



AGENDA REPORT SUMMARY

Meeting Date: May 24, 2022

Subject Tree Protection Ordinance

Prepared by: Jon Maginot, Assistant City Manager

Approved by: Gabriel Engeland, City Manager

Attachment(s): None

Initiated by:
City Council

Previous Council Consideration:
List dates

Fiscal Impact:
None

Environmental Review:
Not applicable

Policy Question(s) for Council Consideration:

- Does the Council wish to have the Environmental Commission and staff review the City's Tree Protection Ordinance?

Summary:

- The City's Tree Protection Ordinance (Los Altos Municipal Code Chapter 11.08) provides regulations regarding the removal of certain types of trees within the City of Los Altos
- The Ordinance was last updated in 2007

Staff Recommendation:

Direct the Environmental Commission to work with City staff to evaluate the City's Tree Protection Ordinance and recommend changes as needed

City Manager

GE

Reviewed By:

City Attorney

JH

Finance Director

JE



Subject: Tree Protection Ordinance

Purpose

To direct the Environmental Commission and staff to review the City's Tree Protection Ordinance

Background

The City's Tree Protection Ordinance (Los Altos Municipal Code Chapter 11.08) was intended to protect trees within the City and contains regulations regarding the removal of certain types of trees. The Ordinance was last updated in 2007.

Discussion/Analysis

The Tree Protection Ordinance includes restrictions on what and how trees may be removed and requires permits for removal of certain sized trees. However, a preliminary review by staff has indicated that there are certain elements of the ordinance that are either missing or lacking.

It is recommended that staff work with the Environmental Commission to review the current ordinance and to recommend changes as needed. These changes would serve the purpose of establishing clear approval criteria for tree removal permits, clear replacement standards, and updating fees.

Options

- 1) Direct staff to work with the Environmental Commission to evaluate the City's Tree Protection Ordinance and recommend changes as needed

Advantages: Would allow the opportunity to review and update the City's Tree Protection Ordinance

Disadvantages: None identified

- 2) Direct staff to independently review the ordinance

Advantages: Would allow the opportunity to review and update the City's Tree Protection Ordinance

Disadvantages: Would not allow for review by the Environmental Commission

- 3) Take no action

Advantages: None identified



Subject: Tree Protection Ordinance

Disadvantages: The City would continue to operate under the current tree regulations

Recommendation

The staff recommends Option 1.