

2. INITIATION OF A SUBDIVISION REGULATION AMENDMENT FOR STREET TREES LOCATED NEAR INTERSECTIONS

– Ms. Wade stated that Divisions of Environmental Services and Traffic Engineering are requesting that the minimum distance for the location of a street tree from an intersection be increased from fifty (50) feet to seventy-five (75) feet in order to reduce intersection obstructions along residential streets. She added that, recently, the Divisions of Environmental Services and Traffic Engineering have been dealing with the repercussions of having street trees located too near intersections.

Citizen Comments: There were none.

Commission Questions: Mr. Pohl asked if the Planning Commission had previously seen any information on this request. Ms. Wade answered that the staff had not presented any information related to the request. Rather, the Tree Board and the LFUCG divisions had discussed it internally. Those entities sent a memo to the Division of Planning, which triggered an initiation request.

Mr. Pohl asked if there were dissenting opinions on the Tree Board or other organizations that are trying to improve the city's tree canopy. Ms. Wade answered that developers would typically be required to plant the same number of street trees, but in the five feet behind the sidewalk, rather than in the right-of-way nearer to the intersection.

Mr. Pohl asked if this text amendment would affect historic districts, to which Ms. Wade responded that it would only affect new development.

Mr. de Movellan asked if replacement for a street tree in an existing neighborhood would be required to meet the new standard. Ms. Wade answered that, in that instance, the decision would need to be made by the Urban Forester.

Action: A motion was made by Mr. de Movellan, seconded by Ms. Barksdale, and carried 10-0 (Nicol absent) to initiate a Subdivision Regulation Amendment for street trees located near intersections.

3. CANCELLATION OF UPCOMING WORK SESSION – Mr. Duncan stated that there were two work sessions scheduled for April, on the 15th and the 29th. The staff would request that the Planning Commission cancel the April 15th work session, because they would like to use the April 29th work session to provide the members with an update from the Strategic Growth Task Force, following that group's April meeting.

Action: A motion was made by Ms. Plumlee, seconded by Mr. Wilson, and carried 10-0 (Nicol absent) to cancel the April 15, 2021, Planning Commission work session.

4. QUESTION ABOUT REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT – Ms. Plumlee asked Mr. Duncan to comment on a recent article in the *Herald-Leader* which indicated that the former Wal-Mart location on Richmond Road could be used for car sales, despite restrictions put in place at the time of the zone change on the property. Mr. Duncan answered that the Council will consider removing a deed restriction that had been placed on the property. Ms. Plumlee said that she was concerned because she believed that the property could be appropriate for redevelopment as residential units.

VII. AUDIENCE ITEMS – Citizens may bring a planning related matter before the Commission at this time for general discussion or future action. Items that will **NOT** be heard are those requiring the Commission's formal action, such as zoning items for early rehearing, map or text amendments; subdivision or development plans, etc. These last mentioned items must be filed in advance of this meeting in conformance with the adopted filing schedule.

VIII. NEXT MEETING DATES

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| Work Session, Thursday, 1:30 p.m., Video Teleconference..... | April 15, 2021 |
| Zoning Items Public Hearing , Thursday, 1:30 p.m., Video Teleconference | April 22, 2021 |
| Technical Committee, Wednesday, 8:30 a.m., Video Teleconference | April 28, 2021 |
| Work Session, Thursday, 1:30 p.m., Video Teleconference..... | April 29, 2021 |
| Subdivision Committee, Thursday, 8:30 a.m., Video Teleconference | May 6, 2021 |
| Zoning Committee, Thursday, 1:30 p.m., Video Teleconference | May 6, 2021 |
| Subdivision Items Public Meeting , Thursday, 1:30 p.m., Video Teleconference | May 13, 2021 |

IX. ADJOURNMENT

* - Denotes date by which Commission must either approve or disapprove request.