

AGENDA
ESCAMBIA COUNTY PLANNING BOARD
March 5, 2019–8:35 a.m.
Escambia County Central Office Complex
3363 West Park Place, Room 104

1. Call to Order.
2. Proof of Publication and Waive the Reading of the Legal Advertisement.
3. Approval of Minutes.
 - A. **RECOMMENDATION:** That the Planning Board review and approve the Meeting Resume' Minutes of the February 5, 2019 Planning Board Meeting.
 - B. Planning Board Monthly Action Follow-up Report for February 2019.
 - C. Planning Board 6-Month Outlook for March 2019.
4. Acceptance of Planning Board Meeting Packet.
5. Action/Discussion/Info Items.
 - A. Tree Ordinance Discussion.
6. Public Forum.
7. Director's Review.
8. County Attorney's Report.
9. Scheduling of Future Meetings.

The next Regular Planning Board meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 2, 2019, at 8:30 a.m.**, in the Escambia County Central Office Complex, Room 104, First Floor, 3363 West Park Place, Pensacola, Florida.

10. Announcements/Communications.

11. Adjournment.



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Escambia County, Florida

Planning Board-Regular

3. A.

Meeting Date: 03/05/2019

Agenda Item:

A. **RECOMMENDATION:** That the Planning Board review and approve the Meeting Resume' Minutes of the February 5, 2019 Planning Board Meeting.

B. Planning Board Monthly Action Follow-up Report for February 2019.

C. Planning Board 6-Month Outlook for March 2019.

Attachments

Draft February 5, 2019 Planning Board Regular Meeting Minutes

Monthly Action Follow-Up

Six Month Outlook

DRAFT

MINUTES OF THE ESCAMBIA COUNTY PLANNING BOARD February 5, 2019

CENTRAL OFFICE COMPLEX
3363 WEST PARK PLACE, BOARD CHAMBERS
PENSACOLA, FLORIDA
(10:52 A.M. – 11:43 A.M.)

Present: Jay Ingwell
Wayne Briske, Chairman
Timothy Pyle
Patty Hightower
Alan Gray
Eric Fears
Stephen Opalenik

Absent: Reid Rushing
William Clay

Staff Present: Griffin Vickery, Urban Planner, Planning & Zoning
Horace Jones, Director, Development Services
John Fisher, Senior Urban Planner, Planning & Zoning
Kayla Meador, Administrative Assistant
Meredith Crawford, Assistant County Attorney

1. Call to Order.
2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
3. Proof of Publication and Waive the Reading of the Legal Advertisement.

Motion by Eric Fears, Seconded by Alan Gray

Motion was made to approve the proof of publication and to waive the reading of the legal advertisement.

Vote: 5 - 0 Approved

Other: Reid Rushing (ABSENT)
William Clay (ABSENT)

4. Approval of Minutes.

- A. **A. RECOMMENDATION:** That the Planning Board review and approve the Meeting Resume' Minutes of the January 8, 2019 Planning Board Regular Meeting.
- B. Planning Board Monthly Action Follow-up Report for January 2019.
- C. Planning Board 6-Month Outlook for February 2019.

Motion by Eric Fears, Seconded by Jay Ingwell

Motion was made to approve the Rezoning Planning Board meeting minutes from January 8, 2019.

Vote: 5 - 0 Approved

Other: Reid Rushing (ABSENT)
William Clay (ABSENT)

- 5. Acceptance of Planning Board Meeting Packet.

Motion by Jay Ingwell, Seconded by Alan Gray

Motion was made to accept the Regular Planning Board meeting packet for February 5, 2019.

Vote: 5 - 0 Approved

Other: Reid Rushing (ABSENT)
William Clay (ABSENT)

- 6. Public Hearings.

- A. A Public Hearing Concerning the Review of an Ordinance Amending Chapters 2 and 4 Regarding Accessory Structures on Pensacola Beach.

That the Board review and recommend to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) for adoption, an Ordinance amending the Land Development Code (LDC), Chapters 2 and 4, to clarify general variance provisions and the regulation of accessory structures, especially those on Pensacola Beach and as may be directed by the Santa Rosa Island Authority.

Motion by Timothy Pyle, Seconded by Eric Fears

Motion was made to recommend approval to the BCC.

Vote: 5 - 0 Approved

Other: Reid Rushing (ABSENT)
William Clay (ABSENT)

- 7. Action/Discussion/Info Items.

- 8. Public Forum.

9. Director's Review.
10. County Attorney's Report.
11. Scheduling of Future Meetings.

The next Regular Planning Board meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at 8:30 a.m.**, in the Escambia County Central Office Complex, Room 104, First Floor, 3363 West Park Place, Pensacola, Florida.

