Thursday, May 14, 2009

Public Hearings and Possible Actions RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 64

Subject: Conduct a public hearing and consider an ordinance amending Chapter 25-2, Subchapter C, Article 9 of the City Code relating to planting of trees in residential subdivisions.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Pat Murphy 974-2821; Mitzi Cotton 974-2179

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Planning Commission, Environmental Board, Urban Forestry Board, and the now disbanded Tree Task Force.

Prior Council Action: June 2005 Resolution adopting recommendations of Heat Island Mitigation Work Group; February 2006 Resolution establishing the Tree Task Force; June 2006 Resolution to study the Tree Task Force Recommendations.

The proposed ordinance addresses tree replacement and preservation in residential subdivisions.

The proposed amendment requires at least three trees be either planted or preserved within each single family lot in a new residential subdivision. The amendment establishes criteria for the trees, planted or preserved, and allows for adjustment of the tree planting requirements based on specific or unique site conditions. The amendment provides for alternative off-site plantings in cases where it has been demonstrated that the trees can not be planted on the lot.