



October 13, 2025

To: Public Works and Environmental Concerns Committee

From: Eric Hendrickson, Forestry & Urban Landscape Supervisor

Through: Carl Goldsmith, Director of Public Works

RE: Proposed Tree Ordinance Changes

The Village of Lombard, through its tree planting program installs rights-of-way trees twice a year. This program replaces trees removed by the Village or its contractor at no cost to the adjacent property owner. During this program, the Village also plants trees required due to development and cost share trees. There are fees collected from the developer or resident which fund the planting of these trees. As the cost of trees and their installation continues to increase, the fees the Village is collecting are no longer covering the costs for Development and Cost share trees. The average cost for trees and installation for FY 2025 was \$377.11. Based upon the Village's five-year order, the average cost will be \$385.73 for FY 2026, \$416.31 for FY 2027, and \$428.99 for FY 2028. Staff proposes that the fee collected for tree planting be raised to \$450 per tree.

This change of fee will require changing the Tree Ordinance to reflect the increased fees. It will also change the equation for tree removal permit fees. Staff took this opportunity to perform a more thorough examination of the ordinance and recommends the following additional changes.

- 99.01 Added definition of Critical Root Zone for tree protection  
Modified definition of Dangerous Tree and Hazardous Tree to mirror language in Tree Risk Policy in management plan  
Removed extra period from end of definition for Target
- 99.02 Corrected a typo
- 99.04 Changed cost to \$450
- 99.10 Added "on the trunk" to reflect current pruning practices
- 99.22 Changed cost share fee to \$225 per tree  
Changed developer fee to \$450 per tree
- 99.23 Changed equation to reflect \$450 tree cost  
Added language to permit appeal of removal fee to Board of Trustees

The proposed changes to the Village Code will not create any new obligations for the Village. Staff recommends that the Board of Trustees adopt the proposed changes to Chapter 99.

Att: Proposed ordinance changes

**ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE IX, CHAPTER 99,  
OF THE LOMBARD VILLAGE CODE IN REGARD TO TREES AND SHRUBS**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Lombard, DuPage County, Illinois, as follows:

**SECTION 1:** That Title IX, Chapter 99, of the Lombard Village Code is hereby amended in its entirety as follows:

**§ 99.01 Statement of Purpose/disclaimer/definitions.**

- (A) Statement of Purpose. It is the purpose of this chapter to preserve, protect and enhance critical infrastructure-the portion of the urban forest that is located on public land. The complete urban forest is comprised of trees across all land uses and ownership on public and private land. This Section will regulate public property trees but recognizes that trees on private property are part of the collective community resource.

The purpose of this Section is to recognize the services and functions that trees provide as a collective asset to the entire community and to state the goals of the Village with respect to the protection, preservation, care and planting of trees on public lands.

Specific goals of this section are to:

- (1) Protect, preserve and enhance the quality of life and general welfare of the Village, its residents and its property owners; and conserve and enhance the Village's natural, physical and aesthetic environment.
- (2) Preserve, protect and enhance the urban forest to ensure that trees are properly planted and maintained within the Village so that trees can protect, enhance and preserve the quality of life for people within the Village.
- (3) Recognize that trees are an integral part of the infrastructure of the Village and as such should be preserved, protected and cared for as other critical Village infrastructure.
  - a. Trees absorb pollution from the air;
  - b. Trees absorb and sequester carbon dioxide;
  - c. Trees absorb and filter pollution from stormwater run-off;
  - d. Trees produce oxygen;
  - e. Trees reduce flooding;
  - f. Trees stabilize soils and reduce erosion;
  - g. Trees cool the surrounding area helping to reduce impacts due to heat islands;
  - h. Trees reduce energy consumption by shielding structures from harsh winds and sun;
  - i. Trees provide a buffer and screen against noise, light and pollution;

- j. Trees improve property values;
  - k. Trees improve commercial district buyer traffic and purchasing;
  - l. Areas with properly maintained trees have lower crime rates;
  - m. Areas with trees have higher levels of community interaction;
  - n. Trees provide important habitat for birds and other wildlife; and
  - o. Trees protect and enhance our quality of life.
- (4) Trees provide the Village collective benefits that extend beyond property boundaries throughout the entire Village.
  - (5) Recognize that larger trees provide larger benefits. When a large tree is removed and replaced with a smaller tree the benefits and services are reduced.
  - (6) Recognize that some trees may have a condition that constitutes a threat, danger or nuisance to the public or property within the Village or may be dangerous to the health of other trees and vegetation in the Village.
- (B) Disclaimer of liability. Nothing contained in this Code shall be deemed to impose any liability upon the Village, its officers, agents or employees, nor to relieve the owner of any private property from the duty to keep any tree, shrub or plant upon any area abutting his/her property or under his/her control in such condition as to prevent it from constituting a hazard or an impediment to travel or vision upon any street, alley or public place within the village.
- (C) Definitions. For the purpose of this chapter, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

*Acceptable tree species*—A species of tree suitable for planting along streets and not specified as unacceptable/not approved in Appendix A of the Urban Forestry Management Plan.