12. Announcements/Communications.
13. Adjournment.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA**

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT
3363 WEST PARK PLACE
PENSACOLA, FLORIDA 32505
PHONE: 850-595-3475
FAX: 850-595-3481
www.myescambia.com

Memorandum

TO: Planning Board
FROM: Kayla Meador, Board Clerk
DATE: February 22, 2019
RE: Monthly Action Follow-Up Report for February 2019

The following is a status report of Planning Board (PB) agenda items for the prior month of February. Some items include information from previous months in cases where final disposition has not yet been determined. Post-monthly actions are included (when known) as of report preparation date. Items are listed in chronological order, beginning with the PB initial hearing on the topic.

PROJECTS, PLANS, & PROGRAMS

COMMITTEES & WORKING GROUP MEETINGS

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENTS

• **Text Amendments:**

CPA-2018-02

10-01-18 PB recommended denial
11-01-18 BCC transmitted to DEO
02-07-19 BCC approved

• **Map Amendments:**

LSA-2018-01

07-10-18 Applicant requested continuance to next PB
08-07-18 PB recommended denial
09-06-18 BCC remanded case back to PB (*ON HOLD for comp plan change CPA-2018-02*)

LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE ORDINANCES

CIP

01-08-19 PB recommended approval
02-07-19 BCC approved

Temp Auto Sales

01-08-19 PB recommended denial
02-07-19 BCC reviewed
03-07-19 BCC meeting (2of2)

Accessory Structures on Pensacola Beach

02-05-19 PB recommended approval
03-07-19 BCC meeting

REZONING CASES

1. Rezoning Case Z-2018-08 (*on HOLD with LSA-2018-01*)
 - 07-10-18 Applicant requested continuance to next PB meeting
 - 08-07-18 PB meeting ended before hearing
 - 09-04-18 No quorum at PB mtg

2. Rezoning Case Z-2018-17
 - 11-08-18 PB recommended approval
 - 12-06-18 BCC remanded back to PB
 - 01-08-19 PB recommended approval
 - 02-07-19 BCC approved

3. Rezoning Case Z-2019-01
 - 01-08-19 PB recommended approval
 - 02-07-19 BCC approved

4. Rezoning Case Z-2019-02
 - 02-05-19 PB recommended approval
 - 03-07-19 BCC meeting

5. Rezoning Case Z-2019-03
 - 02-05-19 PB recommended approval
 - 03-07-19 BCC meeting

PLANNING BOARD MONTHLY SCHEDULE SIX MONTH OUTLOOK FOR MARCH 2019

(Revised 2/22/19)

A.H. = Adoption Hearing T.H. = Transmittal Hearing P.H. = Public Hearing

* Indicates topic/date is estimated—subject to staff availability for project completion and/or citizen liaison

Meeting Date	LDC Changes and/or Public Hearings	Comprehensive Plan Amendments	Rezoning	Reports, Discussion and/or Action Items
Tuesday, March 5, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VRD-2019-01 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree Ord.
Tuesday, April 2, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removing OLF 8 ref. from LDC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPA-2019-01 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Z-2019-04 • Z-2019-05 	
Tuesday, May 7, 2019				
Tuesday, June 4, 2019				
Tuesday, July 2, 2019				
Tuesday, August 6, 2019				

Disclaimer: This document is provided for informational purposes only. Schedule is subject to change. Verify all topics on the current meeting agenda one week prior to the meeting date.



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Escambia County, Florida

Planning Board-Regular
Meeting Date: 03/05/2019

5. A.

Agenda Item:

Tree Ordinance Discussion.

Attachments

Discussion Backup

Planning Board Discussion of Current Escambia County Tree Protection Standards

Escambia County citizens raised concerns regarding the effectiveness of the existing tree protection standards during public forum prior to the October 4, 2018 BCC meeting. The Board directed staff to schedule the issue for discussion at an upcoming Committee of the Whole. In preparation for the COW, county staff compiled tree related data from site plans and final plats approved during the previous year (October 1, 2017 – September 30, 2018). County staff presented to the BCC at the December 13, 2018 COW. The presentation included a discussion of the purpose of the existing tree protection standards, tree related data collected from the previous 12 months of development, current heritage tree size threshold, comparison to other area tree ordinances, and public input received by staff leading up to the meeting. The effectiveness of the current protection and mitigation standards was also discussed. Citizens and other stakeholders were allowed to address the Board during the COW.

The Board indicated general support to change the existing Code by decreasing the size of a heritage tree from the current threshold of 60-inches diameter at breast height (DBH). The Board did not provide staff with specific guidance on an exact size for a new heritage tree threshold. County staff is seeking further direction from the Planning Board regarding the need for changes to the current tree protection standards.

