

Proposed Amendment to the Village Code of Ordinances:

Section 5-201. Planting of New Trees

A. To fulfill its objective of maintaining and enhancing the Village tree canopy and an aesthetically pleasing streetscape, the Village will seek to fully utilize opportunities for planting trees within the Village rights of way, taking into consideration the need to plant a variety of species (to the extent possible, native to this area), constraints imposed by power lines and other utilities, appropriate spacing, and such special circumstances as may be brought to its attention through the process outlined below.

B. The Village will maintain a tree inventory of all trees planted in the Village Right of Way and a roster of potential planting sites on Village rights of way. As funds become available, trees will be planted in all sites within the Village rights of way absent compelling reasons not to do so. Additionally, in selected locations where a viable planting site is not available in the right of way but canopy and streetscape would be enhanced through a tree planted on the immediately adjacent private property, the Village may, with the owner's concurrence, assume the cost for planting a tree that will be included in the Village tree inventory and maintained by the Village. These plantings will be negotiated with the affected residents on a case-by-case basis but with notification of any planned plantings also provided to close neighbors.

C. At least four months prior to any proposed planting, a list of trees proposed for planting in Village rights of way and species proposed for each site will be published on the Village website and in the monthly Village newsletter. Additionally, notice of any proposed plantings will be mailed to the directly abutting households. Residents will be invited to provide a written comment regarding proposed plantings adjacent to their property as to the proposed species, preferred specific location, and possible unique circumstances which might render planting on the proposed site clearly inappropriate or infeasible. These comments will be referred to the Village Manager who, at least six weeks prior to the planned date for planting, will tally resident comments for the Village Council to review and offer any further advice or comment. The Village Manager report will be reviewed and acted upon by the Village Council in public session prior to planting. At such time, any resident who believes the Village Manager in its report has not appropriately addressed his/her circumstance may appear before the Council to state their concerns.

D. Spacing and location of trees and shrubs planted on public space shall be based on recommended standards, taking into account the desires of the owners of the adjoining property, the species, the tree plan, the requirements of Section 3-207, and proximity to intersections, driveways, utility poles, and fire hydrants. All new trees planted on the public right-of-way shall be free of disease and pests.