council's interest in changing or expanding our current tree maintenance and preservation ordinances.

The goal of this workshop is to review the city's current tree regulations, understand what other municipalities have adopted and discuss potential updates to our ordinances and the associated impacts of implementation that could further protect existing trees within Fair Oaks Ranch.

Additionally, updating our ordinances to formally place the ownership and maintenance of public trees on the city is one step towards being designated as a Tree City. Tree City USA® is an Arbor Day Foundation program that recognizes cities and towns across the U.S. that are committed to maintaining and protecting our urban forests.

Staff is seeking Council guidance in a future tree ordinance update, if any. However, no Council action is requested as part of this workshop.

POLICY ANALYSIS/BENEFIT(S) TO CITIZENS:

- Protects mature trees within Fair Oaks Ranch and helps maintain the rural hill country aesthetic the city is known for.
- Helps obtain Tree City USA® designation for the city from the Arbor Day Foundation.

LONG-TERM FINANCIAL & BUDGETARY IMPACT:

NA

LEGAL ANALYSIS:

NA

RECOMMENDATION/PROPOSED MOTION:

NA