Additional Information Provided for Consideration:

- County staff's presentation to COW
- Public comments received prior to COW
- Public comments received after to COW



Protected Tree Ordinance Review

Committee of the Whole
December 13, 2018



Purpose - LDC Article 7, Sec. 5-7.1

“...It is the intent of these standards to promote the environmental and community benefits of a healthy, diverse, and well managed urban forest. More specifically, this article is intended to accomplish the following”

1. Improve the appearance, character, and value of developed lands through landscaping that enhances, shades, screens, and buffers the built elements and that appropriately includes and preserves existing trees.
2. Require that the type, quality, and installation of trees and other vegetation planted to fulfill county landscaping requirements prevent the unnatural decline of trees by requiring effective measures to protect them from damaging acts or practices, especially during site development, and establishing penalties to discourage violations.
3. Allow and encourage the appropriate removal of trees through an objective criterion-based review but compensate for the lost benefits of removed healthy trees by requiring sufficient replacement planting of quality trees.
4. Emphasize the use of native species for reduced irrigation needs and improved plant establishment, survival, and vitality.
5. Increase the diversity of age and species among trees for long-term urban forest health and stability and increase the proportion of wind-resistant trees to make future storms less devastating.



Escambia County Site Plans Reviewed for Tree Protection Statistics



81 Commercial Site Development Orders issued from 10/01/2017 to 9/30/2018

- ±1,422 acres approved for Commercial Development
- 37% of projects removed protected trees
- 56% of protected trees were removed for development (712 of 1266 trees)
- 68% reached cap of mitigation (25 caliper inches/acre)
- 1,078 mitigation trees required (2.5" caliper trees)
- 1.5 mitigation trees required per protected tree removed
- 17% of heritage trees removed (2 of 12)
- No apparent relationship between size of tree and likelihood of removal for trees less than 60" DBH



Site Plans Reviewed for Tree Protection Statistics (cont.)



13 Final Subdivision Plats approved 10/01/2017 to 9/30/2018

- 13 final plats approved
- ± 206 acres (including wetlands and buffers)
- 476 residential lots
- 1 heritage tree removed (1 of 1)



Ordinance Comparisons



Municipality	Protected DBH Sizes	Mitigation for 10" DBH Live Oak (Example)	Mitigation for 20" DBH Live Oak (Example)	Mitigation for 60" DBH Live Oak (Example)
Santa Rosa	Small species list > 4" Lg species list > 8" Heritage > 60"	One 3" DBH or \$390	One 5" DBH or \$650	Total 11" DBH or \$1,430
City Pensacola	Small species list > 4" Med species list > 6" Lg species list > 8" Heritage > 34"	Two 3" DBH or \$800	Five 3" DBH or \$2,000	Eleven 3" DBH Trees or \$4,400 (additional requirements apply)
Escambia	12"> unless exempt (pines, exotic species, etc.) Heritage > 60"	Exempt	Total 6" Caliper* or \$1400	Total 30" Caliper or \$4,200

*DBH (Diameter at Breast Height) measures approximately one inch less than the nursery standard measure of caliper inch
 Escambia County requires mitigation trees to be no less than 2.5" caliper trees
 Each ordinance has specific nuances, examples are for general comparisons



Recent Public Comments on Tree Ordinance Include:

- Reduce size of protection to 10" DBH
- Reduce size of heritage trees to 34"
- Increase mitigation replacement ratio
- Increase mitigation cap on acreage
- Protection of Longleaf Pines
- Higher tree protection or development standards in subdivisions
- Management & planting trees in the public right of way
- Planting for connectivity
- Stronger protection standards for live oaks (5% of tree species)
- Live oaks at a reduce size as Heritage
- Additional comments provided as backup documentation



Board Direction



- Does current tree ordinance accomplish intended goals?
- Potential areas of improvement?
- Direction for staff ?

**Public Comments Received by County Staff
Prior to December 13, 2018 Committee of the Whole**

Warrington Revitalization Committee (WRC)

J.C. Tellefson, Chair

913 306-1348

tellefson3853@gmail.com

To:

Escambia County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC)

221 Palafox Place

Pensacola Florida, 32502

Date: 3 December 2018

Regarding: Request to the BOCC – Escambia Tree Ordinance(s)

Gentlemen:

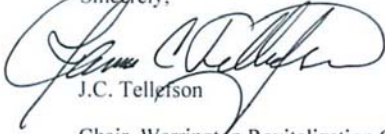
The Warrington Revitalization Committee residents, living in the Warrington CRA, request the BOCC to direct staff to review and revise county tree ordinance(s). We request this process start as soon as possible, preferably at the 13 December 2018 BOCC Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting. We believe that the ordinance can be improved so the remaining areas in Escambia County slated for development or re-development will have better success in protecting and preserving existing trees per goals stated in the Escambia County Land Development Code (LDC)¹.

We support the goal(s) as stated in the LDC including Chapter 5, Section 5-1.1(5) which states: "... Recognize that a healthy, diverse, and well-managed urban forest is an important public asset, enhancing community character and providing substantial proven economic, environmental, and aesthetic benefits."

