

Committee of the Whole Agenda Cover Memorandum

Meeting Date: September 13, 2010

Item Title: Parkway Tree Removal Policy – CPS #24

Action Requested:

- Approval
- For discussion
- Feedback requested
- For your information

Staff Contact: Wayne Zingsheim, Director of Public Works

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Background:

Alderman Bach has asked that the parkway tree removal policy be placed on the Committee's agenda for discussion.

A copy of Council Policy Statement #24 is attached for your review. We will discuss this matter.

Recommendation:

Budget Implications:

Does Action Require an Expenditure of Funds: Yes No

If Yes, Total Cost: \$167,438.94

If Yes, is this a Budgeted Item: Yes No

Attachments:

- CPS #24 – Parkway Tree Removal

COUNCIL POLICY STATEMENT

Policy No. 24
General Subject: Forestry
Specific Subject: Parkway Tree Removal
Date Approved: March 19, 1984

PURPOSE

To establish the criteria for removing parkway trees upon request from residents.

RATIONALE

The City values its tree population and spends considerable sums maintaining it for the general welfare and therefore does not allow indiscriminate removals. Recognized, however, is the need for flexibility in allowing for the removal of parkway trees, that because of the tree's growth characteristic and location on the parkway, has contributed or created a problem for residents. The City also recognizes that these trees, although not dead, have grown in such a manner that their present form no longer enhances or contributes to the aesthetic appearance of our community.

POLICY STATEMENT

1. No one shall be permitted to remove a parkway tree for any reason unless they have first received written permission from the City. When permission is granted, the person shall agree in writing to remove the tree, including the stump, at his own expense. He shall also properly dispose of the tree at his expense, and pay to the City the total cost for the City to plant a replacement tree, three (3) inches in trunk diameter. The species of tree used for replacement shall be approved by the City.
2. If a parkway tree is growing on the City parkway in such a manner that it is causing the raising of an adjacent sidewalk or driveway creating a problem for residents, and or in the opinion of the City, the aesthetics of the community will be enhanced, the City will, upon request of the resident, remove the parkway tree including the stump at no cost to the resident, including disposal, provided that the resident pays to the City prior to the removal of the tree, one-half of the total cost required to plant a replacement tree three (3) inches in trunk diameter. The species of tree shall be approved by the City.
3. The removal of the parkway tree under the criteria stated above shall not apply to a parkway tree where some of the roots are growing into the resident's sewer line, unless the aesthetics of our community would benefit from the removal and replacement of this parkway tree. If it is determined that the aesthetics of our community would be enhanced, the City will, upon request of the resident, remove the parkway tree and stump at no cost to the resident, including disposal, provided that the resident pays to the City, prior to the removal of the tree, one-half of the total cost required to plant a replacement tree, three (3) inches in trunk diameter. The species of tree shall be approved by the City.