*Arboricultural standards manual*—ANSI Z-133.1 Standards: American National Standards Institute safety standards for tree care operations and ANSI A300: American National Standards Institute standard practices for tree care operations.

*Arborist*—One who is versed in the art and science of arboriculture, including tree surgery, the prevention and cure of tree diseases and the control of insect pests.

*Caliper*—The diameter of a tree measured at six inches above the finished grade at the base of the tree; used primarily for nursery stock.

*Canopy*—The upper portion of a tree sometimes called the crown. This section of the tree usually contains branches and leaves.

*Certified arborist*—A professional who is certified through the International Society of Arboriculture as possessing the technical competence through experience and related training to provide for or supervise the maintenance of trees and other woody plants in the residential, commercial and public landscape.

*Clear vision triangle*—A triangular area on a corner lot measured 30 feet from the intersection of the lot lines bordering the public streets.

*Columnar stature tree*—Those trees which attain a mature width of less than 15 feet.

*Contractor*—A person, company or organization employed to supply the necessary skills and services in trimming, removing, cabling and maintenance of trees and shrubs.

*County*—DuPage County, Illinois.

*Critical Root Zone (CRZ)* – The area of soil around a tree's trunk that contains its most vital roots, providing essential water, nutrients, and stability for its survival and growth. Damage to the CRZ, particularly within the inner half, can be life threatening to the tree. Calculated as a circular area extending out from the trunk with one (1) foot of radius per one (1) inch of trunk DBH.

*Dangerous Tree*—A standing tree that presents an unacceptable level of risk due to conditions such as, but not limited to, deterioration or physical damage to the root system, trunk, stem or limbs, and the direction and lean of the tree based upon the ANSI A300 standards.

*Diameter at Breast Height (DBH)*—The diameter of the trunk of a tree measured in inches at a point 4.5 feet above the ground line.

*Easement*—That area of private property in relation to which another entity (public utility/governmental body) has the right to use said area for limited purposes such as access, drainage or utility distribution.

*Evergreen*—Those trees and shrubs, including broad-leaf and conifer evergreens that maintain their leaves year-round.

*Forestry Management Plan*—A detailed plan developed and approved by the Village under the direction of a certified arborist which protects this valuable infrastructure and outlines strategies for tree planting, selection, care, preservation and removal for the Village.

*Forestry Supervisor*—A full time Lombard Public Works employee trained and skilled in the theory and practice of municipal arboriculture, and who, if possible, shall hold a college degree or its equivalent in arboriculture, horticulture, urban forestry or another closely related field. This employee shall possess an International Society of Arboriculture's arborist certification and shall maintain the certification during their term of employment. This employee shall also possess an Illinois Department of Agriculture Pesticide Applicator's license.

*Forestry Technician*—A full time Lombard Public Works employee performing all aspects of tree care. This employee shall possess an International Society of Arboriculture's arborist certification and shall maintain the certification during his/her term of employment. This employee shall also possess an Illinois Department of Agriculture Pesticide Applicator's or Operator's license.

*Hazardous tree*—Any tree deemed to present an unacceptable level of risk to the public by the village's Forestry Supervisor or Forestry Technician with an ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualification. The hazardous tree may present possible or potential physical damage to person or property or biological danger to adjacent trees through transmittable disease or insect infestation.

*Infrastructure*—The basic underlying framework or features that provide collective services, including but not limited to roads, water and sanitary lines, storm sewers, bioswales and trees.

*International Society of Arboriculture (ISA)*—The International Society of Arboriculture is an international non-profit organization that promotes the professional practice of arboriculture through research, public awareness campaigns, professional development, promoting the profession and safety in the industry.

*Large stature tree*—Those trees which attain a mature height of greater than 25 feet and mature width of greater than 30 feet.

*Low-growing tree*—Those trees that attain a mature height of 25 feet or less. See *Small stature tree*.

*Maintenance*—The pruning, mulching, watering, cabling/bracing, fertilization, and pest management practices necessary for plant/tree/shrub growth.

*Medium-growing tree*—Those trees that attain a mature height of more than 25 feet but less than 45 feet.

*Minimal distance*—The closest distance a tree can be planted in relation to a given object.

*Mitigation*—The process of diminishing risk. In regards to trees, mitigation activities can include, but are not limited to, cabling, bracing, trimming, treatment, and removal of a tree or tree part.

*Mulch*—A layer of wood chips or other material placed on the surface of the soil around plants/trees/shrubs to retain moisture, prevent weed growth and protect against damage from lawn mowers or weed whips.

*Narrow stature tree*—Those trees which attain a maximum mature width of 30 feet.

*Overhead utility*—Any street light, telephone, communications, cable TV, primary or secondary electrical distribution line that is above ground.

*Parkway*—That part of a street right-of-way not covered by sidewalk, curb, gutter or pavement lying between the property line and that portion of the street used for vehicular traffic.

*Parkway tree*—Any tree on the street right-of-way.

