



City of Pensacola

222 West Main Street
Pensacola, FL 32502

Memorandum

File #: 27-21

City Council

7/15/2021

LEGISLATIVE ACTION ITEM

SPONSOR: City Council Member Jennifer Brahier

SUBJECT:

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 27-21 - AMENDMENT TO LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE SECTION 12-6-6 (8) - HERITAGE TREES

RECOMMENDATION:

That City Council adopt Proposed Ordinance No. 27-21 on second reading:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE, TREE/LANDSCAPE REGULATIONS CHAPTER 12, SECTION 12-6-6(8) HERITAGE TREES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; REPEALING CLAUSE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

HEARING REQUIRED: No Hearing Required

SUMMARY:

The City of Pensacola has a long history of prioritizing the protection of trees and recognizes their value as both an environmental and aesthetic amenity. To demonstrate the City's commitment to being a steward of the environment, the City of Pensacola created and codified tree/landscape regulations that provide protection of trees throughout the City of Pensacola. These regulations provide guidance to both community members and developers, the permitting process for which they can have the trees removed and provide enforcement authority to the City for failure to comply.

While there are protections for heritage trees, there is also an opportunity to protect more than just the trees by including their driplines as well. These proposed amendments encompass the circumstance where there is a lot split for single family and duplex use; stating that the "land" shall be evaluated to determine whether a lot split will have a negative effect on any heritage trees, including their driplines. This language will help ensure that the totality of the circumstances is reviewed in a view to protect the land, including heritage trees.

PRIOR ACTION:

February 25, 2021 - City Council referred the item to the Planning Board

May 11, 2021 - Planning Board reviewed and approved the item

June 17, 2021 - City Council conducted a public hearing and approved Proposed Ordinance No. 27-21 on first reading

FUNDING:

N/A

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

None

STAFF CONTACT:

Don Kraher, Council Executive

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1) Proposed Ordinance No. 27-21
- 2) 5-11-21 LH minutes - Planning Board

PRESENTATION: No