



**The City of  
OKLAHOMA CITY  
PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

January 14, 2004

Dear Members of the Development Community,

The City Council, on December 30, 2003, approved the first improvements to the City's landscaping requirements in 13 years. A committee of community participants, including commercial, residential and industrial developers, a landscape architect, an urban forester, and a small business owner developed the ordinance over a two-year period.

The new landscaping ordinance is based on a point system, which provides more flexibility and encourages creativity and diversity in design. Plants, which are assigned different point values, can be arranged in any combination on the site to meet minimum requirements. Point requirements are based on the Use Unit, and are determined by the size of the site and the number of parking spaces.

In general, the regulations address the following:

- Single-family and duplex developments are required a minimum of one 2-inch caliper tree per lot, and a tree for every 75 feet of frontage.
- All other multi-family residential, non-residential, office, and commercial developments are required landscaping both for the site and parking areas.
- Industrial developments are required plantings along the frontage and in parking areas.
- Stand-alone parking lots are required a designated amount of landscaping.
- Buffer requirements are established for subdivisions abutting arterial streets, and for non-residential developments abutting residential developments.
- Landscape screening for security fencing is established.
- Landscaping for building additions is required, and provisions for sites with limited green space are provided.
- All new developments (except residential and duplex) will be required to submit a separate landscape plan.
- Credits are provided for existing trees over 6" in caliper.

The new standards (Ordinance No. 22,366) address landscaping for all new developments, and will have an effective date of January 30, 2004. Any applicant filing for a building permit after January 30, 2004 will be subject to these standards.

For a copy of the ordinance, you may go on-line to <http://www.okc.gov/> and navigate to the Planning Department's web site. You may also call 297-2576 and request a copy be mailed, e-mailed, or faxed to you. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Aubrey Hammontree at 297-1629, Lanc Gross at 297-3908 or Bob Mier at 297-2287.

Thank you,

John M. Dugan, AICP, Director  
Oklahoma City Planning Department

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