

# Proposed Updates to the Unified Development Code

City Council Workshop | November 3



### Topics to Cover



Background



**Tree Preservation and Mitigation** 



**Parkland Dedication** 



**Next Steps** 

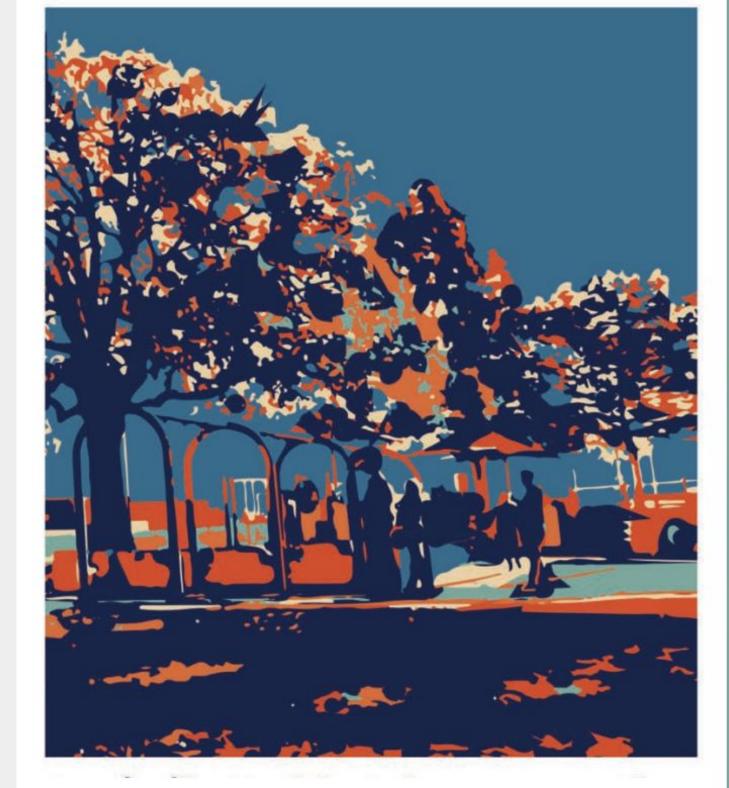


Questions









### EXPLORE MORE

CITY OF LEWISVILLE

### HEALTHY INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN











**ADOPTED FEBRUARY 20, 2023** 



### Background

#### February 2025

#### **City Council Retreat**

PARD introduced proposed updates to the Unified Development Code (UDC) regarding:

- Park Development Agreement
- Tree Preservation and Mitigation

#### **April 2025**

#### **Park Board Presentation**

PARD and Dr. Lauren Fischer presented observations and preliminary recommendations:

 Developed as part of the Tree Equity and Human Health Grant



#### **City Council Presentation**

UNT and Dr. Lauren Fischer presented recommended Tree Equity policy updates on:

- Revising outdated ordinances
- Improving tree preservation standards
- Adjusting mitigation costs for replenishing
   Lewisville's urban tree canopy









### Landscaping Standards Update

#### Section VIII.3.2 Applicability and 3.3. All Uses

<u>Add</u>: Commercial property owners in Lewisville must replace dead or damaged required landscaping with materials listed on the city's <u>current</u> shrub, understory and shade tree list, and maintain to the quantities and locations of the original landscape plan at a minimum.

**Remove:** Sawtooth Oak from the Approved Shade Tree Recommendation

#### **Rationale:**

- Current ordinance can result in landscape plans that use non-native or less sustainable species
- Ensure that replacement material aligns with the city's current tree and shrub list
- Give flexibility to property owners when updating their landscape plan
- Sawtooth Oak is no longer recommended for planting in the US by the National Park Service and U.S.
   Fish and Wildlife Service

SHADE TREES		
Common Name	Scientific Name	
Afghan Pine	Pinus eldarica	
American Elm <sup>1,2</sup>	Ulmus americana	
Austrian Pine	Pinus nigra	
Bald Cypress <sup>1</sup>	Taxodium distichum	
Bigelow Oak <sup>1</sup>	Quercus sinuate var. brevilbo	
Black Hickory <sup>1,2</sup>	Carya fexana (aka Carya buckleyi)	
Black Locust	Robinia pseudoacacia	
Bur Oak <sup>1</sup>	Quercus macrocarpa	
Caddo Maple	Acer saccharum "Caddo"	
Cedar Elm <sup>1,2</sup>	Ulmus crassifolia	

EXHIBIT VIII.3.3-2 APPROVED SHADE TREES



EXHIBIT VIII.3.3-4 APPROV	EXHIBIT VIII.3.3-4 APPROVED SHRUBS		
Shrubs			
Common Name	Scientific name		
Agarita*1	Berberis trifoliolata		
American Beautyberry*	Callicarpa americana		
Apache Plume*	Fallugia paradox		
Aromatic Sumac*	Rhus aromatica		
Coralberry*1	Symphoricarpos orbiculatus		
Dwarf Wax Myrtle*1	Myrica pusilla		
Dwarf Yaupon Holly*	Ilex vomitoria 'Nana'		
Evergreen Sumac*1	Rhus virens		
Flame Acanthus*	Anisacanthus quadrifidus		
Flowering Quince	Chaenomeles japonica		
Fragrant Mimosa*	Mimosa borealis		
Indian Hawthorn <sup>1</sup>	Rhapiolepis indica		
Lindheimer Nolina*1	Nolina lindheimeri		
Tam Juniper <sup>1</sup>	Juniperus sabina 'Tamariscilfolia'		
Texas Nolina*1	Nolina texana		
Turks Cap*	Malvaviscus drummondii		
*Native species, which is preferred but not required.			
<sup>1</sup> Considered Evergreen			

### Tree Preservation Update

#### **Section VIII.4 Tree Preservation**

#### **Proposed changes include:**

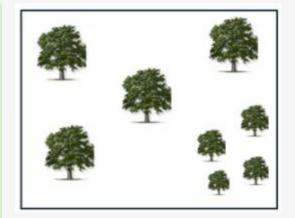
- Reducing the minimum survey size for inclusion in tree preservation plans from 8" to 6" DBH
- Removing two inches of tree credit for protected post oaks and blackjack oaks.

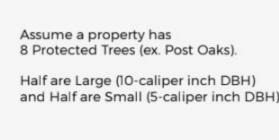
#### **Rationale:**

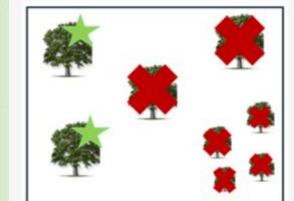
- Healthy Infrastructure Plan's Tree Study showed more than 60% of Lewisville's canopy consists of trees under 6".
- For Post Oaks or Blackjack Oaks, in practice the current credit structure incentivizes removal of protected trees.

**Prior Action:** City Council approved a tree mitigation fee increase from \$150 to \$200 per Caliper Inch in FY26 Budget

Tree	Tree Preservation
Classification	Credit
Post Oaks and Blackjack Oaks less than 8 inches DBH	One (1) inch for every inch preserved
Protected Post	Two (2) inches for
Oaks and	every inch
Blackjack Oaks	preserved
All Other Protected Trees	One (1) inch for every inch preserved







Preserving Two Large Post Oaks = 40 tree credits

40 Tree Credits allows for:

- Removal of 6 Post Oaks (2 large + 4 small)
- Removal of 4 Large Post Oaks



### Heritage Tree Designation

#### **Heritage Tree**:

 Section II.2.1 Definition - A Post Oak or Blackjack Oak tree 12 inches or greater, and any tree 26 inches or greater, except for species deemed invasive

 Section VIII.4 Tree Preservation Plan - Removal of heritage trees shall require prior city approval in the form of a tree survey and tree preservation plan or tree removal permit, as provided for herein unless otherwise exempted.

**Proposed Mitigation Fee:** \$300 per Caliper Inch

#### Rationale:

- Large-Scale Ecosystem Services
  - Sequester more carbon
  - Intercept more stormwater
  - Significantly higher oxygen output
  - Enhanced urban heat island mitigation
- Slow Replacement Rate
- Higher Cost
- Regional Best Practice



This American Elm tree in Raldon Park has a 57 inch Diameter at Breast Height (4.5 feet) and is estimated to be 225 years old



## Summary of Proposed Tree Tiers

Unprotected Tree	Protected Tree	Heritage Tree
Current: 0-8"	Current: 8" and greater	Current: No designation
Proposed: 0-6"	Proposed: 6-26"	Proposed: 26" and greater
<ul> <li>Chinese pistache</li> <li>Junipers</li> <li>Mesquite</li> <li>Callery pear cultivars</li> <li>Any tree species determined to be invasive</li> <li>Hackberry, <i>Bois D'Arc</i>, <i>Cottonwood</i> Trees</li> <li>&lt;12 inches in DBH</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Hackberry, Bois D' Arc, Cottonwood Trees</li> <li>&lt;12 inches in DBH</li> <li>All trees between 6-26" with the exclusion of species previously listed.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>All trees over 26" with the exclusion of species previously listed.</li> <li>Blackjack Oaks and Post Oaks &gt;12 inches in DBH</li> </ul>
Current Fee: None	• Current Fee: \$200 per caliper inch	• Proposed Fee: \$300 per caliper inch



### Parkland Dedication Update

### Section X.1 Parkland Dedication, Improvement and Park Fee Requirements

#### **Proposed changes include:**

- Updates to minimum park improvement standards
- Modification of mechanism for park development agreements that includes a system for credits after department approval of park plans that meet eligible improvements
- Clarification of how parks should be labeled on final plats: City Park
- Clarification of timeline developers have to request a refund of cash-in-lieu or development fees if a park has not been developed to serve the area: 10 Years

#### **Other process improvements:**

• A standardized template for park development agreements. This tool will create consistency, increase predictability for developers, and expedite agreement execution.

#### **Prior action:**

 City Council approved an increase to the parkland development fee from \$1,100 to \$1,682 per dwelling unit in FY26 Budget Process



### Next Steps

- Prior Action:
  - Received Park Board Support: on 10/8/25
  - Received Guidance from Planning & Zoning Commission: on 10/21/25
- Planning and Zoning Commission Formal Recommendation Target Date: 11/4/25
- City Council Action **Target Date**: 12/1/25











### Discussion Questions?