CITY OF OAK PARK HEIGHTS
POLICY REGARDING REMOVAL/RE-PLANTING OF BOULEVARD TREES

Trees growing in the boulevard right-of-way will be removed by the City under the following conditions:

1. The tree is dead;
2. The tree is diseased (with a fatal disease such as oak wilt, Dutch elm disease or an invasive trunk canker);
3. The tree is an Ash (*Fraxinus* spp.) in poor condition
4. The tree is hazardous due to decay, storm damage or poor branch/trunk unions;
5. The tree blocks sight lines of a driveway or intersection and cannot be pruned to correct the situation;
6. The tree has large roots which are interfering with curbing, driveway, sidewalk, sewer/water lines and corrective work needs to be done to the disturbed hardscape or utility;
7. The tree's roots are causing major damage to the property owner's lawn and all other remedies have failed to correct the problem. (Property owner should submit a Boulevard Tree Removal Request Form to the City Arborist)

In some circumstances, a property owner may want to have a boulevard tree removed and conditions 1-6 do not apply. In these situations the following will apply:

1. The property owner(s) should submit a Boulevard Tree Removal Request Form to the City Arborist stating the reasons why they want the tree removed;
2. The City Arborist will assess the situation and determine whether or not the tree should be removed;
3. If, at the Arborist's discretion, a removal permit is granted, the City will have the tree removed and the property owner will pay a fee of 75% of the total cost of removal and replanting to share the cost of removal and re-planting.

In cases where a boulevard tree is dead or dying due to damage caused by a lawnmower, weed whip/other tool or vehicle run either by the property owner, or a lawn care firm hired by the property owner, the boulevard tree will be removed and replaced by the City and the property owner will pay a fee of 75% of the total cost of removal and replanting per tree to share the cost of removal and re-planting.

In all cases where boulevard trees have been removed, a replacement tree will be planted in accordance with the following provisions:

1. There is adequate space on the boulevard for a new tree to grow to a healthy maturity;
2. The tree species will be chosen based on the City of Oak Park Heights Tree Species List and is listed as a City Boulevard Tree Option;
3. The adjoining property owner will be responsible for watering the new tree and keeping the mulch ring in place/maintained for at least one year after planting.

Policy Amended by the City Council on 12/8/2015 and 02/13/2024

CITY OF OAK PARK HEIGHTS
BOULEVARD TREE REMOVAL REQUEST PERMIT

DATE: _____

RESIDENT NAME: _____
RESIDENT ADDRESS: _____
PHONE NUMBER: _____

TREE LOCATION: _____

REASON FOR TREE REMOVAL REQUEST: (Please refer to Pages 1 and 2)
(Attach additional pages if needed)

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I understand if this request is approved I am responsible for a cost share. ____

SIGNATURE_____

Please return your completed form to City Hall and a site visit will be made by the City Arborist to inspect the tree listed on this form. If you have any questions please contact the City Arborist, Lisa Danielson at (651)-439-4439.