

Tree Management Code

Medina's Arborists



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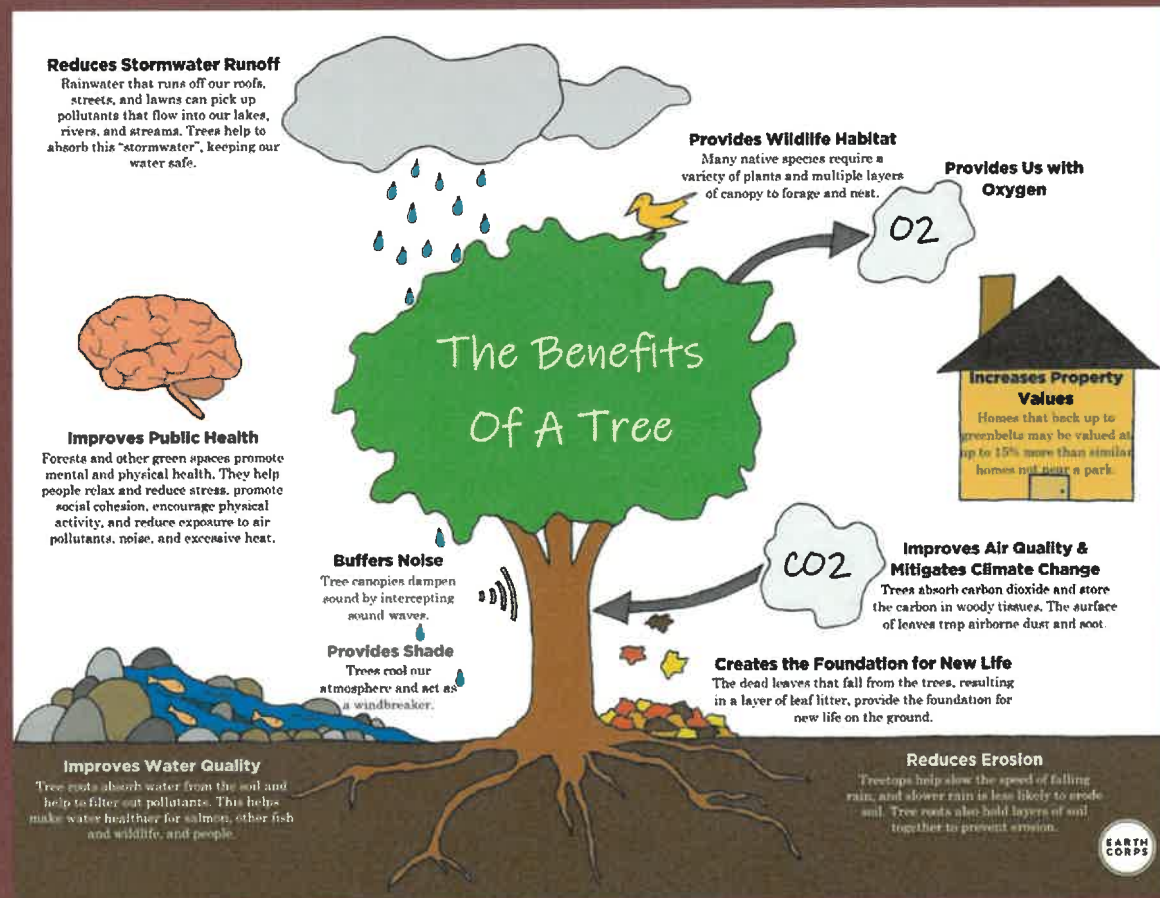
Importance of Urban Forest and Tree Canopy

Trees provide a multitude of benefits and services.

These services have value and provide numerous "assets".

Science supports that people are happier and healthier when they have access to nature.

Property values are higher in areas with large mature tree canopy.



