

**MOBILE TREE COMMISSION
STAFF REPORT****Date: June 16, 2015****APPLICANT NAME**

Mayor Sandy Stimpson

LOCATION

East side of Burroughs Lane from Washington Boulevard running North to Burroughs Elementary School

REQUEST

Remove eight (8) Water Oaks ranging in size from 12" to 24" DBH

CITY COUNCIL**DISTRICT**

District 4

PRESENT ZONING

R-1, Single-Family Residential

HEALTH OF TREE

continue to decline.

The trees appear to have some health issues that will

CONTRIBUTING**FACTORS**

The City of Mobile wishes to install a sidewalk along Burroughs Lane, from Washington Boulevard to Burroughs Elementary School to provide students a safer path to walk to school.

ENGINEERING**COMMENTS****TRAFFIC ENGINEERING****COMMENTS****URBAN FORESTRY****COMMENTS**

Based upon a site visit and visual inspection of the trees in question, most of the water oaks have several health issues that will only continue to decline. One of the areas for the proposed sidewalk is wooded and has several trees that would remain after removal of the trees in the right of way. Forestry recommends approval of the request for removal.

PLANNING**COMMENTS**

The request to remove the 8 water oaks is to allow the construction of a sidewalk to provide a safe route for children to walk to the neighborhood elementary school. Based on the drawings submitted with the application, given the existing adjacent open drainage ditch, there is no room in the right-of-way for replacement trees. Similarly, across Burroughs lane, even without a sidewalk, there is limited area for any trees given the existing overhead power lines.

ANALYSIS

As stated in the comments sections above, the City of Mobile is requesting permission to remove 8 water oaks from the east side right-of-way of Burroughs Lane, running North from Washington Boulevard to Burroughs Elementary School. The City wishes to construct a sidewalk in this area to provide a safe path for area children to walk to Burroughs Elementary School. The sidewalk is needed for several reasons, including the open ditch(es) along Burroughs Lane, the potential for commercial traffic as properties on the West side and at the North terminus of Burroughs Lane are zoned I-1, Light Industrial.

This project will be done under a TAP (Transportation Alternatives Program – formerly Safe Routes to Schools) grant. Mobile County made the application for the grant and will be administering the project. However, since it is located in the City, the Mayor has made to application to the Tree Commission for the tree removal.

The trees in question are water oaks, which are on the Tree Commission's list of undesirable trees for the right-of-way, and are frequently approved for removal. The Commission has a standing rule requiring a 2 for 1 replacement when removing healthy trees; however, based on Forestry comments indicating that the trees are in varying degrees of declining health, this may be an instance where waiving or suspending that rule may be an appropriate consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

Based on the preceding, it is recommended that the request for the removal of 8 water oaks on the East side of Burroughs Lane, from Washington Boulevard to Burroughs Elementary School be approved. As the application is by the Mayor of the City of Mobile, it is assumed that the City of Mobile will be removing the trees for this project.

Once the project is complete, if there is room in the right-of-way whereby a tree would not encroach into the open ditch or undermine the new sidewalk, the Tree Commission may want to consider a partnership with Parks and Recreation, Forestry Unit to arrange for tree plantings that would provide some areas of shade for the young students as they walk to school.

2015 MAY 11 P 3:35



APPLICATION FOR PERMIT

CITY OF MOBILE
OFFICE OF TREE COMMISSION

Application No: _____
Date: _____

1. Applicant:

Name Mayor Sandy Stimpson

Address 205 Government Street

Mobile, Alabama 36602

Telephone Number 251-208-7395

2. Owner (if different from applicant):

Name City of Mobile

Address 205 Government Street

Mobile, Alabama 36602

Telephone Number 251-208-7457

3. Location of Tree: East Side of Burrough's Lane (see attached sketch)

4. Type of Tree: Varies (see attached sketch) Trim _____ Remove X

5. Approximate Diameter four (4) feet from the ground: Varies Height Varies

6. Reason for Removal or Trimming as Requested: Construction of sidewalk to allow
children a safer path to walk to the school

Sandy Stimpson
Applicant

Owner – if different from applicant

The above application is (Approved, Disapproved) this _____ day of _____.

