



MEMORANDUM TO VENICE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Jim Yelverton, City Arborist

E-SIGN: 
Jim Yelverton (May 20, 2024 08:47 EDT)

DEPARTMENT: Planning and Zoning Department

THROUGH CHARTER OFFICER: Edward Lavallee, City Manager

E-SIGN: 
Edward Lavallee (May 20, 2024 09:17 EDT)

DATE: 5/20/2024

MEETING DATE: 6/11/2024

COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED: For Staff Direction by Council Consensus

SUPPORTS STRATEGIC PLAN: Goal One: Keep Venice Beautiful and Eco-Friendly

SUBJECT / TOPIC: West Venice Avenue Canopy Road Designation

Background: The Environmental Chapter of the Land Development Regulations provides a process to designate Canopy Roads. These are roads that contain a minimum of 50% canopy coverage and are made up of at least 75% Florida Friendly Species. The 500 to 700 blocks of West Venice Avenue qualify for this designation.

The Live Oaks that line West Venice Avenue have matured, and in some instances, are beginning to show early signs of decline. As they age, their vigor and ability to respond to pruning and root disturbances are diminishing. Improper pruning and root damage can impose significant stress on an older tree. A Canopy Road designation could offer additional protection for these trees as well as heighten public awareness about their value to the City. The goal of this designation would be to acknowledge and preserve the scenic beauty and natural canopy of this historic roadway.

Canopy Road Standards: If approved, the Canopy Road designation will provide standards for the protection of trees within the Canopy Road Protection Zone (CRPZ). The CRPZ is defined as:

A designated section of City and county right-of-way and the adjacent private property extending up to 15 feet laterally from the right-of-way onto adjacent private property, but in no event extending greater than 15 feet laterally from the edge of the roadway.

Tree protection standards affecting adjacent property owners:

- Pruning branches larger than two inches in diameter from any tree with a trunk located within the CRPZ will require a permit and must be supervised by a Certified Arborist. A request to waive the pruning permit fees will be included with the designation request.
- Root pruning, if necessary, must conform to industry standards and be conducted under the direct supervision of a Certified Arborist.
- It will be a violation of the tree code to cause irreparable injury to or prune a tree within

the CRPZ in a manner inconsistent with the City's tree code and *ANSI A300 Standard for Tree Care*.

Complete descriptions of standards and requirements for Canopy Roads are detailed in the *Land Development Code, Chapter 89 – Sec. 3.4.9 Canopy Road Designation*.

Request: We are seeking Council direction to pursue the Canopy Road Designation for the 500 to 700 blocks, including Heritage Park, of West Venice Avenue.

If City Council directs staff to pursue this designation, staff will begin the notification and advertising process, and prepare for a future public hearing to consider the subject road segment as a Canopy Road.

Yes	N/A	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Document(s) Reviewed for ADA compliance <small>(required if for agenda posting)</small>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	City Attorney Reviewed/Approval
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Risk Management Review
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Finance Department Review/Approval
		Funds Availability (account number):

Cc: Ed Lavalley, City Manager
James Clinch, Asst. City Manager
Roger Clark, Planning & Zoning Director
Ricky Simpson, Public Works Director









MEMORANDUM - Tree Canopy

Final Audit Report

2024-05-20

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