*Person*—Any person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, company, or organization of any kind except for a public utility.

*Private tree*—Any tree located on private property.

*Prohibited tree species*—Those tree species that, because of their undesirable traits, are prohibited from being planted on the village right-of-way (see Section 99.06 of this Code).

*Property line*—The outer edge of a street or highway right-of-way.

*Property owner*—The person, persons, or entity or entities owning a parcel of real property as shown by the DuPage County Recorder of Deeds office.

*Pruning*—The removal of specific branches (living or dead) from a tree to improve its structure, its health and/or to maintain safety while allowing for natural growth of the tree.

*Public hazard*—A tree that is unsafe due to a structural defect and poses an unacceptable level of risk to persons and property.

*Public nuisance*—Any tree or shrub which, by reason of its condition, interferes with the use of any public place; is infected with an injurious plant disease; is infested with an injurious insect or other pest; is detrimental to the construction of public improvements; or endangers the life, health, safety or welfare of the public or its property.

*Public place*—That part of every street or alley between the lot line and curb and from property line to property line, and any other land owned or controlled by the village.

*Public tree*—Any tree located on property belonging to or under the jurisdiction of the village.

*Public utility*—Any utility company authorized by Illinois State Statute or village franchise agreement to operate within the village.

*Right-of-way*—A strip of land over which the village has the right by ownership or dedication to construct a public street, sidewalk, or use for public utilities.

*Risk*—The likelihood of a conflict or tree failure occurring and affecting a Target and the severity of the associated consequences - personal injury, property damage, or disruption of activities or event and severity of the potential consequences. Determination of Risk is made through a Tree Risk Assessment and Tree Risk Evaluation.

*Shrub*—A woody plant, smaller than a tree, consisting of several small stems from the ground or small branches near the ground.

*Small stature tree*—Those trees which attain a mature height of less than 25 feet.

*Spacing requirements*—All trees planted along the streets shall conform to the spacing requirements stated in subsection 99.04(C) of this Code.

*Street tree*—See parkway tree.

*Tall-growing tree*—Those trees that attain a mature height of 45 feet or more.

*Target*—People, property or activities that could be injured, damaged, or disrupted by a tree or tree part failing.

*Topping*—The severe cutting back of branches of a tree to a stub, bud, or a lateral branch not large enough to assume the terminal role to such a degree so as to remove the normal canopy and disfigure the tree.

*Traffic control device*—Any traffic signal, regulatory or warning sign erected in accordance with the manual of traffic control devices.

*Tree*—Any self-supporting woody plant, together with its root system, trunk and canopy; growing upon the earth usually with a single or multi-stemmed trunk system.

*Tree Protection Zone*—The area surrounding a tree which is to be delineated by fencing and off limits to construction activity to reduce the negative effects of construction activities as detailed in the Village's construction specifications guide.

*Tree Risk Assessment*—A systematic process to identify, analyze and evaluate tree risk.

*Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (ISA TRAQ)*—A voluntary qualification program designed by the International Society of Arboriculture to train and assess candidates in specialized knowledge associated with tree risk assessment. To earn the qualification, eligible candidates must complete a training course, and pass both a comprehensive written assessment and a performance-based assessment. To maintain the qualification, current credential holders must retrain and retest every five years.

*Tree Risk Evaluation*—The process of comparing the assessed risk against risk criteria to determine the significance of the risk. The evaluation is determined by categorizing the likelihood (probability) of occurrence and the severity of consequences.

*Trimming*—See *pruning*.

*Urban Forestry Management Plan*—See *Forestry Management Plan*.

*Village*—The geographical area lying within the municipal boundaries of the Village of Lombard, DuPage County, Illinois.

*Village Arborist*—See *Forestry Supervisor*.

(Ord. No. 8065, § 1, passed 5-26-22; Ord. No. 8172, § 1, passed 7-20-23)

