

Ordinance amending Tree Advisory Committee membership

Be it Ordained by the City Council of the City of Corpus Christi, Texas, that:

Section 1. That the City Code of Ordinances Chapter 2, Article IV, Division 12, Tree Advisory Committee, Section 2-140 regarding membership is revised as follows:

“Sec. 2-140. - Creation and establishment of tree advisory committee.

The city council hereby establishes a tree advisory committee for the City of Corpus Christi, Texas, which shall consist of five (5) members to be approved by the city council. Members of the committee shall serve without compensation.

Membership of the committee shall consist of one (1) landscape ~~architect~~ professional defined as a landscape architect, landscape designer, horticulturist or landscape contractor; one (1) certified arborist, or urban forester; one (1) representative from electric utility provider AEP; and two (2) at large community members.

Committee liaisons shall be a representative from the parks and recreation advisory committee and also from the planning commission. The committee liaisons shall have no voting power.

Staff liaisons to the committee shall be an employee from each of the following city departments: parks and recreation, planning, development services, traffic engineering, engineering, and code enforcement.

The certified arborist or urban forester is exempted from the residency requirements of section 2-65 and City Council Policy Number 14(o).”

(Ord. No. 029756, § 1, 2-26-2013; Ord. No. 030059, § 1, 1-21-2014)

Sec. 2-141. - Term of office; chair and vice-chair; and quorum requirements.

Terms of office for the tree advisory committee members shall be two (2) years.

In order to establish staggered terms, however, two (2) members shall serve an initial term of one (1) year and three (3) members an initial term of two (2) years. Initial terms shall be determined by drawing to be conducted at the initial committee meeting.

The committee shall choose a chair and vice-chair, upon approval of the majority of the committee members present and voting. The committee shall comply with the Texas Open Meetings Act. A majority of the committee members shall be a quorum for the transaction of meetings.

(Ord. No. 029756, § 1, 2-26-2013)

Sec. 2-142. - Duties and responsibilities.

(a) *Development of city's public tree plan.*

- (1) It shall be the responsibility of the tree advisory committee to review and recommend a formal written plan to the city council for the care, preservation, pruning, planting, replanting, removal or disposition of public trees. The plan must not conflict with the

parks and recreation master plans. The committee shall provide a recommendation to planning commission on any proposed amendments to the Unified Development Code pertaining to planting and landscaping requirements.

- (2) A public tree is defined for purposes of this ordinance [Ordinance No. 029756] as trees, shrubs, bushes and all other woody vegetation planted in land owned by the City of Corpus Christi, Texas.
 - (3) The committee shall work with the staff of the parks and recreation department to develop a recommended list of tree species for public trees to be planted on lands owned by the city. The list shall be broken into categories of small, medium, and large trees, such terms to be defined in the city's public tree plan.
 - (4) The city's public tree plan shall provide for the following:
 - a. No public tree may be closer than the following distances from the curb or sidewalk: small trees, two (2) feet; medium trees, three (3) feet; and large trees, four (4) feet.
 - b. No public tree shall be planted closer than twenty (20) feet to any street corner, measured from the point of curbs and curblines of the nearest intersection.
 - c. No public tree shall be planted closer than ten (10) feet to any fire hydrant.
 - d. The city shall retain all rights to plant, prune, maintain, and remove public trees, plants and shrubs on city owned property.
 - e. The public tree plan shall incorporate all applicable city ordinances regarding tree care and maintenance, including but not limited to the provisions of section 53-264 which requires that every owner of any tree overhanging any street or right-of-way within the city shall prune the branches in accordance with section 53-264 so that such branches shall not obstruct the light from any street lamp or obstruct the view of any street intersection and so that there shall be a clearance space of at least seven (7) feet above the surface of the sidewalk and at least thirteen (13) feet above the surface of the street.
 - f. The plan shall address unnecessary topping of public trees. Trees severely damaged by storms or other causes or certain trees under utility wires and other obstructions where alternative pruning practices are impractical may be exempt from the plan at the determination of the tree advisory committee.
 - (5) The written plan shall be presented to the city council for review and consideration for approval. Upon approval by the city council, such plan shall constitute the official Public Tree Plan for the City of Corpus Christi.
 - (6) The tree advisory committee shall periodically review such approved plan for recommended updates to the city council. Upon city council approval, the committee shall work with the parks and recreation department to implement the plan.
- (b) *Other duties.*
- (1) The committee may recommend to the parks director the removal of any public tree or part thereof which is damaged by disease, storm or which is in an unsafe condition.
 - (2) The city council may request the tree advisory committee to consider, investigate, make findings, report or recommend upon any special matter of question pertinent to the city public tree plan.

- (3) The tree advisory committee shall provide a recommendation to planning commission on any proposed amendments to the Unified Development Code pertaining to tree planting and landscaping requirements.

(Ord. No. 029756, § 1, 2-26-2013)

Secs. 2-143—2-149. - Reserved.

That the foregoing ordinance was read for the first time and passed to its second reading on this the _____ day of _____, 2018, by the following vote:

Joe McComb	_____	Ben Molina	_____
Rudy Garza	_____	Everett Roy	_____
Paulette Guajardo	_____	Lucy Rubio	_____
Michael Hunter	_____	Greg Smith	_____
Debbie Lindsey-Opel	_____		

That the foregoing ordinance was read for the second time and passed finally on this the _____ day of _____, 2018, by the following vote:

Joe McComb	_____	Ben Molina	_____
Rudy Garza	_____	Everett Roy	_____
Paulette Guajardo	_____	Lucy Rubio	_____
Michael Hunter	_____	Greg Smith	_____
Debbie Lindsey-Opel	_____		

PASSED AND APPROVED on this the _____ day of _____, 2018.
ATTEST:

Rebecca Huerta
City Secretary

Joe McComb
Mayor