



LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATION ADVISORY BOARD (LDRAB)

LANDSCAPE (ARTICLE 7) SUB-COMMITTEE

JULY 12, 2017 AGENDA

2300 NORTH JOG ROAD, CONFERENCE ROOM VC-2E-12 – 2ND FLOOR

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

A. Call to Order– 11:01 AM

1. INTERESTED PARTIES AND STAFF INTRODUCTIONS:

Subcommittee Members: None

Industry/Public: Gladys DiGirolamo, Helen Cohen, Eddy Viera, Chris Lockhart, Michelle Duchene, and Drew Martin.

County Staff: Maryann Kwok, Barbara Pinkston, Rodney Swonger, George Galle, Jon Powers, Melissa Matos, Zubida Persaud, Mark Goodwin, John Reiser, Keri Smith, and Robert Kraus,

2. ADDITIONS, SUBSTITUTIONS AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA:

There were no additions, substitutions or deletions to the agenda.

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING – No comments.

4. MOTION TO ADOPT AGENDA – No motion necessary.

B. REVIEW OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS OF ARTICLE 7, LANDSCAPING

1. Exhibit A - CHAPTER E, EXISTING NATIVE VEGETATION, PROHIBITED AND CONTROLLED PLAN SPECIES:

Maryann explained that today we are discussing Chapters E, F and G to complete the review of the changes made to Article 7, Landscaping. She proceeded to review each chapter and each page of the handouts and emphasize some of the changes and their impact on current code.

- Major clarification with the changes in the title, involve using the word “Vegetation” in this Article to mean trees, palms, pines and shrubs, therefore all trees and vegetation;
- Few other minor changes such as, providing a section for “Authority and Procedures” to make relevance;
- Codifying the procedures from the PPM ZO-O-061, for Preservation of Vegetation. John from ERM wanted clarification as to the effect of codifying this PPM, if it will mean that the conditions for preservation of vegetation will no longer be identified in the resolutions. Maryann clarified that once the procedures are codified that the conditions will no longer be necessary.
- Robert pointed out that there should be more clarification when reference is made to the types of ERM permits, such as, Vegetation Protection Permit issued by ERM and the Vegetation Barricade Permit issued through Building Division.
- Maryann pointed out the clarification is made in this chapter to indicate that a tree is measured by using the “Diameter” of the trunk rather than the circumference, both ERM and Zoning concur;
- Some pictures have been removed from the code, as they are outdated and we will add links to State references and lists.

2. Exhibit B - CHAPTER F, INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE

- Maryann pointed out some of the changes in this chapter that involves the ROW buffers to occur in the first phase of the project;
- We will refer to the Property Maintenance Code Book for standards for landscape maintenance, example, an abandoned golf course can be mowed lower for the first 25ft;
- Most sections have been relocated to Article 5 regarding vacant lots; but we maintain the section to allow applicant who wishes to plant a vacant lot by submitting a planting plan;
- It was suggested that we re-review the section Pruning after Installation to separate topics such as, when allowed to prune a tree (>20ft in height) and pruning in accordance with standards for tree care; Barbara will review and make changes;

- Discussion proceeded on how will enforcement of pruning standards be enforced; Rodney explained that Code Enforcement will receive calls and also when applications are submitted;
- It was discussed that we should add to the code that the procedure that Temporary Irrigation when used must be removed; (Irrigation section #G);

3. Exhibit C - CHAPTER G, ENFORCEMENT

- Maryann explained that the administrative section was moved to Chapter A, the processes section;
- It was questioned as to why is the permit fee changed to quadruple for violations; Maryann explained this was done in order to be consistent with Building procedures;
- Again, some pictures are being removed from this chapter and will be replaced with a link to the plant list provided by the state.

C. INPUT AND COMMENTS

Review of Chapters C and D – Pending Issues

Maryann provided feedback on the changes requested and discussed in Chapters C and D at the last meeting, and will make the changes and send out an electronic copy to all, in a few days; she also said that those items that requires extensive discussions and changes may need to be completed to a later round.

- Included in Chapter C and based on previous recommendations minor changes were added to the amendment, such as, minor amendments to the table of standards regarding cluster trees in the outer edge of buffer, ability for applicants to be able to re-design buffer, and multiple waivers and variances allowed with regards to foundation plantings, and island increased width;
- Included in Chapter D and based on previous recommendations changes were added to the amendment, such as, reduced tree height requirements, and discussion on changing the “Ratio” requirement to allow more flexibility in the ratio for more non-native trees; Eddy from GL Homes provided research that suggested that there were more non-native species that would be appropriate, and he suggested the code allow a ratio of 50/50 and wants less restrictive ratio. Rodney pointed out the with the reduced tree height requirement proposed change in the Code this will accommodate a greater variety and selection of native trees. Chris also pointed out that for long term projects, a request may be placed for nurseries to grow or procure specific species of native trees, and we should be careful to incorporate those prohibited Cat 2 and Cat 1 evasive species and non-native species, must refer to established plant list by State.
- Maryann agrees further discussion is needed and zoning will review the research.
- Updates on Chapter B included changes to allow more flexible waivers to use shrubs in buffers, and regarding landscape on the external side of a wall, will allow waivers to reduce from 75% down to max 25%; foundation planting was removed to be revisited at a later time.

D. SUMMARY OF TODAY’S DISCUSSION

Maryann indicated that she will make the appropriate changes to Chapter A, B, C, and D and will send an electronic document for everyone to review within the next few days.

E. FUTURE MEETING TOPICS

- General Overview of Art. 7 amendments
- Minor amendments to other Articles
Next Subcommittee Meeting – August 2nd, 2017
LDRAB Meeting – August 23rd, 2017

F. Adjourn – 12:25pm