

PRESERVATION OF VIEWS

The purpose of this policy is to identify the importance of views lost to excessive plant growth. The objectives of this policy are to:

- A. Preserve and promote the aesthetic and environmental benefits provided by trees and the preservation of views of the surrounding locale, recognizing views can be enhanced and framed by properly maintained trees.
- B. By example, City will endeavor to maintain all City-owned plants in a manner to maximize public and private view planes. Exceptions can be trees that in themselves enhance either the overall beauty of the area or are included in Preservation of Special Trees list of Council Policy G-1 (Retention or Removal of City Trees). Special requests for view trimming of City trees shall not be honored to protect the tree trimming cycle/schedule unless deemed necessary by the Municipal Operations Director or the resident complies with the provisions of the Tree Trimming Standards/Supplemental Trimming section of Council Policy G-1.
- C. Tree trimming shall be in accordance with the standards of the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) or with standards applied to a particular area prior to the adoption of the ISA standards in the City. These standards may include practices to enhance public views as necessary. However, since these practices often require "topping" or possible disfiguring of a tree(s) and are often aesthetically displeasing and injurious to a tree, reforestation shall be considered when tree trimming is impractical or infeasible as determined by the City Arborist.
- D. City trees are not affected by nor subject to the terms and conditions under a Homeowner's Association or a private neighborhood's CC&R's.

In an effort to preserve views in the 200 blocks of Carnation, Jasmine, Larkspur, Marigold, and Orchid Avenues, the planting of parkway trees is prohibited.

Definitions to clarify this policy are:

- A. Unreasonable Obstruction of View. A tree, shrub, hedge or other vegetation should be maintained on public property in the City in such a manner as to not unreasonably obstruct the view from other property.
- B. Views. ¹¹View¹¹ means a range of sight including pleasing vistas or prospects or scenes. Views include, but are not limited to, the sight of geologic features, bays, oceans, skylines, bridges and parks.

History

Adopted 1-12 - 9-14-1987 ("Obstruction of Views by Trees)

Amended 1-12-11-28-1988

Adopted 1-12-7-22-1991 (renaming to "Preservation of Views")

Amended 1-12-1-24-1994 (changed to G-3)

Amended G-3 - 3-14-2000

Amended G-3- 8-8-2017

Amended G-3 - 2-9-2021

Amended G-3 - 12-9-2025