

MOBILE TREE COMMISSION

STANDING RULES

ARTICLE I. MEETINGS

The regular meetings of the Mobile Tree Commission (the Commission) shall be held the third Tuesday of each month at 4:30 p.m. at a convenient place designated by the Chairman, and are open to the public. A regular meeting shall be postponed or dispensed with if it is known in advance that a quorum cannot be present.

ARTICLE II. APPLICATION FORM

The Commission shall establish a form, or forms, by which application can be made to cut, remove, trim or create any condition injurious to any tree in any street right-of-way in the City, and on which the Commission can show if such application was denied or granted.

Forms shall be issued, completed, and filed in triplicate. The Commission shall designate a place where such forms may be obtained and where they shall be filed when completed.

Applications may only be filed by a property owner adjacent to the tree for which the permit is sought, or with a written statement by said property owner authorizing submission of the application. A list of the names and addresses (on mailing labels, with a standard copy of the labels) of neighboring property owners (adjacent in both directions along the same street frontage(s), and directly across the street); the cost of First Class postage; and a \$1.00 notification fee for each label shall accompany each application.

ARTICLE III. APPLICATIONS TO THE COMMISSION

Applications filed according to the filing deadline/meeting schedule established by the Commission shall be reviewed by the Commission at its next regular meeting, and appropriate action taken only if applicant or designee is present and, if not, the application will be laid over to the next meeting of the Commission. In considering any application the Commission shall base its decision on: (a) whether the public and private benefit that will result from approving the application will outweigh the public and private benefit that will result from denying it; (b) if granting all similar applications under similar conditions, so as to avoid discrimination, would result in gradual but eventual elimination of a large portion of the trees in the City; or (c) if the application should be granted in part although it should be denied in whole.

When any governmental body or utility files an application that it is or may be reasonably necessary to trim, cut or remove trees in a designated area to prevent a public hazard or to provide efficient and economical service to the public, then such certificate shall be conclusive evidence for the approval of the application. However, such application shall still be made prior to work, unless the tree poses an imminent danger. The Commission may grant continuing permission to trim, cut or remove trees in any

area described in an application provided removal of any tree shall be reported to the Commission, along with reason for removal within 30 calendar days. Removal, trimming, or cutting of trees posing an imminent threat shall be reported to the Commission as soon as possible.

ARTICLE IV. INDIVIDUALS OR BUSINESSES

Two for one replacement trees 3 inch caliper to be required for removal of healthy trees 6 inch DBH and larger or one tree for every 50 feet of real property frontage (whichever is less). If deemed appropriate by the Commission, in lieu of actual planting, a donation may be made to the Tree Bank in an amount equal to the cost of each tree and the planting thereof, to be determined by the Tree Commission. The cost of such to be determined annually by the Tree Commission. Species of replacement trees are to be recommended by the staff based on location. Costs for removal of healthy trees should be absorbed by applicant. Replacement trees are to be warrantied and maintained for a period of one year.

ARTICLE V. CITY/STATE/COUNTY

Road Widening/New Road Construction - two for one replacement trees 3 inch DBH to be required for removal of healthy trees 6 inch DBH and larger or one tree for every 50 feet (whichever is less). The minimum size of the tree to be replaced is one and one half inch DBH. If deemed appropriate by the Commission, in lieu of actual planting, a donation may be made to the Tree Bank in an amount equal to the cost of each tree and the planting thereof, to be determined by the Tree Commission. Species of replacement trees are to be recommended by the staff based on location.

ARTICLE VI. DEFINITIONS

Tree	A woody perennial plant that reached a height of a least 10 feet, usually having a high single trunk or main stem, with branches extending from the trunk to produce a crown or top (this is from definitions furnished by Bartlett Tree Expert Company)
Existing trees	Any living trees.
Trees deemed suitable for new planting	shall include Live Oaks and Magnolias
Non-approved trees	Camphor, Black Willow, Tallow (popcorn) and other trees determined by the Planning and Forestry staff(s), with input from the Commission.
Critical root zone	The area surrounding the tree equal to the DBH in inches multiplied by 12 and divided in half.
Street rights-of-ways	The area governed by lines as established by the Engineering Department of the City keeping in mind that such lines do not always coincide with sidewalks or other lines considered to be the front boundaries of various properties.
Table (Lay on the Table)	Sometimes a member wants to lay a main motion aside temporarily without setting a time for resuming its consideration but with the provision that the motion can be taken up again whenever the majority so decides. This is accomplished by a motion to table or to lay on the table. (See Roberts Rules)

ARTICLE VII. TO ADOPT, AMEND, RESCIND AND SUSPEND

Standing Rules may be adopted without previous notice by a majority vote at any regular meeting. Standing Rules may be amended or rescinded by a majority vote at any regular meeting. Standing Rules may be suspended at any one meeting by a majority vote. No Standing Rule shall be adopted, amended, rescinded or suspended so as to allow action in conflict with State Law or the by-laws of this Commission.