Chairman of the Tree Commission

P. O. Box 1827 – Mobile, Alabama 36633-1827

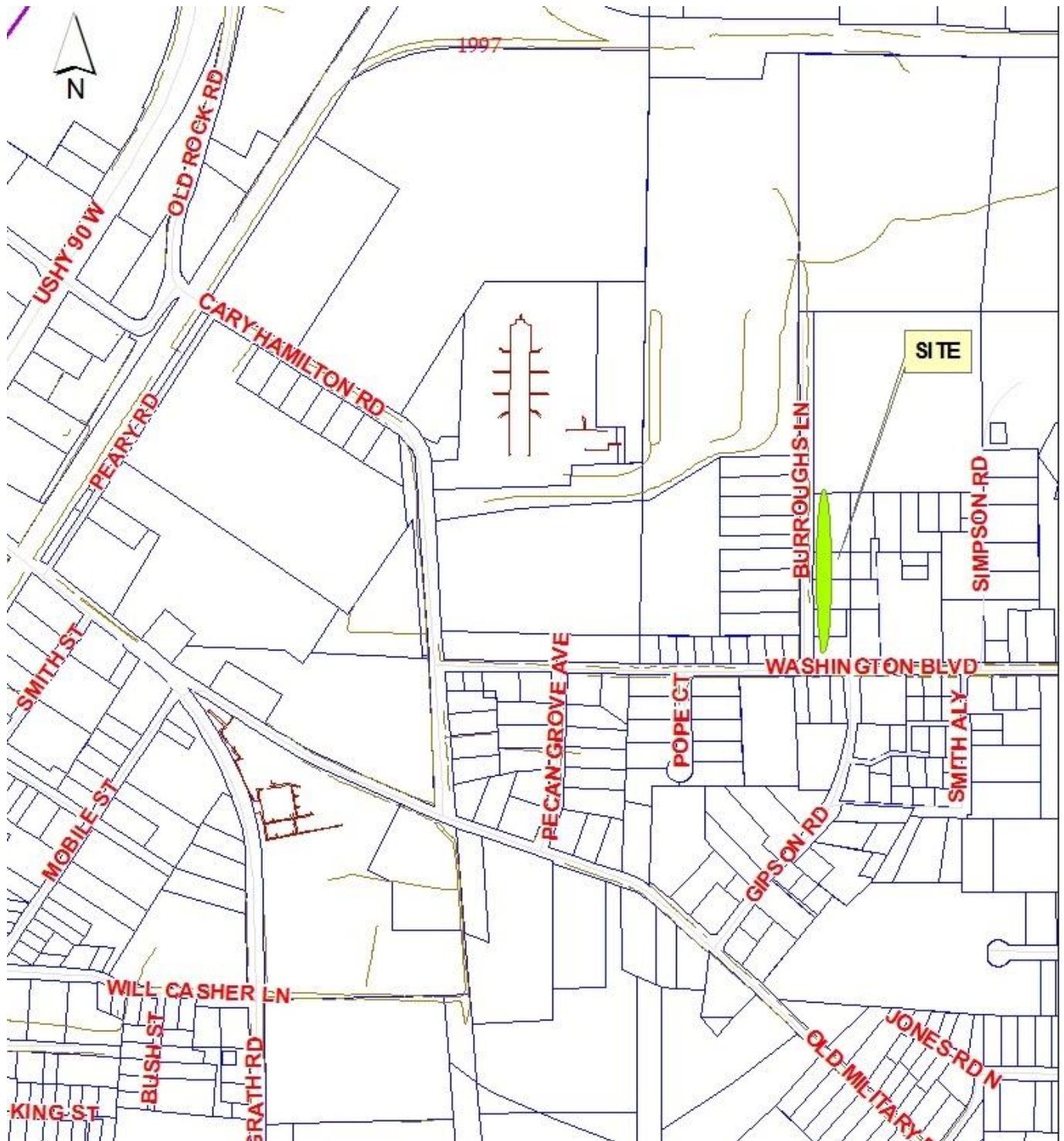
Telephone: 251/208-7091

Fax: 251/208-7896

e-mail: forestry@cityofmobile.org

Form 150UF004

Mobile Tree Commission

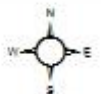


Application P-2015-013

Date June 16, 2015

Location East side of Burroughs Lane, North of Washington

Request Remove 8 Water Oak trees



Mobile Tree Commission

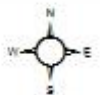


Application P-2015-013

Date June 16, 2015

Location East side of Burroughs Lane, North of Washington

Request Remove 8 Water Oak trees



Mobile Tree Commission



Application P-2015-013

Date June 16, 2015

Location East side of Burroughs Lane, North of Washington

Request Remove 8 Water Oak trees







Google





6362 Burroughs Ln

Theodore, Alabama

Street View - May 2011



Google