

How to Designate a Green Corridor

Chapter 33 of the Code or Ordinances known as the Tree and Shrub Ordinance allows portions of major thoroughfares to be designated as a green corridor. The purpose of designating green corridors is to significantly enhance the beautification of the City. A green corridor protects trees that are 15 caliper inches or greater on the street tree list and that are within the building line along major thoroughfares. City Council may designate one or more particular species of tree to be planted in the corridor. The City gives priority to green corridors for city monetary expenditures for street tree plantings.

Section 33-104 of the City Code of Ordinances establishes the procedures and criteria for the designation of a green corridor.

Criteria

- Each green corridor will consist of a right-of-way of a major thoroughfare and building set back areas of abutting and contiguous properties
- A green corridor must be at least one (1) mile long
- A green corridor must be designated by city council

Procedure for petitions for the designation of a green corridor:

- Petitions for the designation of a green corridor must be submitted to the city secretary. The petition requirements are:
 - a. Signatures of at least three quarters of the property owners of the front footage of tracts or parcels that would abut the major thoroughfare in the proposed green corridor, single-family properties and their owners excluded.
 - b. All required signatures must be collected within a ninety (90)-day time period.
 - c. The petition must be filed with the city secretary not later than the fifteenth day after the last date of any property owner's signature on the petition.
- City council will hold a hearing within ninety (90) days following the date of filing a complete petition form.
- Written notice of the hearing will be given by planning officials.
- Any person may be present at the hearing.

If the petition is disapproved you must wait three years before submission of the same or substantially the same green corridor will be considered.

For more information about the Tree and Shrub requirements, log onto the Planning and Development Department web site at www.houstonplanning.com and click on Development Regulations or call 713-535-7776.