

Proposed Updates to the Unified Development Code



Topics to Cover



Background



Questions



Tree Preservation and Mitigation



Parkland Dedication



Next Steps





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 preliminary recommendations:

 Developed as part of the Tree Equity and Human Health Grant

May 2025

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- Revising outdated ordinances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 to strengthen Lewisville's urban tree canopy.









Landscaping Standards Update

<u>Add</u>: 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.

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

EXHIBIT VIII.3.3-2 APPROVED SHADE TREES

SHA	SHADE TREES		
Common Name	Scientific Name		
Afghan Pine	Pinus eldarica		
American Elm ^{1,2}	Ulmus americana		
Austrian Pine	Pinus nigra		
Bald Cypress ¹	Taxodium distichum		
Bigelow Oak ¹	Quercus sinuate var. brevilba		
Black Hickory ^{1,2}	Carya texana (aka Carya buckleyi)		
Black Locust	Robinia pseudoacacia		
Bur Oak ¹	Quercus macrocarpa		
Caddo Maple	Acer saccharum "Caddo"		
Cedar Elm ^{1,2}	Ulmus crassifolia		
Chinquanin Oak ¹	Quercus muhlenhergii		





Tree Preservation Update

Proposed changes include:

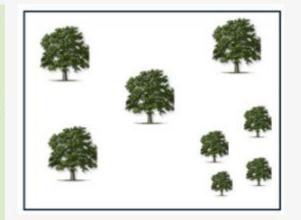
- Reducing the minimum survey size for inclusion in tree preservation plans from 8" to 6" DBH
- Removing two inches of tree credit for protected post oaks and blackjack oaks.

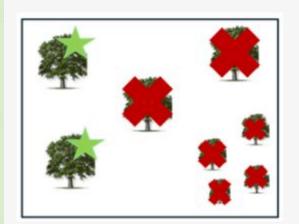
Rationale:

- 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, the current credits incentivize 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





Assume a property has 8 Protected Trees (ex. Post Oaks).

Half are Large (10-caliper inch DBH) and Half are Small (5-caliper inch DBH)

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

Height) of 26 inches or greater, except for species specifically exempted or deemed invasive. 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



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
 Bois d'Arc Cottonwood Chinese pistache Junipers Mesquite Callery pear cultivars Any tree species determined to be invasive 	 Hackberry trees >12 inches in DBH All trees between 6-26" with the exclusion of species previously listed. 	All trees between over 26" with the exclusion of species previously listed.

Hackberry trees <12 inches in DBH



Parkland Dedication Update

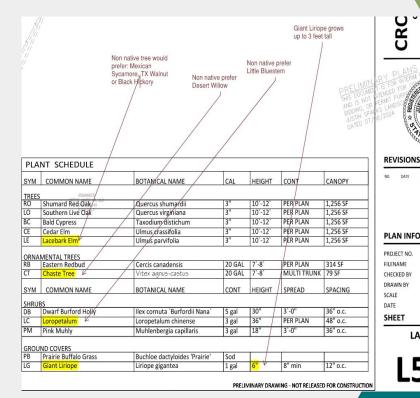
Proposed changes include:

- 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.

<u>Prior action</u>: 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
- City Council workshop **Target Date:** 11/3/25
- City Council Action **Target Date:** 11/17/25 or 12/1/25







Discussion Questions?