Item(s) to Set Public Hearing(s) RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 46

Subject: Set a public hearing to consider an ordinance amending Section 25-2-1007 of the City Code relating to parking lot landscaping. (Suggested date and time: June 18, 2009, 6:00 p.m. at Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second Street, Austin, TX.)

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 plantings in commercial parking areas.

Current code allows large parking lots to provide tree plantings in a landscaped median for every third bay of parking. The proposed amendment will require a landscaped median for every second bay of parking. The proposed amendment will address heat island effects by increasing the number of landscape medians and tree plantings required for large commercial parking lots.