

# AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY SHEET

## City of Rollingwood City Council

Meeting Date: February 19, 2025

### Submitted By:

Staff

### Agenda Item:

Public hearing, discussion and possible action on an amendment to the Code of Ordinances Section 107-369 to Section 107-379 regarding Residential Landscape Tree Canopy Management

### Description:

At the January 8, 2025, Planning and Zoning meeting, after the public hearing on an amendment to the Code of Ordinances Section 107-369 to Section 107-379 regarding Residential Landscape Tree Canopy Management and made a motion to recommend approval with the following changes in mind:

1. **Change in Terminology:** The definition of "building footprint" should be replaced with "buildable area" for clarity throughout the document.
2. **Review of Heritage Tree Removal Policy:** Section 107-373(a)(2) prohibits the removal of a heritage tree unless a special exception is granted. This section should be reviewed and modified to address concerns about the removal of heritage trees and the special exception process.
3. **Tree Deaths Beyond Homeowners' Control:** Section 107-375(f) is under review because of concerns that homeowners may be unfairly penalized for trees dying due to factors outside their control. The City Council is asked to consider changes to this section.
4. **Impact of Tree Removal:** The City Council is asked to clarify what constitutes a significant impact to both the canopy and root zones of a tree, potentially leading to its removal. Commissioners recalled that at one point, the threshold for removal was set at 50%, and they would like to see this reinstated in the code.

### **The motion passed by a vote of 5 in favor to 1 (Nash)**

Any ordinance that amends the zoning code must have a properly noticed public hearing before the Planning and Zoning Commission and City Council in order to be approved. Now that the hearing before the Planning and Zoning Commission has occurred and the Planning and Zoning Commission has made a recommendation, this public hearing before the City Council may take place and, after the public hearing, the City Council can take action on the ordinance.

### Action Requested:

To hold a public hearing and consider the recommendation to approve amendment to the Code of Ordinances Section 107-369 to Section 107-379 regarding Residential Landscape Tree Canopy Management with the Planning and Zoning revisions

### Fiscal Impacts:

No significant fiscal impacts are anticipated at this time.

**Attachments:**

- Draft amendment to the Code of Ordinances Section 107-369 to Section 107-379 regarding Residential Landscape Tree Canopy Management (as revised by P&Z)