

**ITEM #37<sup>(2)</sup>**

**ADDITIONAL MATERIAL  
10:00 A.M.**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**MAY 8, 2018**

**SUBMITTED AT THE REQUEST OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION and  
GROWTH MANAGEMENT  
DEPARTMENT**



Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department  
115 S. Andrews Avenue, Room 329 • Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301 • 954-357-6612 • FAX 954-357-8655

TO: Board County Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Henry A. Sniezek, Director  
Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department

DATE: May 7, 2018

RE: Supplemental Information – Public Hearing Item 37 – May 8, 2018 County Commission Meeting – Tree Maintenance and Location Near Power Lines

On April 24, 2018, the Board continued Public Hearing Item 44 regarding tree maintenance and planting near power lines. The ordinance, if adopted as proposed, would be effective in the County’s BMSD (unincorporated area). During the April 24 meeting, Board members asked what outreach was planned to notify and engage BMSD residents about the Ordinance, including the provision allowing property owners to apply for reimbursement funding up to \$1000 per tree to remove or prune trees not in conformance with Ordinance guidelines.

Below, please find staff’s planned outreach efforts should the Ordinance be adopted:

- Ordinance will be highlighted and included in the Summer edition of the County’s “Flood News” mailing, which is sent to all BMSD addresses.
- 6x9 postcards to be sent to all BMSD addresses.
- Mobile-friendly page on the County’s BMSD website that will explain this information.
- Engagement with BMSD leaders and residents at BMSD Civic Association meetings (Boulevard Gardens, Broadview Park, Franklin Park, Roosevelt Gardens, Washington Park) and Central County Community Advisory Board
- General news release in coordination with the County’s Public Communications Office

For additional information, please find attached an overview of the draft Ordinance to be included in the “Flood News,” and also used as a template for the referenced postcards.

Please feel free to contact me at your convenience if you or your staff have any questions.

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/HAS  
Attachment

cc: Bertha W. Henry, County Administrator  
Monica Cepero, Deputy County Administrator  
Andrew Meyers, Esq., County Attorney  
Robert Melton, County Auditor  
Jo Sesodia, Director, Planning and Development Management Division  
Sermin Turegun, Director, Environmental Engineering and Permitting Division

5/4/2018 Draft

# Tree Maintenance Near Powerlines Ordinance

## Ordinance Overview

- Ordinance became effective on DATE.
- Requires that trees be maintained in conformance with Florida Power and Light's [Right Tree, Right Place Guidelines \(Fpl.com/reliability/pdf/caring-for-trees.pdf\)](http://Fpl.com/reliability/pdf/caring-for-trees.pdf).
- Requires that trees must be either pruned or removed depending on the distance from the powerline and the species, in accordance with the Guidelines.
- All required pruning must be conducted by a licensed contractor with a Broward County Class "A" Tree Trimmer License. **Property owners should not attempt to do any required pruning around powerlines.**
- Removal of trees not in conformance with the Guidelines are exempt from the requirement to obtain a Broward County Tree Removal License.
- Any tree planted after the effective date of the ordinance must be planted in conformity with the Guidelines.
- Allows property owners to apply for funding to remove or prune trees not in conformance with the Guidelines. Funding application must be received within one year from the effective date of the ordinance. Funding approval will not exceed \$1,000 per tree and will be subject to funds availability.
- Provides that the County may issue a Notice of Violation for trees that are not planted or maintained in conformance with the Guidelines.
- Requires that dead, diseased, or damaged trees that pose a danger of damaging powerlines be removed by the property owner within ten days of receiving of the Notice of Violation.
- Provides for fines of up to \$500 per tree for failure to remedy a Notice of Violation.