

MEMORANDUM



DATE: March 31, 2014

TO: Michael Herring, City Administrator

FROM: *me* Mike Geisel, Director of Public Services

RE: Street Tree Policy

As you know, at the last Planning and Public Works Committee, we discussed the current Council policy related to tree removals within the City right of way. The Committee confirmed staff's interim process and directed us to revise the policy accordingly. Once revised, the policy was to be returned for review by the committee.

Accordingly, attached is the revised policy, reflecting the direction provided by the Planning and Public Works Committee. I request that this revised policy be placed on the next committee agenda for review, approval, and subsequently to be forwarded to the City Council for adoption.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please advise.

Attachments

Cc Jim Eckrich, Public Works Director \ City Engineer

*oh'd
JMG
3/31/14*

**CITY OF CHESTERFIELD
POLICY STATEMENT**

PUBLIC WORKS		NO.	51
SUBJECT	Street Tree Removals	INDEX	PW
DATE ISSUED	6/1/2009	DATE REVISED	

POLICY

The Department of Public Services is responsible for identifying trees within the right of way which are to be removed. Department personnel shall determine the condition of a street tree by visual inspection. If Department Staff determines that a street tree is hazardous, dead, dying or diseased, Staff shall prioritize and schedule the removal of the street trees to the extent that funding permits.

Priority for removal shall be given to those street trees that pose an immediate, imminent or potential danger to the safety and welfare of the general public.

In general, the City does not permit the removal of an otherwise healthy tree within the right of way. If a property owner desires to remove a healthy tree within the right of way, adjacent to his\her property, the Public Works Director MAY authorize a no cost special use permit for the property owner to remove the tree at no cost to the City. All other permit conditions and insurance requirements will be as required by the Public Works Director.

In some instances, otherwise healthy trees may become a nuisance. The Public Works Director may remove trees which, in his opinion, are detrimental to the public interests. Examples of such potential nuisances include but are not limited to: obstructing sight distance, shielding street lights, damaging sidewalks or sewers, low hanging branches which provide inadequate sidewalk or street clearance, deposition of pods, fruit or seeds, and trees with thorns.

Although not an approved species for new street trees within the City of Chesterfield, there exist a substantial number of Sweetgum trees throughout the City. Due to problems related to the prickly fruit which are unique to this tree species, some residents desire their removal. When a resident requests

removal of an otherwise healthy Sweetgum tree located within the City's public right of way, The Public Works Director may consider its removal under the following conditions:

- 1) The resident participates in the street tree replacement program. A replacement tree must be selected and the appropriate fee paid for each tree requested to be removed.
- 2) The Public Works Director, or his designee shall attempt to communicate with the Subdivision trustees and advise them of the requested removal. While the ultimate authority and decision to remove the tree rests with the Public Works Director, the trustees may provide additional information, awareness and assistance for the Director to make an appropriate decision.
- 3) The City of Chesterfield takes pride in its tree lined streets and is desirous of maintaining the character of neighborhoods. Whenever possible, the Public Works Director should consider recent removals of street trees in the immediate vicinity and attempt to minimize the impact of the tree(s) removal on the overall character of the community.

RECOMMENDED BY:

_____	_____
Department Head/Council Committee (if applicable)	Date
_____	_____
City Administrator	Date
_____	_____
City Council (if applicable)	Date

CITY OF CHESTERFIELD
POLICY STATEMENT

PUBLIC WORKS
SUBJECT Street Tree Removal
DATE
ISSUED 6/1/2009

NO. 51
INDEX PW
DATE
REVISED

POLICY

The Department of Planning and Public Works is responsible for identifying trees within the right of way which are to be removed. Department personnel shall determine the condition of a street tree by visual inspection. If it is determined that the street tree is dead, diseased, dying, or creates a potential hazard, Staff shall prioritize and schedule the removal of the street trees to the extent that funding permits. Priority for removal shall be given to those street trees that pose an immediate, imminent or potential danger to the safety and welfare of the general public.

RECOMMENDED BY:

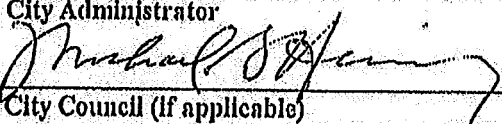


Department Head/Council Committee (if applicable)

6/1/09

Date

APPROVED BY:

City Administrator


City Council (if applicable)

Date
6/1/09

Date