We are concerned about the entire County's tree protection and preservation program and request that the tree ordinance and corresponding Design Standards Manual undergo a process of review and improvement to better obtain Escambia County's goals.

The WRC is available as a citizen resource to help in this activity.

Sincerely,



J.C. Tellefson

Chair, Warrington Revitalization Committee

¹CODE OF ORDINANCES OF ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA 1999, as modified, Published in 1999 by Order of the Board of County Commissioners, Part III Escambia County Land Development Code, available at: https://library.municode.com/fl/escambia_county/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTIIIILADECO

Jimmie N. Jarratt

From: Kenneth Tebay <tebay@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 20, 2018 8:49 PM
To: District1; District2; District3; District4; District5; Timothy R. Day; Jimmie N. Jarratt
Cc: margaretm080808@gmail.com
Subject: tree ordinance review

Hello

I'm writing in support of a review of the current tree ordinance. I would particularly like consideration to be made to adding the following trees for protection or mitigation:

- **Sand Live Oaks** don't reach the size of live oaks, but do have the same value for wildlife and beauty.
- **Long-leaf Pines** Once the most abundant tree in the southeast, with 90 million acres, stabilize and enrich the soil, and store carbon. If burned regularly, long-leaf pine forests become rich, stable ecosystems that can support a vast diversity of plants and wildlife.

Many thanks for your attention,

Carole Tebay

From: margaretm080808@gmail.com
To: [Jimmie N. Jarratt](mailto:Jimmie.N.Jarratt)
Subject: FW: Tree Ordinance Recommendations
Date: Wednesday, October 31, 2018 3:18:19 PM
Attachments: [181031 Recommendations Tree Ordinance.docx](#)

From: margaretm080808@gmail.com <margaretm080808@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 31, 2018 3:05 PM
To: Brent Wipf <BAWipf@myescambia.com>; Jimmie Jarratt <JNJarratt@myescambia.com>; Horace Jones <hljones@myescambia.com>; Brad Bane <BDBane@myescambia.com>
Subject: Tree Ordinance Recommendations

To Whom it may concern Environmental and Development Services;

Attached is a file that shows my recommendations for a “start” to the Tree preservation and protection efforts in Escambia county by changes to the Design Standards Manual.

The goal is to update and improve Escambia County’s tree efforts so that our diverse canopy cover will not be so greatly reduced due to development and to have more success in saving existing medium and old growth trees. Especially to give great protection to Heritage Trees not just cut them down and “mitigate” with a maximum of 10 “stick” trees 2.5” in diameter per acre.

Since the staff report is due before the BOCC next week at the Committee of the Whole meeting, Nov 8th; I will try to add more info, if time allows.

Please send me your planned presentation ASAP. I am especially interested in the recent site developments that Brent Wipf compiled so I can drive by some and see the actual development impact ASAP.

Thank you,

Margaret Hostetter
850-512-7048

**Saved as: 181031 Recommendations Tree Ordinance
Improvements in Design Standards Manuel
By Margaret Hostetter 10/31/2018
MargaretM080808@gmail.com 850-512-7048**

1. Escambia County Design Standards Manuel: Article 2 -Landscaping 2-1-Exemptions (b) Selected Trees **REMOVE the exemption from tree protection if they are over 8” in diameter, have them surveyed and calculated in the mitigation calculations and protected in some cases. Especially long leaf pine trees need protection over 8”. All these type trees contribute a large % of the canopy and are not being counted in tree surveys. So, it is impossible to determine what % of the canopy is being lost.**
2. 2-1.1 (e) Residential Lots **ADD “tree removal on an existing single-family or two-family dwelling over 12” in diameter (DBH) shall require a tree removal permit and payment of mitigation unless deemed to be unhealthy or a hazard by arborist.**
3. 2-1.1 (f) Subdivisions: **ADD “trees removed shall be mitigated in calculations.”**
4. 2-3.1 Tree protection and preservation **ADD “Fines for such unlawful harm or removal shall be \$??? And shall impact the development permitted or being planned”**
5. 2-3.1 (a) 12-inch diameter **Change to 10” diameter**
6. 2-3.1 (d) Heritage trees **Reduce definition from 60” to 34” like in Pensacola**
7. 2-5 Tree removal and replacement **Define “reasonable” as something measurable such as DRC opinion and have the understanding that may mean less than maximum density development will be a result.**
8. 2-5.2 Replacements for removal (a) Replacement ratio **Change “no less than 50%” to 75%**
9. 2-5.2 (c) Replacement limit **Change “need not exceed 25 caliper inches to 50 caliper inches because the canopy loss is huge in the canopy and it is not even being documented in many cases.**
10. 2-5.2 (e) Replacement Fee **Increase the Escambia Tree unit cost from the current \$350 to at least \$400 which is what Pensacola charges.**
11. 2-6.2 Installation (a) 2. Minimum tree area. **Increase minimum radius of the rooting area from 4’ to 6’ for an understory tree and from 6’ to 10’ for a canopy tree.**