**§ 99.02 Authority of Public Works Director.**

- (A) The Public Works Director, or their designee, shall have exclusive jurisdiction and supervision over all trees, shrubs, other plants, and grassy areas planted or growing in public places.
- (B) The Public Works Director, or their designee, shall have the authority and it shall be their duty to plant, prune, treat, preserve, and remove trees, other plants, and grassy areas in public places to maintain an acceptable level of risk within the urban forest managed by the Village and to preserve the beauty of such public places.
- (C) The Public Works Director, or their designee, shall have the authority and may order the pruning, preservation, or removal of trees or plants upon private property when they find a public hazard exists and such action necessary for public safety or to prevent the spread of disease or insects to public trees and places.
- (D) Control of Dutch Elm Disease.
  - (1) Any elm tree infected with Dutch Elm Disease as determined by the Village is a public nuisance and shall be removed within 30 days following notification of such infection or infestation. It is unlawful for any person, being the owner of the property whereon such tree is situated, to possess or keep such a tree after the expiration of the 30-day period following notification of the infection on their property.
  - (2) Elm trees or parts thereof in a dead or dying condition that serve as a breeding place for the Elm Bark Beetle (*Hyaluronans* species or *Scolytus multistriatus*) are a public nuisance and it is unlawful for the person owning such property whereon the same is situated to possess or keep same in such condition more than 30 days following notification of the condition on their property.
  - (3) The Public Works Director, or their designee, to enforce this article, may enter upon private property at all reasonable hours for the purpose of inspecting trees thereon, and may cause to be removed such specimens as are required for the purpose of analysis to determine whether or not the same is infected or infested, and to cause to be removed such diseased trees upon failure of the owner to do so after due notification. Notice shall not be required for the Public Works Director to inspect trees on private property. Due notification for removal of diseased trees shall follow the format and delivery requirements for notice set forth below in Section 99.02(F)(2)(a), (b), (c), (d) and (e).
  - (4) It is unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to prevent the Public Works Director, or their designee, from entering on private property for purposes of carrying out their duties hereunder or to interfere with such Public Works Director, or their designee, in the lawful performance of their duties.
  - (5) In accordance with 65 ILCS 5/11-20-12, in cases where the property owner fails to remove the elm tree or elm wood as required by this chapter, the Public Works Director or their agents may go upon such property to cut down and remove such nuisance, and the owner shall be assessed the cost of removal. Notice shall be served as set forth below in Section 99.02(F)(2)(a), (b), (c), (d) and (e).
  - (6) In accordance with 65 ILCS 5/11-20-12, whenever such charges shall remain unpaid for a period of 30 days from the date of the bill herein provided for, the Village Attorney is authorized to:
    - a. Institute suit in the name of the village to enforce collection of such charge; or

- b. To file a sworn statement showing such obligation in the office of the Recorder of Deeds of the County; and the filing of such statement shall be deemed notice of the lien for payment of such charges.
- (7) Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to prevent the Village from electing to obtain a lien under the procedure set forth in 65 ILCS 5/11-20-15.1 in the case of an abandoned residential property.
- (E) The Public Works Director, or their designee, shall have the responsibility to perform a Tree Risk Assessment for any Public Tree if notified of a potential hazard. Additionally, the Public Works Director, or their designee may perform a Tree Risk Assessment of a Private Tree at the request of the Community Development Department Code Enforcement Division. The findings of the Tree Risk Assessment will be used in accordance with the Tree Risk Evaluation to determine whether a tree is either a Public Hazard or a Public Nuisance.
- (F) Abatement. The following are the prescribed means of abating Public Nuisances under this article:
  - (1) Any tree determined to be a Public Nuisance or Public Hazard under this article which is located on Village-owned property shall be pruned, removed, or otherwise treated by the Certified Arborist in whatever fashion is required to the abatement of the nuisance within a reasonable time after its discovery.
  - (2) Any tree determined to be a Public Nuisance or Public Hazard under this article which is located on private-owned property shall be pruned, removed, or otherwise treated by the property owner or their agent in whatever fashion is required to cause the abatement of the nuisance. It shall be the duty of any persons growing a tree on their property to trim the trees or treat and remove any diseased trees to prevent the trees from constituting a nuisance to the neighbor or public. No property owner may be found guilty of violating this provision unless and until the following requirements of notice have been satisfied:
    - a. The Public Works Director or their designee shall cause a written notice to be personally served upon or sent by Certified U.S. Mail to, the person to whom was sent the tax bill for the general taxes for the last preceding year, and to the property itself by First Class U.S. Mail.
    - b. Such notice shall describe the kind of tree, shrub or plant part which has been declared to be a Public Nuisance or Public Hazard; its location on the property; the reason for declaring it a Public Nuisance or Public Hazard.
    - c. Such notice shall describe by legal description or by common description the premises.
    - d. Such notice shall state the actions that the property owner may undertake to abate the Public Nuisance or Public Hazard.
    - e. Such notice will require the elimination of the Public Nuisance or Public Hazard no less than 30 days after the notice is delivered or sent to the person to whom was sent the tax bill for the general taxes for the last preceding year.
    - f. Should the owner neglect to comply with the terms of the written notice by the date specified within 30 days after receiving it, the Department of Public Works will cause the removal, treatment or trimming of the nuisance tree, shrub or plant part. The owner will be invoiced by the Village for all costs associated with the



mitigation of the nuisance tree, and payment of such invoice shall be made in full within 30 days of the invoice date.

- g. After removal activities have been performed, a notice shall be personally served upon, or sent by Certified U.S. Mail to, the person to whom was sent the tax bill for the general taxes on the property for the taxable year immediately preceding the removal activities. The notice will, at minimum, state the substance of 65 ILCS 5/11-20-15 (set forth fully below) and the substance of this Section of the Village Code, as well as identify underlying parcel by common description, and describe the removal activity.
1. If the municipality incurs a removal cost under Section 11-20-7, 11- 20-8, 11-20-12, or 11-20-13 with respect to any underlying parcel, then that cost is a lien upon that underlying parcel. This lien is superior to all other liens and encumbrances, except tax liens and as otherwise provided in subsection (c) of this Section.
  2. To perfect a lien under this Section, the municipality must, within one year after the removal cost is incurred, file notice of lien in the office of the recorder in the county in which the underlying parcel is located or, if the underlying parcel is registered under the Torrens system, in the office of the Registrar of Titles of that county. The notice must consist of a sworn statement setting out:
    - a. A description of the underlying parcel that sufficiently identifies the parcel;
    - b. The amount of the removal cost; and
    - c. The date or dates when the removal cost was incurred by the municipality.

