



Natural Resources Management Department

2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way
Building A, Room 219
Viera, Florida 32940

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

TO: Frank B. Abbate, County Manager

THRU: John Denninghoff, P.E., Assistant County Manager

FROM: Amanda Elmore, Deputy Director, Natural Resources Management Dept. (NRM)

SUBJ: Citizen Efficiency and Effectiveness Recommendation (CEER) #2024004

DATE: 04/01/2024

CEER #2024004 was received by the County from Louise Bronar.

Citizen Statement:

We need to save as many trees and green spaces as possible. They collect carbon, provide shade, provide homes for birds, animals, and insects. We need as many trees as possible to combat global warming. Builders are razing lots disrupting the ecology of the area and then plant very few trees after building houses or businesses.

Citizen Recommendation:

We need a tree ordinance to save our landscapes. Cut only trees necessary to build edifices, don't level entire lot. Plant two native trees for every one tree cut down. See tree ordinance in Tallahassee, Florida. Benefits: less erosion, more carbon captured to combat global warming, more shade to combat global warming, provide homes for wildlife which will enhance nature tourism. More stormwater will be captured rather than flowing into the Indian River Lagoon ND will enhance property values.

Staff Analysis:

Brevard County has had a tree ordinance in place for decades. Chapter 62, Article XIII, Division 2 of Brevard County Code is entitled Landscaping, Land Clearing, and Tree Protection (LLTP). The LLTP regulations include canopy preservation and planting requirements that vary depending on the size of the area of alteration and land use. Trees must be preserved or relocated on-site during development to the greatest extent feasible and replacement of protected trees is required if minimum canopy thresholds are not met. If specimen trees are removed, they must be replaced regardless of canopy threshold satisfaction. Where adverse site conditions make

Main Line: (321) 633-2016

Website: Brevardfl.gov/NaturalResources

the removal of a protected or specimen tree necessary and cause the site to fall below the minimum required canopy preservation percentage, an Alternative Landscape Enhancement Plan is required that demonstrates the adverse site conditions and provides a planting plan that exceeds the minimum landscape and canopy standards.

For vacant parcels, land clearing is prohibited without Natural Resources Management review and approval with few exemptions (bona fide agricultural use pursuant to F.S. Ch. 163.3162(4), emergency removal of a dead or seriously damaged tree that poses an immediate threat, removal of nonnative invasive or undesirable plants, etc). For parcels that are already developed, minimum landscaping and canopy preservation requirements must be maintained in perpetuity, after the issuance of certificate of occupancy.

Staff Recommended Action:

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners reject the recommendation as a tree ordinance has already been implemented.

Recommendation Details

Contact Information

Full Name: Louise Bronar Email Address: grammy4u1722@gmail.com
Mailing Address: 1722 JORDAN DR Alt Email Address: grammy4u1722@gmail.com
ROCKLEDGE fl 32955
Phone Number 321-243-5575

Group/Organization NA

Recommendation Information

Recommendation Title: Tree ordinance
Areas Affected: Building

Department: DEVELOPMENTAL & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

We need to save as many trees and green spaces as possible. They collect carbon, provide shade, provide homes for birds, animals, and insects. We need as many trees as possible to combat global warming. Builders are razing lots disrupting the ecology of the area and then plant very few trees after building houses or businesses.

Problem Description:

We need a tree ordinance to save our landscapes. Cut only trees necessary to build edifices, don't level entire lot. Plant two native trees for every one tree cut down. See tree ordinance in Tallahassee, Florida.

Recommendation Description

Benefits: less erosion, more carbon captured to combat global warming, more shade to combat global warming, provide homes for wildlife which will enhance nature tourism. More stormwater will be captured rather than flowing into the Indian River Lagoon ND will enhance property values.

Attachments

There are no attachments for this recommendation.

Administrative Action

Evaluation

Recommendation Timeline

User	Status	Date	Remarks
CEER WebUser	Citizen Submitted	Dec 14, 2023	
Karen Conde	Department Assigned	Dec 20, 2023	NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT Assigned

Awaiting action from department director