



Parkway Cyclical Tree Pruning

6.16.25

Purpose of Brief:

- Village's Municipal Code for Parkway Tree Pruning
- Village's Communication to Residents
- Overall resident's response to pruning
- Request approval to change the Village Code for pruning and do cyclical tree pruning by Village's contractor



Village's Municipal Code on Parkway Tree Pruning

Municipal Code: Section 3-6-9: Property owners are responsible for the maintenance of any parkway tree adjacent to their property and/or any tree located on their private property.

Section 3-6-9

Pruning, Right of Way Clearance.

Every owner of any tree overhanging any street or right of way within the Village shall prune the branches so that such branches shall not obstruct the view of any street intersection and so that there shall be a clear space of eight feet above the surface of the street or sidewalk. Said owners shall remove all dead, diseased or dangerous trees, or broken or decayed limbs which constitute a menace to the safety of the public. The Village, in accordance with the law, shall have the right to prune any tree or shrub on private property when it interferes with the proper spread of light along the street from a street light or interferes with visibility of any traffic control device or sign.

Chapter 3-6 of the Municipal Code provides additional information regarding the Village's Tree Management Program.

Village's Communication to Residents

- **Newsletter and Webpage:** Information on owner's responsibilities was distributed in previous quarterly newsletter to residents with information below.
- **Self Help:** How to perform maintenance of pruning and installing mulch around the tree is provided on Village website.
- **Contractor Help:** A list of pre-qualified contractors is available as link on the Village's website.



<https://www.orlandpark.org/departments/public-works/trees>

Overall resident response

- Most residents don't follow the Municipal Code
 - They don't have experience pruning correctly or not at appropriate times of the year.
 - They don't believe parkway trees should be their responsibility to maintain due to the Village planting them and the Village owns them.
 - They don't heed the code causing too large of workload for MV violations for Code Enforcement when they could be addressing other important issues.
- Overall, the parkway area is the most confusing for residents and Public Works receives a heavy call volume based on who is responsible for maintenance, ownership, and digging rights for easements. This area includes trees, sidewalks, utility easements, sprinkler systems, mailboxes, grass maintenance, curbs, and driveway aprons.

Additional Information

- Public Works does do tree pruning for locations for Road Improvement Program (RIP) due to large construction vehicles damaging tree limbs but this is every 20+ years.
 - This has led to confusion and frustration for homeowners who see trees pruned for the RIP.
- Due to pruning is usually around every 5 years, we broke the Village into seven (7) zones for a cycle of seven (7) years to reduce some costs.

Alternative Plan Recommendation

- Change the Municipal Code for pruning for 7/21 BOT.
- Public Works will bid out a seven (7) year pruning cycle contract with first year addressing six (6) troublesome areas that includes zone 1 and have large growth trees for 7/21 BOT approval.
 - For next six years, the costs will be based on # of trees in each zone and the cost provided by low bidder of the pre-qualified master service agreement tree contractor.
- Pruning will occur during the Fall when trees become dormant so their health is not affected.
- Cost is expected to be covered within current budget with the descoping of CPW screens.
- A communication plan to be provided to residents through social, website, and newsletter update.

Questions?

Request approval to change the Village Code for pruning and do cyclical tree pruning by Village's contractor