

## **Winston-Salem / Forsyth County Tree Ordinance Committee Substantive and Procedural Interests**

The Winston-Salem /Forsyth County Tree Ordinance Committee generated a list of interests that represents the concerns, needs, and desires of each member. During committee deliberation, committee members will seek options that meet their own interests as well as the interests of other members.

### **Substantive Interests**

- A. Reduce costs to citizens and industry of protecting air and water quality.
- B. Increase the value of commercial property.
- C. Increase the value of residential property.
- D. Provide incentives for tree preservation.
- E. Provide attractive incentives for property owners to meet and go beyond our minimum requirements.
- F. Develop in a planned way.
- G. Promote community interaction through sound tree care and preservation.
- H. Preserve structurally sound native species.
- I. Define and conserve significant and heritage trees.
- J. Protect community appearance.
- K. Maintain Winston-Salem's "green-ness".
- L. Create solutions that promote social interaction.
- M. Create solutions that educate.
- N. Encourage low impact development.
- O. Avoid the creation of unintended consequences.
- P. Keep regulations simple, easy to enforce, and low cost to enforce.
- Q. Develop solutions that are easy to implement and inexpensive for the builder/landowner.
- R. The ordinance must be enforceable.
- S. Make it easy to review and approve; don't bog down the planning review.
- T. Keep housing affordable for low and moderate income families.
- U. Keep regulations from driving up housing costs.
- V. Find an equitable balance between private and public interests.
- W. Preserve and protect private property rights.
- X. Preserve rural areas.
- Y. Maintain equity across jurisdictional boundaries.
- Z. Meet the needs of both city and county.
- AA. Encourage development with conservation or replanting if conservation cannot be done.
- BB. Protect ground water resources.
- CC. Protect cities and towns from avoidable storm water run off.
- DD. Protect air quality.
- EE. Preserve wildlife corridors.
- FF. Protect water quality.
- GG. Replenish trees.
- HH. Eliminate/reduce soil erosion.
- II. Lower energy costs.
- JJ. Ensure proper tree preservation.
- KK. Encourage arboriculturally sound tree maintenance and planting.
- LL. Support the healthy maintenance and growth of urban and rural trees.

**Procedural Interests**

- A. Develop a clear understanding of what we should achieve by whatever we propose.
- B. Our results should be easy to understand.
- C. Establish urban and rural tree canopy goals.
- D. Research past tree canopy coverage in WS/FC and compare that coverage to a current tree canopy baseline.
- E. Establish the benefits of trees and tree canopy.
- F. Establish urban tree canopy goals.
- G. Establish rural tree canopy goals.
- H. Understand past quantity and present tree canopy coverage.
- I. Standards should be realistic and obtainable, while also being quantifiable in their benefit to the property owner, neighbors and the community.
- J. Provide education about trees and the tree ordinance to the public.
- K. Establish the monetary benefits of trees and tree canopy.