If, for any one parcel, the municipality engaged in any removal activity on more than one occasion during the course of one year, then the municipality may combine any or all of the costs of each of those activities into a single notice of lien.

3. A lien under this Section is not valid as to: (i) any purchaser whose rights in and to the underlying parcel arose after the removal activity but before the filing of the notice of lien; or (ii) any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor whose rights in and to the underlying parcel arose before the filing of the notice of lien.
4. The removal cost is not a lien on the underlying parcel unless a notice is personally served on, or sent by certified mail to, the person to whom was sent the tax bill for the general taxes on the property for the taxable year immediately preceding the removal activities. The notice must be delivered or sent after the removal activities have been performed, and it must: (i) state the substance of this Section and the substance of any ordinance of the municipality implementing this Section; (ii) identify the underlying parcel, by common description; and (iii) describe the removal activity.
5. A lien under this Section may be enforced by proceedings to foreclose as in case of mortgages or mechanics' liens. An action to foreclose a lien under this Section must be commenced within two years after the date of filing notice of lien.

6. Any person who performs a removal activity by the authority of the municipality may, in their own name, file a lien and foreclose on that lien in the same manner as a municipality under this Section.
7. A failure to file a foreclosure action does not, in any way, affect the validity of the lien against the underlying parcel.
8. Upon payment of the lien cost by the owner of the underlying parcel after notice of lien has been filed, the municipality (or its agent under subsection (f)) shall release the lien, and the release may be filed of record by the owner at their sole expense as in the case of filing notice of lien.
9. For the purposes of this Section:
 

"Lien cost" means the removal cost and the filing costs for any notice of lien under subsection (b).

"Removal activity" means any activity for which a removal cost was incurred.

"Removal cost" means a removal cost as defined under Section 11-20-7, 11-20-8, 11-20-12, or 11-20-13.

"Underlying parcel" means a parcel of private property upon which a removal activity was performed.

"Year" means a 365-day period.
10. This Section applies only to liens filed after August 14, 2009 (the effective date of Public Act 96-462).
11. This Section shall not apply to a lien filed pursuant to Section 11-20-15.1.
  - h. In the event that the owner does not remit payment to the Village in the required timeframe, the full expense thereof shall be assessed as a lien against the property in accordance with ILCS 5/11-20-7 and 65 ILCS 5/11-20-15.
  - i. Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to prevent the Village from electing to obtain a lien under the procedures set forth in 65 ILCS 5/11-20-15.1 in the case of an abandoned residential property.

- (3) The Village Arborist is empowered to cause the immediate abatement of any Public Nuisance or Public Hazard provided that the nuisance is determined by the arborist to be immediate threat to any person, property.

(Ord. No. 8065, § 1, passed 5-26-22; Ord. No. 8172, § 2, passed 7-20-23)

#### § 99.03 Tree Protection and Preservation Standards.

This section applies to subdivision or development work being conducted within the Village's Corporate Limits as defined in Section 154.103 which may impact public trees.

- (A) In the event of any site improvement, a Landscape/Tree Protection Plan is required to be filed with and approved by the Community Development Department prior to the start of any work or delivery of any materials to the Building Activity site.
  - (1) All Village right-of-way trees, regardless of size, shall be indicated on the site plans submitted to the Village and all relevant architects, engineers and workers, detailing the following:
    - a. Trees to be removed (see Section 99.23 for required fees)

- b. Trees to be preserved
  - c. The location and size of the Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) delineated according to the Village's Manual of Standards and Specifications for each tree.
- (2) The Tree Protection Zones for each right-of-way tree shall be visibly delineated by the site engineer, using chain link fence, orange snow fencing, or other high visibility exclusion material per Chapter 800 of the Village's Manual of Standards and Specifications and Urban Forestry Management Plan. When such delineation is not possible, all workers on site shall be made aware of the TPZ verbally. A 3-foot gap is permitted in the fencing for accessing the area to maintain the enclosed turf.
- (B) All protective fencing delineating the Tree Protection Zones shall be in place prior to any construction or material delivery is to take place.
  - (C) All protective fencing shall remain in place until final approval of all site conditions is given in writing.
  - (D) No equipment or materials shall be parked, driven or stored within the Tree Protection Zones.
  - (E) No tree shall be impacted within the Tree Protection Zones, including the tree canopy.
- (Ord. No. 8065, § 1, passed 5-26-22)

