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Building Development Services **956-794-1648**



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Section 24.83.2 STREET TREE PLANTING REQUIRED IN EXISTING SUBDIVISIONS

- (1) The planting of street trees is required as a condition of the issuance of a building permit in the City of Laredo, save and except permits issued for the reconstruction, modification or addition to property used for single family residential purposes, or the expansion of non-residential structures which do not exceed 1,000 square feet or twenty-five percent (25%) of an existing structure, whichever is more. Also excluded are those subdivisions approved before the effective date of this ordinance where the street tree or money-in-lieu of requirement has been met. The requirement for planting shall be as follows:
 - (b) One tree for each thirty feet (30'-0") of non-residential or multi-family residential property abutting a public street right-of-way shall be planted. Trees shall be planted within the public rights-of-way, within landscape or other reserves restricted for the purpose, or on private property within the ten feet (10'-0") parallel and adjacent to a local street right-of-way, or within twenty-five feet (25'-0") parallel and adjacent to a major thoroughfare.

Section 24.83.3 SURFACE PARKING LOT REQUIREMENTS

- (1) Number of Trees Required
 - (a) New surface parking lots with more than fifteen (15) parking spaces shall require one (1) eligible tree for every ten (10) parking spaces or fraction thereof. The trees shall be located within and/or on the perimeter of the parking lot.
 - (b) Existing parking lots which are to be expanded to comply with the requirements of Section 24.78 of the Laredo Land Development Code "Off-Street Parking & Loading Requirements" and which, after such expansion, will contain more than fifteen (15) parking spaces, shall provide one (1) eligible tree for each ten (10) additional spaces or fraction thereof. The trees shall be located within and/or on the perimeter of the parking lot
 - (c) A permeable area with a radius of not less than three feet (3'-0") measured from the trunk of each eligible tree shall be maintained, and each eligible tree shall be protected from automobiles by curbs or tire stops located at least three feet (3'-0") from the trunk of the tree.
- (2) Parking surface areas adjacent to the public street right-of-way shall have shrubs planted at regular intervals along the perimeter of all parking surfaces adjacent to the right-of-way, exclusive of driveway entrances, pedestrian walkways and cutback areas. The shrubs shall be maintained at a height of no more than thirty-six inches (0'-36") nor less than eighteen inches (0'-18"). The number of shrubs required under this section shall be equal to the total number of street trees required under this section multiplied by four. Seventy-five percent (75%) or more of the required shrubs shall be planted along the perimeter of the parking surface.

Section 24.83.5 Removal, Replanting, and Replacement of Protected Trees

(3) Replacement Trees (a) Where replacement trees are required the specified criteria shall be followed: (i) The minimum diameter of replacement trees shall be no less than three (3) caliper inches, unless otherwise approved by the Tree Board. V-74 (ii) When it is found impractical to relocate or replace the removed trees on the same property, replacement may be made upon any public owned property, property of non profit organizations, public parks, or right-of-ways, subject to the approval of the Tree Board. (iii) Tree species used for replacement shall conform with Appendix F-1 of the Laredo Land Development Code. (4) Any person aggrieved by the decision of the Tree Board may appeal the decision to the City Council by filing a written appeal, specifying the reasons thereof, within thirty (30) days of the time the order is issued,

Section 24.83.9 MONEY-IN-LIEU OF TREES

(1) Up to thirty percent (30%) of the total planting requirements may be met by depositing, with the Parks and Recreation Department, a sum of money equal to the cost of the required trees and their planting. This money shall be placed in a special fund designated for the purposes of planting of eligible trees in city parks or public rights-of-way. The cost per tree shall be determined by the Tree Board on an annual basis. The remaining seventy percent (70%) of the trees shall be planted as required by this ordinance.

NOTE:

Number of Trees = Required parking spaces for business + 1 tree for every 30 feet of right of way