



GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA DATE: November 9, 2022

AGENDA ITEM: Consider a motion to rescind the original Tree Trimming and Removal Policy and to adopt Resolution Number 11-09-22-9 approving the Vegetation Management Policy.

PREPARED BY: Jeremy Goodell, Electric Department Manager

BACKGROUND:

The original Tree Trimming and Removal Policy was reviewed with several changes and additions made to the original policy. The original policy focused on tree trimming and removal requests from customers and GRPU personnel, along with emergency tree trimming. GRPU has since shifted to a regular maintenance program which include regular tree trimming and removal for power line clearance, along with proper access to their equipment through their right of ways. The new policy includes a name change to Vegetation Management Policy reflected new goals moving forward.

New or revised policy goals include:

- Vegetation Control Specifications to be used to guide contractors, GRPU, and customers on trimming and removal of trees along with right of way maintenance
- City of Grand Rapids aligned goals and Environmental Stewardship
- Right of way minimum clearances
- Danger tree qualifications
- Guidance for customer and contractor tree removal independent of GRPU tree trimming activity

The attached Vegetation Management policy was drafted for your review during the October 28th Commission Work Session and is presented for your approval.

RECOMMENDATION:

Consider a motion to rescind the original Tree Trimming and Removal Policy and to adopt Resolution Number 11-09-22-9 approving the Vegetation Management Policy.