#### **§ 99.04 Planting standards.**

- (A) Trees when planted shall have a minimum diameter of two inches at a distance of six inches above the ground and shall have a continuous single trunk. All trees shall be free from deformity and indication of undesirable growth characteristics.
- (B) Trees when planted shall be free of infectious disease or insect infestation.
- (C) All planting material shall conform to the current American Standard for Nursery Stock (ANSI Z60.1), in accordance with the Village's Urban Forestry Management Plan.
- (D) All trees shall be planted according to the current ANSI A300 planting standard, in accordance with the Village's Urban Forestry Management Plan.
- (E) Trees shall be planted on the centerline of the parkways or in line with the existing row of trees, unless doing so would result in a direct conflict with buried utility lines. In such instances, the trees should be planted as close to the centerline as possible while avoiding direct conflict with the buried utility lines. Planting of trees in situations which meet requirements of this chapter will be prohibited if such planting will interfere with existing utilities.
- (F) No tree shall be placed so as to cause a traffic hazard or within the clear line of sight triangle as defined within Section 155.802 of this Code.
- (G) Spacing of trees shall be as follows unless otherwise approved by the Public Works Director. Street trees will be planted:
  - (1) At a minimum distance of 35 feet between trees for tree categorized as large or medium growing. A minimum distance of 25 feet between trees shall be required for trees categorized as small or narrow growing.
  - (2) A minimum distance of ten feet from driveway aprons.

- (3) A minimum distance of five feet from water/sewer service lines.
  - (4) A minimum distance of 15 feet from crosswalks.
  - (5) A minimum distance of 15 feet from street light poles and utility poles.
  - (6) A minimum distance of ten feet from fire hydrants.
  - (7) A minimum distance of 15 feet from any traffic control device, not including signs.
  - (H) No tree shall be planted where the soil is too poor to ensure the growth of such tree.
  - (I) Trees required for new developments shall be planted by the village at the owner's cost of \$450.00 each. However, the abutting property owner will be responsible to securing approval from and planting any required trees in a State of Illinois or DuPage County right-of-way. If insufficient rights-of-way exist, the owner shall plant the trees on the abutting private property in a location generally perpendicular to where said tree would have been required.
  - (J) Only Small Stature trees shall be planted under overhead utility lines located within the right-of-way.
  - (K) Only narrow or columnar growing trees shall be planted in the village's downtown area tree pits to minimize interference with roadways, sidewalks and buildings.
  - (L) No tree will be allowed to be planted in a parkway less than four feet in width.
  - (M) No tree shall be planted within Village rights-of-way without the prior written authorization of the Village.
- (Ord. No. 8065, § 1, passed 5-26-22)

**§ 99.05 Injury to trees and shrubs prohibited.**

No person shall, without a written permit from the Public Works Director or their designee, in the case of a public tree or shrub do, or cause to be done by others, any of the following acts:

- (A) Secure, fasten, or run any rope, wire, sign, unprotected electrical installation, or other device or material to, around or through a tree or shrub;
- (B) Cut (including the root system), break, injure, mutilate, deface, kill, destroy, or permit any fire to burn where it will injure any trees or shrub;
- (C) Permit any toxic chemical, gas, smoke, salt brine, oil, or other injurious substance to seep, drain, or be emptied upon or about any tree or shrub;
- (D) Erect, alter, repair, or raze any building or structure without placing suitable guard around all nearby public trees or shrubs which may be injured by such operations;
- (E) Knowingly permit any unprotected electric service wire to come in prolonged contact with any public tree or shrub;
- (F) Remove any guard, stake, or other device or material intended for the protection of a public tree or shrub, or close or obstruct any open space about the base of a public tree or shrub designed to permit access of air, water, and fertilizer;
- (G) Trim or remove any limbs in a manner that does not conform to Section 99.10 of this Code;
- (H) Use of any unnatural pruning techniques (stubbing, dehorning or lopping).

In the event that a public tree or shrub is injured and the Public Works Director or their designee determine that the public tree or shrub should be replaced, the Village shall determine the appropriate costs using the formula set forth in Section 99.23(B) of this code. The person responsible for the injury to a public tree or shrub shall be responsible for all costs for the removal and replacement of the public tree.

(Ord. No. 8065, § 1, passed 5-26-22; Ord. No. 8172, § 3, passed 7-20-23)

#### § 99.06 Prohibited trees.

It is unlawful to plant any of the following trees listed as unacceptable/not approved in the Urban Forestry Management Plan, Appendix A & B in the public right-of-way.

(Ord. No. 8065, § 1, passed 5-26-22)

### ARTICLE II. PRUNING STANDARDS

#### § 99.10 Standards.

All street trees shall be pruned in accordance with the Urban Forestry Management Plan, and in compliance with current ANSI A300 and ANSI Z133 standards.

The pruning of street trees will only be accomplished by Village employees, those licensed tree care companies contracted by the Village to perform such work, or a public utility operating under a permit pursuant to Section 99.03 of this Code. All contractors performing tree work for the Village shall meet the Commercial General Liability, Auto Liability, Professional Liability, Workers' Compensation, Statutory Employers Liability and Umbrella Coverage insurance requirements as stipulated in the corresponding bid/contract documents.

