



# WORK SESSION AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

City Council

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## STAFF

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Kendra Boot, City Forester  
Noah Beals, Development Review Manager  
Mike Calhoun, Parks Department Director  
Dean Klingner, Interim Director, Community Services  
Ted Hewitt, Legal

## SUBJECT FOR DISCUSSION

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**Land Use Code Audit Related to Forestry.**

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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The purpose of this work session is to provide an overview of the land use code audit as it relates to tree-related landscape standards and to seek Council feedback on the direction of tree policy update opportunities that have been identified.

## GENERAL DIRECTION SOUGHT AND SPECIFIC QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED

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1. Does Council support these opportunities to improve tree-related land use code policies?
2. What general questions or feedback does Council have on the proposed direction? What additional information is needed?

## BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

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The Forestry Division hired Clarion Associates to provide a peer-city report on code standards and best practices with a focus on *tree protection and preservation* as well as *tree canopy enhancement*. Staff created an ad hoc committee which included cross-departmental City staff and external landscape architects and CSU staff members to review both the existing land use code and Clarion Associates report to identify gaps and opportunities of the tree-related policy.

## NEXT STEPS

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- **Additional engagement with City staff and stakeholders.** Additional engagement with internal and external stakeholders is needed to fully understand potential impacts to the development community.
- **Identify and develop resources needed to implement future code updates.** Some of the proposed code opportunities will need additional resources, tracking systems and structure to be successful long-term. Staff will align with other City departments to explore what opportunities currently exist and where they may need to develop new processes.

- **Code development and adoption.** With feedback from Council, Boards and Commissions, stakeholders and the public, the project team will continue to hone these opportunities and the associated potential impacts to development. First reading of an ordinance to updated codes for new and redevelopment can be anticipated in Q3 2023 based on Council's direction.
  - High Priority – Q3 2023
    - Escrow for tree establishment
    - Improve mitigation standards to incentivize preservation
    - Consider increasing penalties for tree removal on commercial development
  - Lower Priority
    - Explore a Heritage Tree Program – *Urban Forest Strategic Plan engagement*
    - Investigate parking lot standards / tree replacement enforcement – *LUC Phase 2*
    - Review options to best advise / influence residential redevelopment on tree protection and preservation – *Building Permit Process*

## ATTACHMENTS

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1. Council Memo, June 24, 2022
2. Clarion Associates – Best Practices report
3. Presentation