From: [Brent A Wipf](#)
To: [William Norvell](#)
Cc: [NP Cheryl & JC Tellefson](#); [Jimmie N. Jarratt](#)
Subject: RE: Trees
Date: Monday, November 05, 2018 8:28:49 AM

Mr. Norvell: Thank you for your input. The discussion has been bumped to the December 6th COW. brent

brent wipf, Manager
Water Quality & Land Management Division
Natural Resources Management Department
3363 West Park Place
Pensacola, FL 32505

-----Original Message-----

From: William Norvell <speaker3@cox.net>
Sent: Friday, November 02, 2018 8:17 AM
To: Brent A Wipf <BAWIPF@myescambia.com>
Cc: NP Cheryl & JC Tellefson <tellefson3853@gmai.com>
Subject: Trees

Brent my name is William Norvell. We met several times discussing the benefits of a living reef, particularly a Navy Point.

I am not sure how your job fits in with recommendations to the COW, but we have asked them to strengthen the county tree ordinance.

Once one of these historic trees is gone it is gone. Some developers consider them as a hindrance to maximizing their profit. Please help the commission see the benefits of historical trees. That said there are so many different ways to define a historical tree. I would ask that we try to save any tree that is 12 inches in diameter. If that is not possible anything is better than we we have.

Thank you.

Sent from my iPad

From: [THOMAS BELL](#)
To: [District1](#); [District2](#); [District3](#); [District4](#); [District5](#); [Jimmie N. Jarratt](#); [HL Jones](#); [Margaret M](#); [lyndol michael](#)
Subject: A New Tree Preservation Ordinance
Date: Wednesday, November 14, 2018 2:02:03 PM

November 14, 2018

Dear Commissioner:

As a longtime Escambia County resident (75 years now), I would like to express my support for a change in the tree ordinance. It appears that the county and the City of Pensacola have much different rules for tree preservation. Of utmost concern is the Oak tree located on the old Turner-Lee-Day School property.

This tree could have saved my life at age 7. I fell down across some of its roots and John Henry (a large boy) stepped on my leg breaking it. Once x-rays were done, it was evident that there was a bone tumor in my distal femur. For four years, I was on crutches and underwent two surgeries while wearing either a brace or cast on my leg. The tree became "MY PLACE" for recess and refuge. I would like to see the tree designated an historical place with a small monument and garden reflecting the history of three men who built the school. Mr. Turner, Mr. Lee and Mr. Day.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Bell
1614 Spalding Circle
Pensacola, FL 32514

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Jimmie N. Jarratt

From: Maureen McBride <mmcbridere@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 19, 2018 3:33 PM
To: District1; District2; District3; District4; District5; Horace L Jones; trday@myescambai.com; Jimmie N. Jarratt
Subject: Escambia County Tree Ordinance

To Whom it May Concern:

I am a concerned citizen and resident of Escambia County. I am asking you to change the current tree ordinance to include aging trees.

Trees provide a great number of community benefits include enhancing property values and aesthetics, inexpensively treating and managing stormwater and air quality, providing wildlife habitat and energy savings.

Escambia county has experienced rapid growth and in order to protect our trees, You, Commissioner, needs to help Escambia County with revising the ordinance to help protect older trees, while still allowing for growth within Escambia County.

In the most popular areas in Escambia County, one of the big attractions are the trees. Take for instance, East Hill. Can you imagine this area with only new trees? Or the tree tunnel on 12th Avenue?

A change to the Ordinance would help protect our aging trees while implementing a management and development of new tree planting, where the county would plant trees on a schedule to help maintain the number of trees in the area.

Trees add so much to a community, like in California at Sequoia National Park, or in Italy a tree in excess of 1230 years old! Or a cypress tree in Central Florida that lived to be 3500 years old!

But beyond these beauties, the beautiful majestic trees that adorn Escambia County are part of what this area so beautiful, offering shelter on a hot day and year round awe factor!

Please protect our aging tree population and protect Escambia County. The ordinance needs to be reviewed and revised to reflect our current growth and development.

Thank you for your time.

I will be at the meeting on Thursday, December 6th, 2018 to support tree ordinance improvements.

Sincerely,

Maureen McBride
321 Chattman Street
Pensacola FL 32507
850-324-4720 Cell

Make it a great day!

Jimmie N. Jarratt

From: Sanderson, Beth <beth.sanderson@floridamoves.com>
Sent: Monday, December 03, 2018 12:11 PM
To: District1; District2; District3; District4; District5; TRDAY@MYESCAMBIA.CO; Jimmie N. Jarratt; Horace L Jones
Subject: Please protect our aging tree population in Escambia County

To Whom it May Concern:

I am a concerned citizen and resident of Escambia County since 1994. I am asking you to change the current tree ordinance to include aging trees.

