

Ordinance Fact Sheet

TO: CITY COUNCIL DATE: April 15, 2002

FROM: CITY ATTORNEY

SUBJECT: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PASADENA AMENDING
CHAPTER 8.52 OF THE PASADENA MUNICIPAL CODE,
ENTITLED "CITY TREES AND TREE PROTECTION ORDINANCE"
AND AMENDING RELATED SECTIONS OF TITLE 17 AND CHAPTER 1.25.

TITLE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PASADENA AMENDING CHAPTER 8.52 OF THE PASADENA MUNICIPAL CODE, ENTITLED "CITY TREES AND TREE PROTECTION ORDINANCE" AND AMENDING RELATED SECTIONS OF TITLE 17 AND CHAPTER 1.25.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF ORDINANCE:

At its meeting of September 17, 2001, the City Council directed the amendment of Pasadena Municipal Code Chapter 8.52 to create specific protections for trees within the City of Pasadena.

Attached to this agenda report are two drafts of the City Trees and Tree Protection Ordinance. The first, Attachment "A" is the version which is recommended for adoption. As described in the concurrently filed Agenda Report, this is a "Revised Draft With Staff Recommendations." which was prepared at the request of the City Manager to address a number of issues which arose in the course of public review and comment, to include some staff initiated recommendations and to present a number of technical refinements to the draft of the Ordinance which was submitted to the Planning Commission.

Also presented, as Attachment "B," is the version of the Ordinance submitted to the Planning Commission.

The purpose of this proposed ordinance is to recognize the substantial economic, environmental and aesthetic importance of trees within the

MEETING OF 4/15/2002

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community, to preserve and grow Pasadena's canopy cover by protecting landmark, native and specimen trees on specified areas of private property and to expand the protection of street trees and trees on public property.

Therefore, it is the purpose of this City Trees and Tree Protection Ordinance to:

- A. Preserve and grow Pasadena's canopy cover by protecting landmark, native and specimen trees on specified areas of private property and expanding the protection of street trees and trees on public property.
- B. Safeguard the City's urban forest by providing for the regulation of the protection, planting, maintenance and removal of trees in the city.
- C. Protect the visual and aesthetic character of the city.
- D. Improve and enhance property values by conserving and adding to the distinctive and unique aesthetic character of the many areas of Pasadena.
- E. Improve the quality of life for residents, visitors and wildlife.
- F. Create favorable conditions for the protection and propagation of designated landmark, native and specimen trees, for the benefit of current and future residents of Pasadena.
- G. Maintain and enhance the general health, safety and welfare of the city and its residents by assisting in counteracting air pollution and in minimizing soil erosion and other related environmental damage.
- H. Protect and maintain healthy trees in the land use planning processes as set forth herein.
- I. Establish procedures and practices for fulfilling the purposes of this city tree and tree protection ordinance.

REASON WHY LEGISLATION IS NEEDED:

The protection of trees in the City of Pasadena is established in the Pasadena Municipal Code and may only be amended by ordinance.

PROGRAMS, DEPARTMENTS OR GROUPS AFFECTED:

The Department of Public Works and Transportation and the Department of Planning and Development will be primarily affected by the proposed ordinance.

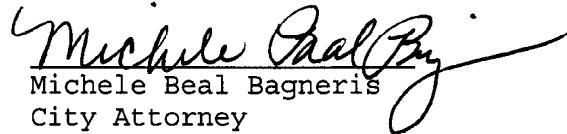
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

The Environmental Administrator has determined that the Tree Protection Ordinance is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under the "General Rule" section 15061 (b) (3) of the CEQA Guidelines. The "General Rule" states that CEQA applies only to projects that have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. If it can be seen with certainty that the project could not possibly have a significant effect or impact on the environment, the project is not subject to CEQA. The purpose of the proposed ordinance is to amend the Pasadena Municipal Code to further protect public trees and to protect certain private trees which currently are not protected by the Code.

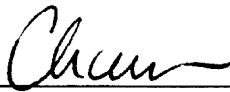
FISCAL and SERVICE IMPLICATIONS:

The affected Departments will absorb the costs of implementing the ordinance for six (6) months and will return to City Council with a full projection of costs.

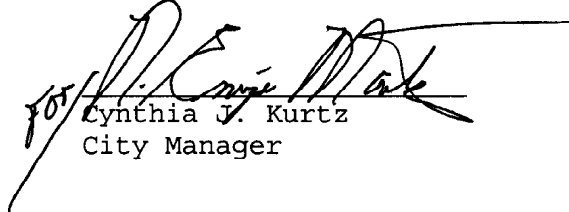
Respectfully submitted,


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Prepared by:


Nicholas George Rodriguez
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Concurrence:


Cynthia J. Kurtz
City Manager