

Non-Construction Related -- Sticky Note Comments

(Comments grouped by topic)

Dislike One Tree Per Year Proposal:

Overwhelming rejection of this proposal, seen as arbitrary and a disaster for the tree canopy; only DDH trees or undesirable species (if replanted) should qualify.

- Definitely no! Please don't do!
- Don't like One Tree a Year – Recipe for disaster.
- This will only make it easier to remove trees.
- Terrible idea! If we are serious about protecting the canopy – don't do this!
- 1 Tree/year dangerous precedent!
- No – this would give too much leeway – there would be NO trees left in some neighborhoods
- People break the law now. Don't make it easier.
- 1 is an arbitrary number. A hazardous tree is a hazard.
- Who determines that the tree is non-high value?
- BAD IDEA - Maybe there should be a provision that if a homeowner has a mimosa tree and wants to replace it with an oak or other “high value” tree, then on an individual basis ok.
- Only damaged or sick or risky w/out large \$ fee or ecological remediation.
- Where's the calculation showing that removing 1 tree per year will increase tree canopy?
- Ripe for abuse. No.
- No to 1 non-high value tree per year regardless of conditions. Since 95% of ATL's trees are on private property & many lots are tiny, this could decimate our coverage in no time.
- No.
- NO CAP? Over time this policy could lead to massive deforestation on residential lots. Suggest there be financial deterrents.

Arborist Oversight:

The City Arborist should determine which trees should be removed; dissatisfaction with City Planning manager.

- Number of trees to be removed should be determined by a city arborist rather than have a set number.
- Every tree by a certain size needs a permit to cut after arborist agrees and appeals have been exhausted.
- Don't set a number – let arborist assess.
- (Covered by another sticky note) ... this board is total nonsense. If dead, dying, hazardous as deemed by arborist, the tree should be removed. If healthy, it should remain. Period.
- Fire Tim Keane.

Education:

Need more education on what “high value” means, as well as protecting habitat and safety/tree maintenance issues.

- People want to know what high value means. Do not overlook the massive public education that needs to accompany this initiative.
- How can we protect snags/dead trees as habitat?
- There is no guidance for property owners for issues for neighbor responsibility, safety issues are not addressed for homeowners re: overhanging branches on non-boundary trees that are

dead/hazardous.... (covered by another sticky note.) Simply put, homeowners are responsible for the safety of their trees including such that overhands property lines. That is GA law.

- Education!!
- A huge portion of Atlanta's tree canopy is on private property. Improper pruning can cause tree decline. Give more info for homeowners on proper pruning, what's legal/illegal, penalties, etc.

Replanting:

Concerns that replanting does not adequately replace mature trees, need to be able to replant in other less tree-dense areas; define "equal value" for replanting high value trees.

- Nonsense. You can't replace a 25, 50, 75+ year old tree by replanting. "High value tree" is a political contrivance and doesn't protect most trees.
- Do not treat public gardens in the same manner as property developers! For properties with full canopy coverage could the recompense trees be planted elsewhere in Atlanta?
- Better determination of replanting "of equal value" esp, where high value tree and heritage trees are concerned, i.e. LIKE FOR LIKE to replenish native value trees.

Low Income/Elderly Assistance:

More resources are needed for low income and elderly in helping with tree maintenance/emergency removal.

- What provisions are there for elderly, low income & fixed income residents who need help w/tree maintenance or emergency removal?
- Help is needed for elderly homeowners
 - To cut dead trees
 - To remove kudzu and ivy from existing trees
 - Prune trees to prevent hazardous conditions.

Like One Tree Per Year Proposal:

Support idea for private property, but maybe once every five years?

- Great idea. Apply to non-commercial property only.
- 1/5yr (A second comment said "Yes, I agree").