Trees provide a great number of community benefits include enhancing property values and aesthetics, inexpensively treating and managing storm water and air quality, providing wildlife habitat and energy savings.

Escambia county has experienced rapid growth and in order to protect our trees, You, Commissioner, needs to help Escambia County with revising the ordinance to help protect older trees, while still allowing for growth within Escambia County.

In the most popular areas in Escambia County, one of the big attractions are the trees. Take for instance, East Hill. Can you imagine this area with only new trees? Or the tree tunnel on 12th Avenue?

A change to the Ordinance would help protect our aging trees while implementing a management and development of new tree planting, where the county would plant trees on a schedule to help maintain the number of trees in the area.

Trees add so much to a community, like in California at Sequoia National Park, or in Italy a tree in excess of 1230 years old! Or a cypress tree in Central Florida that lived to be 3500 years old!

The ordinance needs to be reviewed and revised to reflect our current growth and development.

Thank you for your time and efforts on this matter.

I will be at the meeting on Thursday, December 6th, 2018 to support tree ordinance improvements.

Best Regards,

Beth Sanderson, REALTOR®
SL3332343
Coldwell Banker Residential Real Estate
Cell: 850-384-7780

The greatest compliment you can give me is the referral of your family and friends!

Jimmie N. Jarratt

From: john smith <smithjd53@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, December 03, 2018 2:19 PM
To: Jimmie N. Jarratt
Subject: Re: Solution ?
Attachments: West Kingsfield ALERT.docx

Hi Jimmie , I have some suggestions to apply to the existing tree ordinance. Please run these up the chain for review. I will be at the Meeting on Thursday to make recommendations and present the findings of my research concerning the ancient trails. I made a presentation at the Pensacola Archaeology Society with Dr. Bense and Dr. Benchley from UWF in house, much encouragement for the project. Thank you for all your help I look forward to working with you in the future.

The trees Thank You!

On Mon, Dec 3, 2018 at 1:45 PM Jimmie N. Jarratt <JNJARRAT@myescambia.com> wrote:

Mr. Smith,

Attached is a sheet showing several different examples on how to determine DBH of mature trees.

Let me know if I can be of any further assistance,

Jimmie

Jimmie Jarratt

Environmental Analyst/Arborist FL-5447A

Water Quality & Land Management Division

Department of Natural Resources Management

Escambia County, 3363 West Park Place

Pensacola FL 32505; Phone 850-595-3535

From: john smith <smithjd53@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, December 03, 2018 1:30 PM
To: Liz Bush <mebush@myescambia.com>
Cc: Jimmie N. Jarratt <JNJARRAT@myescambia.com>
Subject: Re: Solution ?

Thank you for your response.

On Mon, Dec 3, 2018 at 10:40 AM Liz Bush <mebush@myescambia.com> wrote:

Mr. Smith,

You did not offend me or the County and I have not been blowing you off but there is a plan in place for the extension of Kingsfield Road and at this time there will not be any changes. Once we have a design engineer under contract, I will pass the information to them and they can evaluate it.

The area you are referring to as being the solution that's located 637 yards south of the existing road is a high pressure gas line easement. Under law, we would not be able to construct a road on top of the gas lines that are located within the easement, nor would it be safe to.

I did notice that you had located several trees as having a circumference greater than 15' but our County Arborist measures trees as the diameter at chest height, or 4', from the ground. Some of the trees you have marked along Kingsfield Road may not meet the criteria for being considered a "heritage or century" oak.

If you have any questions about how the County sizes and classes the trees, please contact Ms. Jimmie Jarrett at the email address listed above.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions.

Elizabeth Bush

Construction Manager

Escambia County Public Works Department, Engineering Division

3363 West Park Place

Pensacola, Florida 32505

mebush@myescambia.com

Office: (850) 595-3450

Cell: (850) 554-3063

Escambia County is striving to maintain a high level of Customer Service and we welcome your comments.

From: john smith <smithjd53@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 29, 2018 7:56 AM
To: Liz Bush <mebush@myescambia.com>
Subject: Solution ?

Good morning Ms. Liz, I hope this email finds you well!

I am not one to present a problem with out a possible solution. I looked on google earth and 637 Yards south is a dirt road that runs west and is in basically an area of open property all the way to Beulah Rd. Perhaps this would be a suitable route with less impact on people and environment?

I am not sure why you stopped having any contact with me after blowing up my phone and email to get the requested information. Then, Nothing when I request a simple confirmation of receipt. What gives ? Did I offend you or the County?

Please advise :

Regards , John

Florida has a very broad public records law. Under Florida law, both the content of emails and email addresses are public records. If you do not want the content of your email or your email address released in response to a public records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead, contact this office by phone or in person.

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Hello West Kingsfield residents!

