

# TREES! CRAFTING DECATUR-APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS -COMMENT CARD-

The City Commission has requested that city staff prepare a new tree ordinance for adoption in January 2014. The purpose of tonight's meeting is to collect feedback on specific policy directions to inform the direction of the new ordinance. Please read the posters around the room and record your comments on this handout.

**Name** *(Optional)*

### 1. ORDINANCE GOALS

**1a:** What do you think should be the goals of the new tree ordinance?

**1b:** Do you think the community should do more to conserve existing trees?

### 2. TREE CANOPY MEASURE

**2a:** Should the city establish a citywide tree canopy goal? (The current canopy coverage is 45%.) **Yes**      **No**  
 Which goal do you think is best? (circle one)      **45%**                      **50%**                      **55%**                      **60%**

Comment

**2b:** Should the city switch to measuring tree canopy instead of tree density?

**Yes**      **No**

### 3. TREE CONSERVATION

**3a:** If the city sets a citywide canopy goal then each zoning district (e.g. R60 Residential, C2 General Commercial etc.) will have canopy coverage requirements. Should the city establish an individual lot canopy coverage goal of 60% for residential properties and 50% for commercial properties?

**Yes**      **No**

Comment

### 3. TREE CONSERVATION (CONT.)

**3b:** Should the city require a tree removal permit when a homeowner wants to remove a healthy tree 12 inches dbh or greater on their property?

**Yes**      **No**

Comment

**3c:** Should the city identify and define large trees that should be protected from removal? For example, a Landmark Tree would be 30 inches or greater dbh with at least 5 year life expectancy.

**Yes**      **No**

Comment

### 4. BOUNDARY TREES

**4a:** Should the city define boundary trees in the ordinance and require that they are protected during site disturbance?

**Yes**      **No**

Comment

**4b:** Should the city allow the canopy of a boundary tree to count towards the canopy requirement on an adjoining property?

**Yes**      **No**

Comment

### 5. OTHER IDEAS

**5a:** Are there any best management practices for tree conservation, maintenance and plantings that the city should consider?

**5b:** The city would like to provide the community with information and training that will help you care for your trees.

- What kind of information would be useful for you to know?
- In what format would you like to receive this information?

