

Public Meeting - Landscaping Businesses in the RR&A District

Thursday, May 21, 2015 @ 5:00 pm

Council Chambers, City Hall

1. Welcome
2. Introductions
3. Proposed RR&A Amendment - Landscaping Service Businesses

Staff will briefly outline proposed changes to the RR&A District, along with other potential standards that could be added to the amendment.

4. Public Comment

Members of the public will have the opportunity to provide comment regarding changes to the RR&A District for landscaping businesses.

5. Next Steps

Memorandum

To: Business and Economic Development Committee
From: Paul Nicklas, Assistant City Solicitor
Date: May 5, 2015
Re: Standards for Landscaping in RR&A

The purpose of this memorandum is to outline 1) existing standards on landscaping businesses in the Rural Residence and Agricultural District, 2) new standards proposed by the ordinance amendment presently under consideration by the Council, and 3) other standards that could be imposed.

Under existing ordinances and rules, the following standards apply to a landscaping business in RR&A:

- Minimum lot area of 1½ acres.
- Maximum lot coverage (buildings) of 15%.
- Maximum impervious surface amount of 20%.
- Building setbacks of 40 feet (front), 20 feet (side), and 30 feet (rear).
- Parking setbacks of 20 feet (front) and 10 feet (side and rear).
- Any parking lot of 5 spaces or more, or any outdoor storage area, must be screened with a C buffer yard (at least 20 feet of vegetation).
- Plumbing code requirements for business operations.

The ordinance presently under consideration would add the following standards:

- Definition of landscaping services.
- One parking space for every 1½ employees, plus customer parking if necessary.
- Facilities and storage areas must be 150 feet from residential buildings on other parcels.
- An A buffer yard (at least 6 feet of vegetation). If facilities or storage is within 50 feet of a property line, a C buffer yard (at least 20 feet of vegetation) is required.
- Notice of pending applications for building permits and certificates of occupancy for landscaping businesses must be sent to neighbors.

Other standards that could be added could include the following:

- Definitions or restrictions regarding snowplowing
- Restrictions on hours of operation
- Larger minimum lot size
- Maximum number of employees
- Different standards based on lot size
- Maximum square footage of storage area
- Amendments to the above standards