Wherever possible, all street trees will be pruned as follows:

- (A) Raise limbs to a minimum height of 14 feet on the roadway and driveway sides of the tree, eight feet over the sidewalk and parkway and balance the overall tree structure.
- (B) Remove deadwood with a diameter of two inches or greater.
- (C) Remove dying or diseased limbs.
- (D) Remove limbs that are crossing or rubbing.
- (E) Remove broken and/or weakly attached limbs.
- (F) Remove root suckers.
- (G) Remove water sprouts on the trunk up to the first major limb.
- (H) All final cuts shall be collar cuts made sufficiently close to the trunk or parent limb, without cutting into the branch collar or leaving a protruding stub, so that wound closure can readily begin under normal conditions.
- (I) All limbs to be removed shall be cut in such a manner so as to prevent any ripping or tearing of the wood or bark on the parent or remaining stem.
- (J) Pruning shall be done in a way that will not cut, rip, or harm adjacent bark areas.
- (K) All limbs to be removed shall be brought to the ground in such a manner as to prevent any damage to real or personal property, publicly or privately owned.

- (L) Proper tools for pruning shall be used for each cut, with the blades of each tool, including hand pruners, pole saws, hand saws, and chain saws being placed on each branch to obtain the proper pruning cut.
- (M) No tree topping shall be allowed.
- (N) No person working in trees shall use shoes with spikes, or any other footwear which will, in the opinion of the Village Forester, injure the tree being pruned.
- (O) At no time shall any person working in trees for pruning purposes, wear spurs or climbing irons.
- (P) At least one individual on the job site must have a valid and current arborist certification from the International Society of Arboriculture.
- (Q) No American elm (*Ulmus Americana*) shall be pruned between April 15th and October 15th of each year unless to remove an immediate hazard. This reduces the potential spread of Dutch Elm Disease.
- (R) No Oaks (*Quercus* spp) shall be pruned between April 15th and October 15th of each year unless to remove an immediate hazard. This reduces the potential spread of Oak Wilt Disease.

(Ord. No. 8065, § 1, passed 5-26-22; Ord. No. 8172, § 4, passed 7-20-23)§ 99.11 Application.

This chapter shall apply to the following classes of persons and corporations:

- (A) Village employees, and parties or contractors employed by the Village for such purpose.
- (B) Sub-dividers, particularly when they are performing under the requirements of other local ordinances.
- (C) Condominiums.
- (D) All private persons, whether acting voluntarily and independently of Village direction or request, or not.
- (E) Public utilities.

(Ord. No. 8065, § 1, passed 5-26-22)

#### **§ 99.12 Forfeitures.**

In the event any of the persons enumerated in Section 99.11 or corporations or legal entities have posted a performance or subdivision completion bond, as may be required by other local ordinance, and have violated this subchapter, the Director of Public Works may, upon the appropriate resolution of the Board of Trustees, retain such monies as may be necessary to correct and repair any violations by such person, corporation, or legal entity, until such violation has been corrected and repaired to the satisfaction of the said Director of Public Works. Such correction and repair may include, but shall not be limited to, replacement of trees improperly pruned or trimmed, in accordance with the requirements of this subchapter.

(Ord. No. 8065, § 1, passed 5-26-22)

#### **ARTICLE III. TREE PLANTING PROGRAM§ 99.20 Tree planting and removal program created.**

The Board of Trustees hereby creates an annual tree planting and removal program for new trees and tree replacements in rights-of-way under the jurisdiction of the Village.

(Ord. No. 8065, § 1, passed 5-26-22)

**§ 99.21 Purchase of trees by Village.**

The Village shall, on an annual or bi-annual basis, contract to purchase trees to be placed in the parkway portion of rights-of-way under the jurisdiction of the Village. The Village shall determine the location and placement of the trees.

(Ord. No. 8065, § 1, passed 5-26-22)

**§ 99.22 Tree planting.**

Tree planting in rights-of-way under the jurisdiction of the Village shall take place in accordance with the following terms and conditions:

(A) Tree replacements based upon village removal.

- (1) If a tree within the rights-of-way under the jurisdiction of the Village is removed by the Village, the Village may plant a tree, subject to sufficient space therefor, per Section 99.04 of this Code, at no cost to the adjacent property owner.
- (2) The adjacent property owner will be afforded the opportunity to provide input on the species of tree to be planted, in accordance with Section 99.06 of this Code; however, the Village shall make the final determination of the species, based on the trees available to the Village.

(B) Trees requested by the adjacent property owner.

- (1) If an adjacent property owner requests that the Village plant a tree within the rights-of-way under the jurisdiction of the Village, and no tree was previously removed by the Village from the location in question, subject to sufficient space therefor, per Section 99.04 of this Code, the Village may, subject to the availability of a tree, plant a tree at the location in question; provided the adjacent property owner pays a planting fee of \$225.00 per tree, which fee shall be paid to the Village, by the adjacent property owner, prior to the planting of the tree.
- (2) The adjacent property owner will be afforded the opportunity to provide input on the species of tree to be planted, in accordance with Section 99.06 of this Code; however, the Village shall make the final determination of the species, based on the trees available to the Village.
- (3) Trees planted at the request of the adjacent property owner, within the rights-of-way under the jurisdiction of the Village, shall remain the property of the Village.

