



Interoffice Memorandum

September 20, 2023

TO: Mayor Jerry L. Demings
-AND-
County Commissioners

FROM: Andres Salcedo, P.E., Acting Director *Andres*
Planning, Environmental, and Development Services Department

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SUBJECT: October 10, 2023 – Consent Agenda
Update of the Tree Protection, Removal, and Inspection Fees for
Chapter 15 – Article VIII. Tree Protection and Removal Update

Over the last two years, a detailed analysis was completed of the County's tree protection standards under Chapter 15, Article VIII, Tree Protection and Removal, along with the role of tree protection within the overall land development process.

As staff worked to develop standards to correct identified deficiencies in the current code, it became clear that new standards were likely to increase workload and costs for both the developer and County staff. As part of the County's due diligence, staff began a review of current fees for arbor review and inspections. Over the past 23 years of using the current ordinance fee schedule, revenue has fallen behind the actual costs of permit processing, inspections, and enforcement efforts.

On September 12, 2023, an adoption public hearing was held where staff provided a presentation to the Board on the code changes, staffing requirements, and the proposed fees noting that the staffing requests and updated fees would be brought back in October. Each existing fee was revised to provide for an increase in cost per hour, based on standards approved by the County's Office of Management and Budget. Additional new fees were developed to manage inspections based on a tiered system relative to the size of properties reviewed.

ACTION REQUESTED: Approval and execution of Resolution of the Orange County Board of County Commissioners regarding the Orange County Fee Directory as to certain fees charged for a Tree Protection And Removal Application or Plan Review and creating new certain fees for a Tree Protection And Removal Plan Review or Inspection; and Providing for an Effective Date. All Districts.

AS/bd
Attachment