



REQUEST: Amend City of Fort Lauderdale Unified Land Development Regulations (ULDR) Section 47-21, Landscape and Tree Preservation Requirements

CASE NUMBER	UDP-T24007
APPLICANT	City of Fort Lauderdale
GENERAL LOCATION	City-Wide
ULDR SECTION	Section 47-21, Landscape and Tree Preservation Requirements
NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	10-day legal ad
SECTION 166.033, FLORIDA STATUTES	N/A
ACTION REQUIRED	Recommend approval or denial to City Commission
AUTHORED BY	Karlanne Devonish, Principal Urban Planner <i>KD</i> <i>JH</i>

BACKGROUND:

The proposed amendments to the City’s Unified Land Development Regulations (ULDR), Section 47-21, Landscape and Tree Preservation Requirements were presented to the Planning and Zoning Board (PZB) on June 19, 2024. The Board deferred the item to the August 21, 2024, meeting, to allow staff to address comments from the advisory group with a request for a status update at the July 17, 2024, PZB meeting. The June 19, 2024, PZB meeting minutes are attached as Exhibit 1.

At the July 17, 2024, PZB meeting, staff provided an update to the Board that staff was able to address 15 of the 16 items from the advisory group, which is reflected in the current proposed amendments. The only outstanding item is related to the proposed language for tree preservation credits. The advisory group proposed a different option for tree preservation credits which staff is amenable to continue discussing with the advisory group but believes that this option would be best applied to the installation phase of the landscape amendments efforts.

The proposed amendments are attached as Exhibit 2.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN CONSISTENCY

The proposed amendments align with the City’s Comprehensive Plan as follows:

- Conservation Element 3.1: Sustainable Landscape and Tree Canopy. Preserve and enhance the natural environment and beauty of the city, improve infrastructure, and promote better quality of life by creating a safe, healthy, and sustainable landscape. The City shall continue to enhance its tree canopy with a goal of 33% Citywide canopy coverage by 2040.
- Climate Change Element 1.1.7: Expand tree canopy citywide to help reduce the heat island effect. The City of Fort Lauderdale shall continue to expand tree canopy coverage to 33% by 2040 and reduce heat island effects.
- Urban Design Element 3.1.3: Encourage pedestrian and transit-oriented developments with greater emphasis on sidewalk width, accommodation of multi-modal transportation options, incorporation of street trees and shading devices, and bicycle facilities.
- Urban Design Element 3.2.5: Maintain an approved plants list derived from the Florida Friendly Landscaping program for usage for streetscaping.

PLANNING & ZONING BOARD REVIEW OPTIONS:

The Planning and Zoning Board, in its capacity as the Local Planning Agency, shall determine whether the proposed amendments are consistent with the City of Fort Lauderdale’s

Comprehensive Plan and whether the Planning and Zoning Board recommends approval of the proposed amendments to the City Commission.

EXHIBITS:

1. June 19, 2014, PZB Meeting Minutes
2. Amendments to ULDR, Section 47-21, Landscape and Tree Preservation Requirements