I met some of you at the town hall meeting at Pine Woods church with commissioner Steven Barry. Since then, I have provided the county with maps and a suggestion to move the new road 637 yards to the south for a clear path through to Beulah Road. I am along with others proposing changes to the current county tree ordinance:

1. Reduce heritage size requirements from 60" to 30" in diameter.
2. No mitigation for cutting heritage trail trees or any tree 50" diameter or larger.
3. Incorporate trees into construction project management site plan(s), rather than flat lot clearing of the live oak tree(s) and other species as well.
4. Increase tree space and growth space requirements for replants.
5. Add additional species of trees to the ordinance list, i.e.: Cedar, Pine, Magnolia, Pecan, Red Oak and Hickory.
6. Change the wording/terms of the ordinance mitigations and requirements.
7. Add more green space and soft space to increase protection against future flooding issues.
8. Charge for removal against calculated value for canopy of existing trees.
9. Allow/create, citizen review board to have input on planning board.



**ATTEND the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) MEETING PUBLIC
INPUT FORUM**

Thursday, the 6th of December @ 4:00 p.m.



221 PALAFOX PLACE, 1ST FLOOR

If you can attend, please do so! TO SPEAK IN FAVOR OF IMPROVEMENTS OR GIVE YOUR 2 TO 3 MINUTES TO ANOTHER SPEAKER IN SUPPORT OF TREE ORDINANCE IMPROVEMENTS ... OR JUST COME!



We will be addressing the tree ordinance upgrades, which will ultimately save your way of life and the trees from disappearing. If you wish to speak, please do.

- ▶ *It is important to attend this meeting so the BOCC may see your presence and your effort of support of the changes listed before the BOCC.* This will be affecting you directly in the future. **Please come for a show of support!**

I will speak, and you can give your time to me if you like. +++ If 20 or more concerned citizens show up to the meeting, it will have enormous impact!

In the time between now and the 6th of December, please email ALL five (5) BOCC members and staff concerned (see reference on reverse). Please be sure to put "Tree Ordinance Improvements" in subject line and attach the suggested improvements. I hope to see you all there!

The trees and I thank you,
John Smith

Cell: 850.384.0586

Email: smithjd53@gmail.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Heritage-Live-Oak-Tree-Project-Of-Escambia-County-178644186391195/>

JEFF BERGOSH DISTRICT1@MYESCAMBIA.COM
DOUG UNDERHILL DISTRICT2@MYESCAMBIA.COM
LUMON MAY DISTRICT3@MYESCAMBIA.COM
ROBERT BENDER DISTRICT4@MYESCAMBIA.COM
STEVEN BERRY DISTRICT5@MYESCAMBIA.COM
HORACE JONES, DIRECTOR DEVELOPMENT SERVICES HLJONES@MYESCAMBIA.COM
TIM DAY, SENIOR NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGER TRDAY@MYESCAMBIA.COM
JIMMIE JARRAT, ARBORIST JNJARRAT@MYESCAMBIA.COM

UP TO 200 WORD EMAIL TO OPINION@PNJ.COM

PLEASE SHARE THIS WITH EVERYONE!



CONTACT MARGARET HOSTETTER TO BE PUT IN THE LOOP FOR OTHER ACTIVITIES AND
UPDATES ON THE ISSUE: MARGARETM080808@GMAIL.COM
CELL: 850-512-7048

**Public Comments Received by County Staff
After to December 13, 2018 Committee of the Whole**

February 14, 2019

To Planning Board Members,

I am submitting a list of general recommended improvements regarding the Tree Ordinance which is on the agenda March 5th, 2019. These ideas have come from weeks of study and consultation with others. I favor responsible development and support the **LDC's ARTICLE 7. -LANDSCAPING Sec. 5-7.1 Purpose of article. "This article establishes land development standards for landscaping that implement comprehensive plan policies requiring development to apply professional practices for landscaping and tree protection. It is the intent of these standards to promote the environmental and community benefits of a healthy, diverse, and well managed urban forest." We will demonstrate that the current practices are not meeting the goals of the LDC and that removal of "protected" trees are NOT being mitigated sufficiently to attain the goals for trees. The trees are being squandered, not protected, at an alarming rate!**

By way of background, I was born and raised in Escambia, have lived in New Orleans, then Dallas and eventually Fort Lauderdale for many years. My husband & I moved back to Escambia in early 2009. My husband has been a builder. I was a Realtor for many years. We appreciate builders and developers and know trees have to be cut down to develop property. We are simply saying, **"We can do better...We must do better!"** There is a new Facebook group dedicated to the effort to bring about improvements to the Tree Ordinance called **"Trees of Escambia County Florida."**

I will also be providing another document to the Planning Board that shows the specific changes we are recommending to the Tree Ordinance's two sections; the Land Development Code (LDC) and in the Design Standards Manuel (DSM) so you can see where the general recommended improvements in this list fit into the current ordinance by Chapter, Article, Section, etc. Sort of a "strike through."

