

CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
AGENDA ITEM DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM

DEPARTMENT: Parks and Recreation Department

AGENDA DATE: March 14, 2006

CONTACT PERSON/PHONE: Dr. Norman C Merrifield (915) 541-4910

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: All

SUBJECT:

APPROVE a resolution / ordinance / lease to do what? OR AUTHORIZE the City Manager to do what? Be descriptive of what we want Council to approve. Include \$ amount if applicable.

Approve an Ordinance amending Ordinance 15627 concerning the membership requirements of the Tree Board such that one member be a member of the Texas Forest Service, creating ex-officio positions for the representative from the Texas Forest Service and the City Arborist; increase the at-large Board positions from three to four; increase the term of office of Board members from two years to four years; allow the City Arborist and the Texas Forest Service Representative to receive their compensation from their employers, in this case, the City and the State. Also, remove City Streets Department from the administrative support of the Board.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

Discussion of the what, why, where, when, and how to enable Council to have reasonably complete description of the contemplated action. This should include attachment of bid tabulation, or ordinance or resolution if appropriate. What are the benefits to the City of this action? What are the citizen concerns?

The increase in term of office would provide for better consistency in Board related issues. The increase in the at-large positions will allow for an infusion of new ideas and expertise. The other member related amendments would provide for a more efficient and proper administration of the Tree Board.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

Has the Council previously considered this item or a closely related one?

The City of El Paso Tree Board was created by Ordinance No. 15627 on December 9, 2003.

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

How will this item be funded? Has the item been budgeted? If so, identify funding source by account numbers and description of account. Does it require a budget transfer?

No budgetary requirements.

BOARD / COMMISSION ACTION:

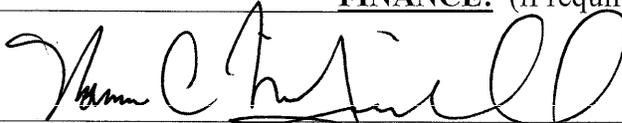
Enter appropriate comments or N/A

All amendments are being requested by the Tree Board.

*****REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION*****

LEGAL: (if required) _____ FINANCE: (if required) _____

DEPARTMENT HEAD:



(Example: if RCA is initiated by Purchasing, client department should sign also)
Information copy to appropriate Deputy City Manager

APPROVED FOR AGENDA:

CITY MANAGER: _____ DATE: _____

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO 15627, AMENDING TITLE 2 (ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL) OF THE CITY CODE OF EL PASO, CHAPTER 2.77 (EL PASO TREE BOARD), SECTION 2.77.010 (COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED – MEMBERSHIP) TO REMOVE THE BOARD MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENT THAT ONE MEMBER SHALL BE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM TEXAS FOREST SERVICE, CREATING EX-OFFICIO POSITIONS FOR THE REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE TEXAS FOREST SERVICE MEMBER AND THE CITY ARBORIST; TO INCREASE THE AT-LARGE BOARD POSITIONS FROM THREE TO FOUR; TO REMOVE CITY STREETS DEPARTMENT FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT OF THE BOARD; AND SECTION 2.77.020 (TERMS AND ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR) TO INCREASE THE TERM OF OFFICE FROM TWO YEARS TO FOUR; AND SECTION 2.77.040(A) TO EXEMPT THE CITY ARBORIST AND THE TEXAS FOREST SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE PROHIBITION AGAINST BOARD MEMBERS HOLDING PUBLIC OFFICE OF HONOR, TRUST OR PROFIT IN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CITY, COUNTY OR STATE.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

1. That Title 2 (Administration and Personnel), Chapter 2.77 (El Paso Tree Board), Section 2.77.010 (Committee established – Membership) shall be amended to read:

2.77.010 Committee established – Membership. The City Tree Board is hereby established. The City Tree Board shall be composed of nine citizens of the city. Each City Council member shall appoint one representative, and the mayor shall appoint one representative. The tree board shall be selected as follows:

- A. One member shall be a certified arborist;
- B. One member shall be a member of the West Texas Urban Forest Council;
- C. One member shall have a horticulture background;
- D. One member shall be a member of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board; and,
- E. One member shall be a licensed, registered landscape architect.

The remaining four members, insofar as possible, shall represent diverse regions or interests of the community. A representative of the Texas Forest Services and the City Arborist of the City of El Paso will serve as ex-officio members without the right to vote and will not be counted for purposes of constituting a quorum. The City Parks and Recreation Department and the El Paso Water Utilities shall provide administrative support to the City Tree Board.

2. That Title 2 (Administration and Personnel), Chapter 2.77 (El Paso Tree Board), Section 2.77.020 (Terms and Election of Chair and Vice Chair) shall be amended to read:

2.77.020 Terms and Election of Chair and Vice-Chair.

- A. The members of the City Tree Board shall be appointed for a four-year period, except that appointments made to fill vacancies created during a term shall be for the remainder of the term. The term of office for each appointee shall commence on February 28th and shall terminate on

ORDINANCE NO. _____

February 27th at the conclusion of the respective term. Terms shall be staggered in the following manner:

Mayor's appointee.....terms expire in even-numbered years
Appointees from Districts 1, 3, 6 & 7.....terms expire in even-numbered years
Appointees from Districts 2, 4, 5 and 8.....terms expire in odd-numbered years

City Tree Board members shall serve until a qualified successor is appointed unless otherwise provided for in the El Paso City Code. City Tree Board members shall not serve more than two consecutive terms.

B. The members of the City Tree Board shall select a Chair and Vice-Chair at its first meeting, and again annually thereafter.

3. That Title 2 (Administration and Personnel), Chapter 2.77 (El Paso Tree Board), Section 2.77.040(A) (Members shall hold no other public office nor receive compensation for their service) shall be amended to read:

2.77.040 Members shall hold no other public office nor receive compensation for their service.

A. No member of the City Tree Board, except for the City Arborist of the City of El Paso and the representative of the Texas Forest Service, shall hold any other public office of honor, trust or profit in the government of the city, county or state during his or her term of office.

3. Except as amended herein, Title 2 (Administration and Personnel), Chapter 2.77 (El Paso Tree Board) of the El Paso City Code shall remain in full force and effect.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2006.

CITY OF EL PASO

John F. Cook
Mayor

ATTEST:

Richarda Duffy Momsen
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

Josette Flores
Assistant City Attorney

Norman C. Merrifield, Ed.D., Director
Parks and Recreation Department