**MEMORANDUM**
**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

DATE: August 16, 2016

TO: Tulsa development community
Tulsa land use regulators

FROM: Dawn T. Warrick, AICP, Director

SUBJECT: Tulsa Zoning Code – Tree List

65.050-B Requirements
3. The planning and development director is authorized to prepare a list of recommended and prohibited tree species for use in administering and enforcing the provisions of this chapter. Such lists must be made available to the public.

Pursuant to Tulsa Zoning Code Section 65.050-B.3, the following trees are now prohibited for use in tree installations required to meet landscape requirements of the City of Tulsa:

Fraxinus Americana (White Ash)
Fraxinus pennsylvanica (Green Ash)

The emerald ash borer, an exotic beetle that has devastated the ash population in much of the country, has been confirmed in adjacent states as recently as June 2016. Loss of trees due to this infestation has cost municipalities and property owners hundreds of millions of dollars. It is in the best interest of the City of Tulsa to eliminate these trees from our approved list at this time in order to reduce potential loss and costs associated with treatment and possible removal of affected trees in the community.

In addition to removal of ash species, adjustments have been made to:

Quercus muehlenbergi (Chinquapin oak) – The symbology on the published table was not accurate; the "=" was changed to "+" to indicate appropriate use of this tree for parking lot applications.

Cercus reniformus (Oklahoma redbud) – The "+" symbol was removed because this tree cannot thrive in the minumim 64 s.f. unpaved surface provided in the interior of parking lots. It remains on the list for other applications that call for small trees.

The complete list of tree species appropriate for use in meeting landscape requirements of the City of Tulsa Zoning Code is attached.

## LIST OF TREE SPECIES APPROPRIATE FOR USE IN MEETING THE LANDSCAPE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CITY OF TULSA ZONING CODE

**DEFINITIONS AND LOCATION REQUIREMENTS:**

***Large trees*** - trees that will attain a mature height of over 60 feet and at least 35 feet wide. These trees should be spaced at least 35 feet apart.

***Medium trees*** - trees that will attain a mature height of 30-60 feet and at least 25 feet wide. These trees should be spaced at least 25 feet apart.

***Small trees*** - trees that will attain a mature height of less than 30 feet and at least 15 feet wide. These trees should be spaced at least 15 feet apart. Only small trees may be planted under or within 20 feet of an overhead utility.

**Large Trees: Shall not be used under or within 20' of an overhead utility**

| Botanical name | | Common name | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Celtis occidentalis | | Hackberry | |
| Ginkgo biloba | + | Ginkgo | ** |
| Liriodendron tulipifera | | Tulip tree | |
| Pinus exhinata | | Shortleaf pine | # |
| Plantanus x acerifolia | | London planetree | |
| Plantanus occidentalis | | Sycamore | |
| Quercus alba | | White Oak | |
| Quercus bicolor | | Swamp white oak | |
| Quercus coccinea | | Scarlet oak | |
| Quercus nigra | | Water Oak | |
| Quercus palustris | | Pin oak | |
| Quercus phellos | | Willow oak | |
| Quercus rubra | | Northern red oak | |
| Quercus shumardi | + | Shumard oak | |
| Taxodium disticum | + | Bald cypress | |

**Medium Tree: Shall not be used under or within 10' of an overhead utility**

| Botanical name | | Common name | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Acer platanoides | | Norway maple | * |
| Acer rubrum | | Red maple | * |
| Acer saccharum | | Sugar maple | * |
| Betula nigra | | River birch | |
| Bumelia nigra | | Chittimwood | |
| Carpinus betulus | | European hornbeam | |
| Celtis laevigata | | Sugar hackberry | |
| Gleditisia triacanthos | + | Thornless honeylocust | * |
| Gymnocladus dioicus | | Kentucky coffee tree | ** |
| Ilex opaca | | American holly | # |
| Juniperus scopulorum | | Rocky mountain juniper | # |
| Koelreuteria paniculata | + | Goldenrain tree | |
| Magnolia virginiana | | Sweetbay magnolia | |
| Morus alba | | White mulberry | * |
| Ostrya virginiana | | Eastern hophornbeam | |
| Pinus nigra | | Austrian pine | # |
| Pinus thunbergiana | | Japanese black pine | # |
| Pinus sylvestris | | Scotch pine | # |
| Pistacia chinensis | + | Chinese pistache | |
| Pyrus calleryana | + | Callery pear | *(Bradford pear) |
| Quercus acutissima | + | Sawtooth Oak | |
| Quercus muehlenbergi | + | Chinquapin oak | |
| Quercus robur | + | English oak | |
| Quercus stellata | | Post oak | |
| Quercus virginiana | | Live oak | # |
| Sapindus drummondi | | Western soapberry | |
| Sophora japonica | | Japanese pagoda tree | |
| Tilia americana | | American linden | |
| Tilia cordata | + | Littleleaf linden | |
| Ulmus parvifolia | + | Lacebark elm | |
| Zelkova carpinifolia | | Japanese zelkova | |

**Small trees**- shall be used if under or within 10' of an overhead utility

| Botanical name | | Common name | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Acer ginnala | + | Amur maple | |
| Amelanchier arborea | | Downy serviceberry | |
| Carpinus caroliniana | | American hornbeam | |
| Cercis canadensis | | Eastern redbud | * |
| Cercis reniformus | | Oklahoma redbud | * |
| Continus coggygria | + | Smoketree | |
| Crataegus spp. | + | Hawthorn | * |
| Elaeagnus angustifolia | | Russian olive | |
| Ilex attenuata | | Foster Holly | # |
| Magnolia soulangiana | + | Saucer magnolia | |
| Malus spp. | | Flowering crabapple | * |
| Philadelphus coronarius | + | Sweet Mockorange | |
| Prunus cerasifera | | Purpleleaf plum | * |
| Prunus serrulata | | Japanese cherry | |
| Prunus virginiana | | Chokecherry | |
| Syringa reticulata | | Japanese tree lilac | |

* only use improved grafted trees
** male trees only
\+ best trees recommended for parking lot applications
\# evergreens