

TOWN OF DAVIDSON BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CONSISTENCY STATEMENT
(DPO TEXT AMENDMENTS – TREE CANOPY & LANDSCAPING VIOLATIONS)

PROPOSAL / REQUEST

The proposed amendments are being undertaken to promote the creation of a healthy tree canopy and landscape by establishing or revising rules to regulate the creation, preservation, and maintenance of these natural features. Additional changes that occur outside of Section 9 are necessary to ensure that cross-references related to the proposed changes are consistent across the Davidson Planning Ordinance.

SUMMARY OF PETITION / PROPOSAL

The amendments propose to:

1. Update the standards regarding tree canopy and landscaping planting, preservation, and maintenance;
2. Integrate an arborist in the plan and permit approval processes;
3. Revise the landscaping violations processes for clarity and penalties for value based on local data; and,
4. Ensure related parts of the Davidson Planning Ordinance are adjusted in response to these proposed changes.

CONSISTENCY STATEMENT

In the opinion of the Board of Commissioners the proposed text amendments are consistent with Davidson Planning Ordinance and Comprehensive Plan, as adopted by the Board of Commissioners and amended from time to time. The areas in which the amendments are consistent with these documents are as follows:

▪ **Consistency with the Davidson Planning Ordinance:**

1. The amendments seek to establish, protect, and enhance Davidson's natural environment:
 - *The natural environment enhances our quality of life, both physically and socially. We will preserve this irreplaceable asset for future generations by: Preserving rural views, significant hardwood forests, farmland, wildlife habitats, rock outcroppings, parkland, and watersheds in their pristine form (Preface, General Planning Principle 4, Pg. 2).*

▪ **Consistency with the Davidson Comprehensive Plan (2010):**

1. The amendments fulfill recommendations provided in the town's comprehensive plan:
 - *Set measurable goals to increase and sustain the urban forest*
 - *Consider using only native, drought-tolerant species in town landscaping projects*
 - *Revise open space or tree preservation requirements to better preserve existing tree canopy in all planning areas (Enable Faithful Stewardship of Natural & Historic Assets, Goal 2).*

Adopted this 24th day of September, 2019.

Signature/Date

Rusty Knox

Mayor