(C) If trees are planted by the Village within the rights-of-way under the jurisdiction of the Village, as part of an approved development of the adjacent property, which requires the planting of parkway trees by the developer of said adjacent property pursuant to Chapters 150 and/or 154 of this Code, the adjacent property owner and/or developer of the approved development shall be charged a flat fee of \$450.00 for each tree planted by the Village.

(Ord. No. 8065, § 1, passed 5-26-22; Ord. No. 8172, § 5, passed 7-20-23)

**§ 99.23 Tree removal.**

(A) Village removed trees.

- (1) Trees located within the rights-of-way under the jurisdiction of the Village shall be removed when removal is considered necessary by the Village's Forestry Supervisor for reasons of tree health and/or public safety. Prior to such removal, notice will be mailed to the resident of the abutting property, stating the reason for the removal. In the event of an emergency, Village staff has the authority to remove any tree located in the rights-of-way under the jurisdiction of the Village without providing the aforementioned notice, when removal is considered necessary for public safety. In regard to any such tree removal:

- a. All stumps will be ground to a depth of at least 12 inches below existing grade. Stump grindings will be removed, replaced with topsoil and restored with seed.
- b. Any tree located in the rights-of-way under the jurisdiction of the Village, that is removed, may be replaced during the next available planting season, provided there is sufficient spacing, per Section 99.04 of this Code, for the planting of a tree, and sufficient funding for planting a replacement tree. The Village may consider planting more than one replacement tree, provided there is sufficient spacing, per Section 99.04 of this Code, and funding to do so.
- c. There shall be no fee charged to the adjacent property owner for a tree removed by the Village from the rights-of-way under the jurisdiction of the Village.

(B) Developer/adjacent property owner removed trees.

- (1) The fee for the removal of a tree from the rights-of-way under the jurisdiction of the Village, at the request of either the adjacent property owner or the developer of the adjacent property, where the Village Forestry Supervisor has determined that the tree would not otherwise need to be removed, and the Village consents to the removal, shall be based upon the following formula:

$$[ \text{DBH} + 2 ] \times \$450.00 = \text{Tree Removal Fee}$$

with DBH being the diameter at breast height (DBH) of the tree to be removed, which is the diameter of the tree at four and one-half feet above the ground. Said fee shall be paid to the Village prior to the removal of the tree.

- (2) For ornamental trees over six inches diameter measured below the first branch union the fee as calculated above shall be reduced by one-half to reflect the smaller mature canopy size of these trees. The following trees shall be classified as ornamental trees: crabapples (*Malus* spp.), lilacs (*Syringa* spp.) serviceberries (*Amelanchier* spp.), hawthorns (*Crataegus* spp.), pear (*Pyrus* spp.) and ornamental cherry/plum (*Prunus* spp.)

- (C) Disputing assessed tree removal fee. Any request for waiver or modification of assessed tree removal fees shall be submitted to the Public Works Director in writing for consideration. The request should include why the fee has been assessed, the dollar amount of the fee assessed, reasons why requestor believes the amount should be modified. The Public Works Director shall have final determination regarding any waiver/modification of assessed fees.

(Ord. No. 8065, § 1, passed 5-26-22; Ord. No. 8172, § 6, passed 7-10-23)§ 99.24 Removal of unauthorized plantings.

The Village may remove any unauthorized plantings within any public place without compensation to the owner.

(Ord. No. 8065, § 1, passed 5-26-22)ARTICLE IV. FRONT YARD TREE PROGRAM



**§ 99.30 Program definition.**

In certain areas, chosen by the Village, where the right-of-way is too narrow to sustain a tree, but where the Village determines a tree is needed for Village beautification purposes, the Village, if the property owner executes a participation agreement provided by the Village, shall, without cost to the property owner, plant a tree in the front yard of private property, maintain the tree for one year after planting and after one year from the date of planting turn the title over to the property owner so that continued care and maintenance of the tree shall be the responsibility of the property owner. Maintenance by the Village does not include watering the tree during the one-year period.

(Ord. No. 8065, § 1, passed 5-26-22)

**§ 99.40 Reserved.**

**§ 99.99 Penalty.**

Any person, firm, corporation or public utility who is found to be in violation of any provision of this chapter 99 shall be fined not less than \$50.00, nor more than \$750.00, with each day any such violation exists constituting a separate and distinct violation, and each tree impacted in violation of this chapter 99 resulting in a separate and distinct violation.

(Ord. No. 8065, § 1, passed 5-26-22)

**SECTION 2:** That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval, as provided by law.

Passed on first reading this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

First reading waived by action of the Board of Trustees this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

Passed on second reading this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025, pursuant to a roll call vote as follows.

AYES: \_\_\_\_\_

NAYS: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVED** by me this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Anthony Puccio, Village President

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ranya Elkhatib, Village Clerk