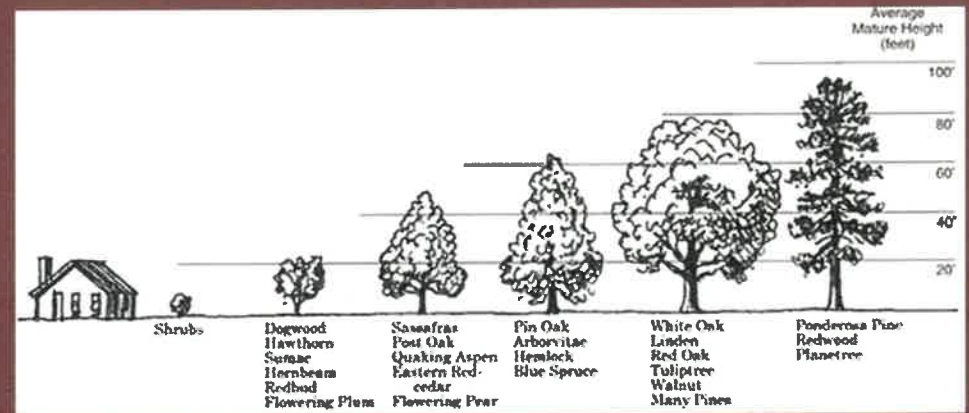
Tree Canopy is being lost in Medina



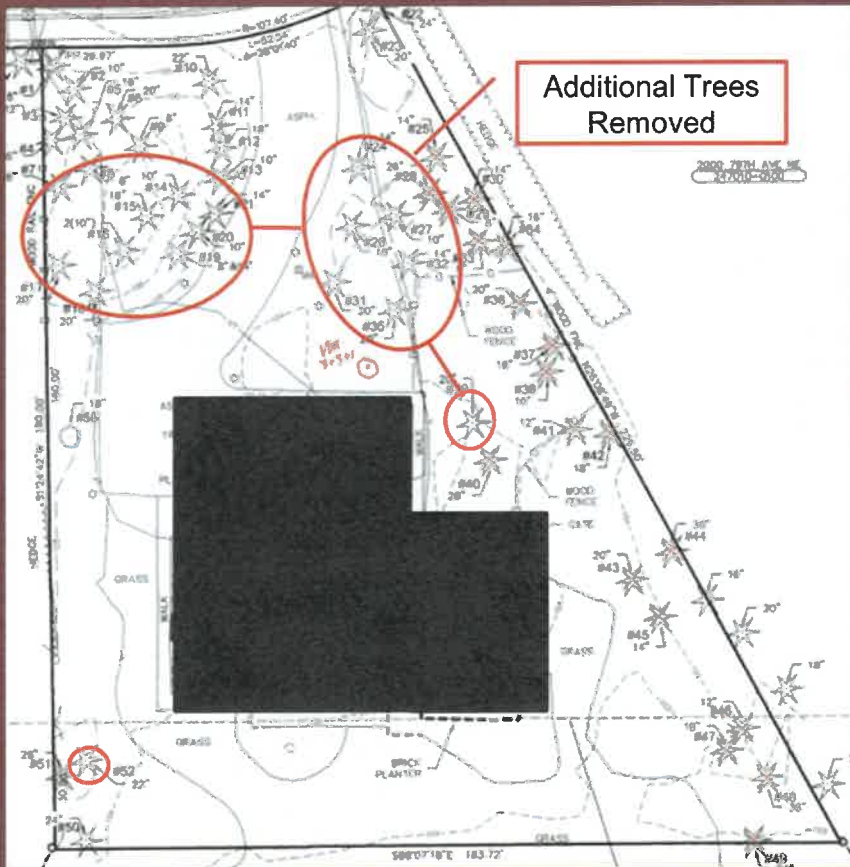
- The intent of the Tree Mangement Code is not being fully achieved.
- Significant tree canopy is being removed and not adequately being replaced.
- Tree species diversity is decreasing.
- Tree protection during construction not prioritized or realized.
- Land under development is held to a lower replacement standard then land not under development.
- Non-development projects - little to prevent indiscriminate tree removal

Development- Observations

- 2022 Code changes address design phase issues.
- Legacy and Landmark tree requirements working?
- Standards replace trees removed, not canopy lost.
- Minimum standards producing limited results:
 - "Supplemental trees in excess of those needed to meet the minimum required tree units shall not be required."
 - Attrition and replacement (significant) tree removal.
 - Future canopy loss due to construction impacts.
- Tree permits allow for building permit approval, then adjusted to meet site objectives.
- Minimum standards and supplemental planting.



Minimum Tree Standards and Canopy Preservation



Lot Size >25K sq. Ft.
10 Tree Units Required

2016

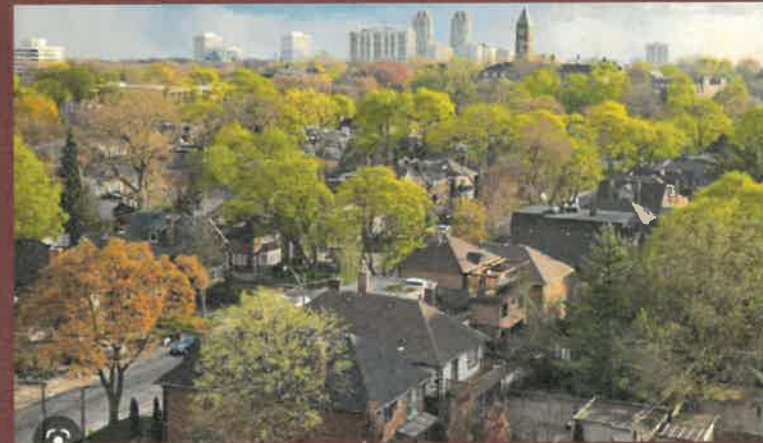
- Significant trees removed; minimum standards achieved - no replacement required.

2022

- Significant trees proposed for removal; if approved, minimum standards achieved - no replacement required.

Development Observations - Supplemental Planting

- Purpose - Preserve the existing sylvan appearance through long-term preservation and planting of trees."
- Large tree canopy is being replaced by small tree canopy.
- Deciduous trees lack diversity, species selection driven by availability.
- Native vs. Non-native
- Native Tree Concerns:
 - Maple Decline and Sooty Bark Disease
 - Western Red Cedar Decline
 - Bronze Birch Borer/ Emerald Ash Borer
 - Port Orford Cedar – Phytophthora
 - Mt. Pine Beetle/ Blue Stain Fungus
- No tracking system to ensure supplemental trees are viable or remain after installation, as required by code.
- Measurable Goal?



Non-development Observations



- There are no restrictions in place to remove any significant, landmark, or legacy trees provided the following criteria is met:
 - *Trees are outside of critical areas and their associated setbacks*
 - *Meet the minimum retention requirements set forth in 16.52.010*
 - *Are replaced or found on property (if necessary) per 16.52.110.*
- As a result, healthy trees that are low-risk and defect/disease free could be removed for any reason.
- Medina currently allows several species of small trees to be used as replacements for large trees. These trees are often favored over native conifers as replacement trees.

Questions and Discussion



Recommended Adjustments: Short-term Solutions

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- Remove - "Supplemental trees in excess of those needed to meet the minimum required tree units shall not be required."
- Require species that can attain a similar canopy size to trees being removed.
- Expand "List of Suitable Trees" to allow select deciduous non-native species.
- Tree preservation plan shall include a report by a qualified professional that identifies compliance with code objectives.
- Increase minimum replacement trees to account for attrition.
- Legacy and Landmark trees: Remove "the risk of the tree declining or becoming a nuisance is unenhanced by any proposed development."