

STAFF REPORT REGULAR MEETING

AGENDA DATE: July 18, 2023

DEPARTMENT: Community Sustainability

TITLE:

Ordinance No. 2023-14 – First Reading - Revising Sections 2-82 & 2-83 relating to the City Tree Board, and changing its name to the Tree & Landscape Board

SUMMARY:

At the May 16, 2023 City Commission meeting, the City Commission provided direction on proposed changes to the name and official duties / functions of the City Tree Board. The proposed ordinance is intended to reflect that direction, including renaming the board to the Tree & Landscape Board.

BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION:

The City Tree Board was created in 1990. Sections 2-82 & 2-83 of the City's Code of Ordinances, which establish the board's advisory function and composition, were last amended in 2004 (Ordinance 2004-48). At the April 17, 2023 work session, the City Commission provided direction on desired future changes to the name of the board, and its functions and composition. An initial draft (Ordinance 2023-08) was presented to the City Commission on May 16, 2023, where the Commission requested modifications to the proposed ordinance for clarity and to continue the first reading to July. The proposed modified ordinance with a new ordinance number (Ordinance 2023-14) is presented for the review and approval of the City Commission.

The revisions to the Ordinance include: changing the name of the board; reducing the number of members from seven (7) to five (5); providing for technical qualifications for two (2) of the five (5) board members; modifying language regarding board member terms for consistency Section 2-9; clarifying the board's authority to reflect its existing activities, including outreach and public education; and, allowing for the review of changes to City's landscaping review for consistency with the University of Florida's Florida-Friendly Landscaping Program and industry best practices only.

MOTION:

Move to approve/disapprove Ordinance No. 2023-14 on first reading, setting the second reading and public hearing for August 1, 2023.

ATTACHMENT(S):

Ordinance 2023-14