



Development Services Department

STAFF REPORT

An Ordinance amending Chapter 44, Article II, Code of Ordinances, City of Elgin, TX, by amending Division 1, Residential Requirements, Non-residential and multifamily requirements, and irrigation; providing for a savings clause and repealing conflicting ordinances and resolutions.

Date: October 28, 2020

Hearing Dates: Planning & Zoning Commission – October 26, 2020
City Council – November 10, 2020

REQUEST SUMMARY

City staff is requesting modifications to the Landscaping Code to allow for the following:

1. Reduce shrubs from five (5) gallon minimum to three (3) gallon minimum.
2. Make all trees a minimum two (2) inch caliper instead of one (1) inch for small trees and three (3) inches for large trees. Medium trees are already at two (2) inch caliper.
3. Specifies that drought tolerant grasses are to be planted in street yard. Street yards are areas between the building and right-of-way bounded by the side property lines.
4. Allow areas outside street yards to be planted with drought tolerant grass, live plant material ground cover, or pervious decorative ground cover.

STAFF ANALYSIS

The modification to the landscape code will allow for standardized and reduced planting sizes. Smaller plants typically have a better survivability rate than larger plants and are easier to transport and plant. In the situation where the tree planting caliper will go from one (1) inch to two (2) inches, this change allows for standardization. The requirement for drought tolerant grass and non-vegetation will help reduce water usage since most irrigation systems in this area use potable water for plants.

ATTACHMENT

Additional information is provided through attached exhibit.

1. Proposed Ordinance.