

LRB-RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS SECTION

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

ITEM 4, FILE 090595

September 30, 2009

MARY E TURK

File 090595 is an ordinance relating to planting standards in certain portions of the right-of-way.

Background and Discussion

1. The purpose of this ordinance is to approve changes to City code related to planting standards in certain portions of the right-of-way.
2. This ordinance removes the requirement that plantings in the public right-of-way be 1 ½ feet from both the curb and sidewalk as long as plantings do not encroach in the path of pedestrians or block the vision of motorists. It changes the maximum height of plants from 2 feet to 3 feet. It also removes the restrictions that landscaping edging is limited to 1 ½ feet from both the curb and sidewalk and 6 inches in height.
3. The ordinance adds flower and other vegetation encroachment abatements to the special assessment for trimming. The homeowner would have 30 days after notification to abate the encroachment. After that time the City would remove the encroaching vegetation and charge the costs to the parcel where that the encroachment is in front of.

Fiscal Impact

Expenditure estimates related to this ordinance total \$60,900 for code enforcement employee wages and mileage. Revenue estimates for abatement are \$57,000. There is a net cost of \$3,900.

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