

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

DATE: November 15, 2022

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Melinda Moritz, Public Works Director

THROUGH: Crystal Caldera, City Manager

SUBJECT: Presentation and Discussion to Consider Approval of an Ordinance amending the Leon Valley Code of Ordinances, Chapter 1 General Provisions, Article 1.06 Boards, Commissions, and Committees, Section 1.06.002 Tree Advisory Board, (a), (b), and (c) to dissolve the Tree Advisory Board and assign those duties to the Park Commission (1st Read as Required by City Charter)

SPONSOR(S): City Council

PURPOSE

This item is to consider dissolving the Tree Advisory Board (TAB) and assigning their duties to the Park Commission.

The TAB is tasked with hearing and making recommendations to the City Council on variance requests from citizens and the business and development community. The TAB also supports the City's "El Verde by 2025" 10,000 tree planting challenge. There have been several occasions in which there was no quorum to hold a meeting, which resulted in a resident or a business/developer having to put plans on hold, as the variance requests are not moved forward to the City Council for a final decision until such time as a recommendation has been made.

The city has had a challenging time in the recent past of obtaining enough volunteers to seat members to the various committees. In some cases, the Committees have had duplicative efforts, such as the Hike & Bike Trail and Pool Advisory Committees. The tasks assigned to those two committees should have rightfully been assigned to the Park Commission (those two committees have since been sunsetted).

The Park Commission holds regular meetings and makes recommendations to City Council for the planting of trees and other amenities in city parks and is fully capable of hearing and making recommendations for tree variance requests and fulfilling the City's goal of planting 10,000 trees by 2025

SEE LEON VALLEY

Social Equity – Reducing the number of boards, commissions, and committees reduces the possibility of not having enough volunteers and assures all citizens that city

business continues smoothly and efficiently.

Economic Development – The efficient management of city business assures the development community that their requests for variances will be heard and decided timely, which may result in more economic development.

Environmental Stewardship – Having a committee that supports the El Verde by 2025 tree planting challenge will assure the city's goal is met on time and continues to improve the environment.

FISCAL IMPACT

The dissolution will reduce the amount of staff time, and electrical and water usage at city meeting facilities.

STRATEGIC GOALS

N/A.

RECOMMENDATION

At City Council discretion.

ATTEST :

SAUNDRA PASSAILAIGUE, TRMC
City Secretary