

## **COUNCIL POLICY STATEMENT**

Policy No: 14  
General Subject: Public Works  
Specific Subject: Collection and Disposal of Trees and Shrub Trimmings (Brush)  
Date Approved: May 2, 1977  
Date Revised: February 18, 1991  
November 7, 2012

### **PURPOSE**

To formally establish the City's policy regarding the collection and disposal of tree and shrub trimmings (brush).

### **RATIONALE**

The limits of the brush pick-up service need to be formally set to avoid unequal service to individuals and also to define the limits of the service for contractual reasons. The service is intended to make it convenient for homeowners to dispose of brush, which is an almost daily operation during the growing season, involving almost every homeowner. The service is not intended as a disposal service for tree removal operations.

The City Code (Article 5, Chapter 10) provides for diseased / hazardous trees on private property to be removed and disposed of by the property owner. It is consistent that trees removed from private property for other reasons be likewise disposed of by the owner.

### **POLICY STATEMENT**

The city will provide for the collection and disposal of all tree/shrub trimmings placed at the front curb, or in the alley where applicable, that meet the following criteria:

- Twigs and small branches are to be broken up and placed in large kraft paper yard bags (not plastic) or in special yardwaste carts.
- Branches less than 3 inches in diameter and 5 feet in length must be tied together in bundles weighing less than 50 pounds.

Residents with larger branches, or full tree removals, will need to contact a tree service company or landscaper to arrange for removal.

Excluded from this brush pick-up service will be the following: trees or shrubs that have a trunk diameter larger than three (3) inches; diseased elm or ash trees, stumps, construction materials, sod, grass clippings, concrete, lumber, earth, garbage, ashes, cans, boxes, bottles, miscellaneous waste materials, etc. The owner or his agent or occupant will be responsible for the collection and disposal of these excluded items either by normal refuse service or at his own expense.

However, at the determination of the Director of Public Works, a natural disaster or storm resulting in the destruction and loss of trees and or shrubs could be an exception to this exclusion.