



Liz Keating

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Councilmember

MOTION

WE MOVE that the Administration supplement its process for granting easements to third parties. This supplement should include (but not limited to): detailed guidelines for community engagement and communication for easements authorizing large-scale construction or earth movement with the potential to impact neighbors, and restoration and replacement of removal of trees and vegetation.

Statement

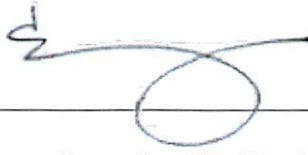
When beneficiaries of easements do not conduct proper communication and remediation, there is a significant cost to the City through time and labor handling customer service issues and other constituent concerns. In an effort to reduce the cost to taxpayers, the administration should address these issues through a clear set of guidelines and expectations for granting easements to third parties.

It is imperative that the City supplement its easement process for dealing with public and private entities. The City must have clearly defined expectations for entities who request easements, while fairly representing the interests of the community. It should be explicitly defined what steps must be taken by entities seeking an easement authorizing large-scale construction or earth movement with the potential to impact neighbors; including, but not limited to, identifying and notifying potentially impacted persons and property owners, timeline for notices, effectively communicating to those adjacent persons and property owners, adequately engaging the community, exceptions for emergency repairs, and replacing damaged/removed property, including trees.

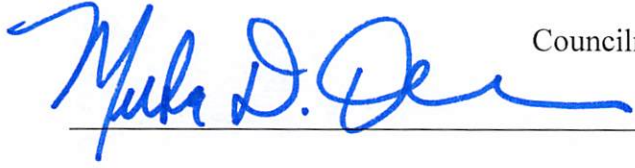
In addition, all city property owners pay an urban forestry assessment to increase tree canopy throughout the city. In many situations, trees are removed as part of the easement. In an effort to continue to increase tree canopy paid for by taxpayers, easement beneficiaries should be required to have a net zero loss of trees as the result of the easement. The administration should set a policy that would replace, restore, or substitute any trees removed or damaged, without hindering growth and development in the city.

COMMITTEES

Member: Budget & Finance • Equitable Growth & Housing • Public Safety & Governance



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[Faint, illegible handwriting]

Cavin Campbell
BI