

City of Durham, Oregon

RESOLUTION 693-26

A RESOLUTION OF THE DURHAM CITY COUNCIL, OREGON, REQUIRING CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZATION AND PUBLIC NOTICE OF NON-EMERGENCY TREE REMOVALS FROM CITY PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Durham recognizes trees as natural resources that provide aesthetic, economic, ecological, environmental, and health benefits to the City and members of the public; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Durham finds that the unregulated destruction, cutting, and removal of trees may result in result in the loss of those benefits and the reduction in the overall quality of the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Durham finds that the treatment of trees on City-owned properties can have significant impacts upon the entire City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Durham also recognizes that the falling of trees presents serious risks to the public health and safety and to property, as evidenced by the harms to public health, safety, and property caused by the falling of trees during severe storms; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Durham finds that permitting the removal of certain trees is necessary to protect the public health and safety and is necessary to protect property; and

WHEREAS, in order to protect public health, safety, and property, and to preserve the benefits provided by trees in the City and prevent the uncontrolled destruction, cutting, and removal of trees on City-owned properties, the City Council of the City of Durham finds it necessary to regulate the removal of trees on City-owned properties within the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF DURHAM, OREGON ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

1. Council Review.

The removal of trees, as defined by Ordinance No. 273-26, on City-owned property shall be subject to review and approval by City Council. The City Administrator shall report to City Council the conditions or reasons why it is necessary to remove the tree(s). City Council shall review the proposed removals and consider factors such as the location, health, and condition of each the tree proposed for removal and the significance of the impact of the tree's removal to the community.

2. Public Notice.

City staff shall give public notice of the proposed removal of a tree from City-owned property by posting a sign on the property a minimum of one week prior to removal.

3. Removal of Hazard Trees.

Upon determination by the City Arborist, as defined in Ordinance No. 273-26, that a tree is a hazard tree as defined by Ordinance No. 273-26, the City Administrator may remove the tree without

Council review and public notice. However, the City Administrator shall report the removal to the City Council at the next regular meeting of the City Council. Such report shall include the conditions or reasons why the tree was a hazard tree.

4. Emergency Removals.

Upon determination by the City Administrator that a tree presents an immediate danger to persons or property, as defined by Ordinance No. 273-26, the City Administrator may remove the tree without Council review and public notice. However, the City Administrator shall report the removal to the City Council at the next regular meeting of the City Council. Such report shall include the conditions or reasons why the tree required emergency removal.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City of Durham, Washington County, Oregon this 24 day of March, 2026.

CITY OF DURHAM
BY:

Joshua Drake, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jordan Parente, City Administrator / Recorder