Since we may communicate with you members of the Planning Board in advance of the meetings on this issue, I am requesting an appointment prior to the meeting 3/5/19.

Sincerely,

Margaret Hostetter

See attached pages 2 &3

1. FIRST, divide Escambia into Zones for Escambia's Tree Ordinance. Escambia is too large and diverse to have a "one-size fits all" Tree Ordinance. We have regulations in many other areas of the County's government that recognize this fact. These suggested changes to the Tree Ordinance will affect only the area designated as the **Urban Service Area of Escambia** which currently extends North to the Quintette Road area in Cantonment, I believe.
2. Define what "**SUCCESS**" will be in the Tree Ordinance. This requires a real measurable set of GOALS. An accurate baseline of the current tree inventory shall first be determined. Draft a specific, detailed plan for Escambia's "Tree Shield Goal;" to include the desired diversity of trees, plan for new public plantings, achieve a % increase in preserving existing trees in new developments and select the year the goal shall be attained. I propose we aim for the year 2025 as the 1st Tree Shield Goal in Escambia.
3. Reduce the diameter of "protected" trees to be counted in the Tree Inventory/Surveys from 12" to 10" DBH.
4. Include Residential Developments in Tree Inventory/Survey requirements. The purpose of the Tree Inventory/Survey is to gather statistics about the tree canopy and to calculate amount of inches of trees to replace or mitigate for the "protected" trees removed. By having a Tree Inventory/Survey it is hoped that all involved; developers, builders, county authorities in the development services division, property buyers and our County's arborist will look at these protected trees with awareness and effort to preserve some on the development. The County arborist shall be responsible to maintain the statistics about the tree canopy, diversity of age, type, etc. of trees to report annually whether Escambia is on track with our Tree Shield GOALS.
5. Include Pine trees in the Tree Inventory/Survey requirements. Same reason as above.
6. Insure minimum 15% "landscape area," which is required in the current Tree Ordinance, on all new developments is understood to include preserving some existing trees and is not just storm pond type space, devoid of existing trees. See the definition of "Landscape Area" in LDC
7. Add severe fines and penalties, including jail time, like Pensacola's Tree Ordinance has; for willful, unlawful tree cutting activity. Currently, fines for illegal activity may just be considered a "cost of doing business" by some. A real deterrent is needed.
8. Reduce size of Heritage Tree from 60" to 34" DBH, which is what Pensacola has defined Heritage Trees size as for many years.
9. Tree Inventory/Survey require certain type of Oaks be specified such as: live, laurel, water. This will allow engineers, planners and county authorities to know which trees are more desirable when trying to "preserve and protect" existing trees in a development site.

10. Terminology in the ordinance that is “subjective” pertaining to the County authorities’ or Development Services’ **AUTHORITY**. All such terminology shall be clearly defined and no longer subjective or qualified. For example, “reasonable” shall be something measurable... Compare that to all the terminology pertaining to developers’ rights which is definite, numeric and clear. The County’s authorities or Developmental Services staff shall have and do have in the ordinance the final authority to determine matters regarding trees and environmental issues. But with the current subjective language in the ordinance it seems it certainly “would not hold up in court” if there were a disagreement with a developer. It should be understood that when there is a wooded property, the density for development will not be as great as might otherwise be allowed because of the County staff’s duty to “preserve and protect” certain existing trees.
11. Remove the Replacement limit or “cap” of 25 caliper-inches per development site acre. This additional “limit or cap” effectively makes a “mockery” of the process of the Tree Inventory/Survey which is to determine the existing tree canopy size and to calculate what the developer shall be required to contribute or plant to mitigate for the lost benefits of the trees removed. Why? Because this provision says no matter what the calculation of trees was... the limit, cap, MAXIMUM a developer shall pay or plant is for 25 inches in diameter of trees per acre! That is outrageous and it has been going on for 20 years.
12. Increase the minimum radius of the rooting areas and increase the minimum spacing between trees for installation of trees in medians and such public areas. Also, plant trees that are of an appropriate type for the space available. For example; it would be tragic to plant canopy trees such as live oaks in a median where the radius is 6 feet and find that is 40 -50 years, when it is a glorious tree, it has to be cut down because the roots are breaking up the pavement.
13. Tree Service companies must be licensed and insured to operate within Escambia and the companies shall be financially liable for any fines 50/50 with the property owner for unlawful cutting of trees or land clearing of any kind.
14. Escambia’s accounting system software needs to be updated so it shall have the capability of producing reports of the amount of Tree Mitigation Fees, Tree Penalties, Tree Permit Fees by each Development reference number and/or name.
15. Escambia should invest in a tree re-locator machine and aggressively plan a replanting program to “save” mature trees by relocating them to areas in the county designated by an overall beautification plan. Such as; street tree plantings, neighborhood plantings, parks, etc.