

Project Re:Code
Landscape Group
Meeting Notes
November 21, 2018

The meeting began with a presentation from the consultant Elizabeth Garvin showing the landscaping group the collective result of the discussion and input they have received so far in the process of the re-code effort.

After the presentation the meeting was open to the group for comments. Group Chair Darell Tunnicliff asked several questions regarding wording and statements in the document that was sent out to the group from the consultant prior to the meeting. Many of the issues raised were to make certain that the landscape group was aware of what is in the document and does the group agree with what is being stated.

It was noted that the group's goal from the beginning of the process desires to have a landscape code that is the same for all properties and that it is a simple code to follow, to eliminate confusing differences related to what the zoning is on the land.

The group also states they are working to create a landscape code that will use less water or encourage the use of water wise plants. Enforcement was also raised as an issue that needs to be addressed. At this time there is minimal enforcement of the code and there needs to be enforcement or incentive to install and maintain the landscape.

The meeting was open to the public for comment. There were a few who spoke in the meeting about not wanting separation of neighborhoods with labels, would create separations. Also it was mentioned by one person from the public that landscape along streets are a hazard to public safety. It was noted that usually the problem is not the plants but the lack of proper maintenance.

Decisions of the Landscape Group:

Street Trees are required every 50 feet. (In the county they are required to be planted behind the sidewalk not in the drainage swale between the sidewalk and road edge.)

Street Trees do not count toward landscape points.

Point system to meet landscape requirements.

Some additional point/s for landscape when using secondary water source.

Design professional required for projects where lot exceeds 20,000 square feet.(landscape architect stamped drawings)

Menu of items for use in landscape.

Point system, emphasize minimizing water consumption.

Low water use plants are encouraged.

Commercial property landscape basics determined:

Only 25% of overall landscape can be non-organic.

No street trees required in Ag-open and Ag-Suburban county zoning.

Parking lot landscape part of storm drainage system/snow storage plan.

Need to emphasize minimizing water consumption and have the point system reflect that concern.

Landscape requirement need to be sustainable.

Commercial developments will be required to provide rear and side yard landscaping with two different width possibilities. A minimum of 6 feet wide if the applicant is using trees, shrubs, perennials and ground cover plants with a drip irrigation system with no grass that needs to be mowed. A minimum of 10 feet wide if the applicant is using trees and grass, that needs to be mowed, with overhead spray irrigation. (what is the tree spacing in these side yard separations)

Commercial development next to residential development/zoning. There will be a requirement for a 6-foot site obscuring fence with 1 tree planted every 30 feet along the fence line.

Parking lots, no parking stall will be more than 108 feet from a tree within a parking lot. A single load island will be a minimum of 9 feet by 16 feet, a double load island will be a minimum of 9 feet by 32 feet, no points for parking lots islands smaller than mentioned above. Grass that has to be mowed is discouraged, shrubs, perennials and spreading ground covers are encourages with organic mulch. Non organic mulch cannot be more than 25% of the overall landscape.