

OMB Granicus Review

Granicus Title	Ordinance of Pinellas County, Florida creating Chapter 58, Article XIX, entitled "Tree Protection," providing for tree protection, permitting, mitigation, and enforcement procedures. (Companion to items No. 4 and 6)				
Granicus ID#	25-2014A	Reference #		Date	23-DEC-2025

Mark all Applicable Boxes:

Type of Review									
CIP		Grant		Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Revenue		Project	

Fiscal Information:

New Contract (Y/N)	N/A	Original Amount	N/A
Fund(s)	0001 and 1013	Amount of Change (+/-)	N/A
Cost Center(s)	100200	Total Amount	N/A
Program(s)	1262 and 1395	Amount Available	N/A
Account(s)	3290001 and 3540200	Included in Applicable Budget? (Y/N)	N/A
Fiscal Year(s)	FY26		

Description & Comments
(What is it, any issues found, is there a financial impact to current/next FY, does this contract vary from previous FY, etc.)

Summary

Chapters 138 and 166 of the Land Development Code are being revised to more effectively regulate the county's tree permitting process, revise landscaping requirements for residential and commercial properties, and revise tree mitigation requirements for permitted tree removals. Provisions related to tree permitting from Chapters 138 and 166 are being combined into a stand-alone tree ordinance in Chapter 58 (Environment), and remaining provisions in Chapter 166 (Habitat Protection) and chapter 138, Article X, Division 3 (Landscaping Requirements) are being updated.

Updates include:

- Move tree permitting and replacement requirements from LDC chapters to create a stand-alone tree code in Chapter 58 (Environment).
- Redefine tree replacement requirements for permitted tree removal based on a simple but practical methodology.
- Revise and simplify the tree rating system for more consistent application and outcomes.
- Revise minimum trees per lot requirement for residential properties.
- Clarify language pertaining to existing development and compliance with previously approved site plans.
- Designate Tree Bank Fund payment in lieu of replanting amounts for residential and commercial properties.
- Update Approved Species List to provide more tree replanting options that are aligned with current best practices.
- Update Nuisance and Invasive Species List to align with current horticultural recommendations and promote voluntary removal of these species.

Fiscal Impact

General Fund: The proposed ordinance is projected to impact the General Fund, with a 10% increase in "Tree Only" permits generating approximately \$3,090 in additional revenue.

Tree Bank Fund: The ordinance's revised mitigation methodology is projected to reduce Tree Bank Fund contributions by about 60%, from an estimated \$300,000 to \$120,000. The current Tree Bank Fund balance is \$3.8M.

Analyst:
Ksheera Hegde

Ok to Sign:
