

Chapter 10.5 Amendments

Forest and Tree Preservation Ordinance (FTPO)

Mayor and Council: January 12, 2026

Outline

- ▶ Suggested Motion
- ▶ Background
- ▶ 2025 Timeline
- ▶ Latest Amendments to FTPO
- ▶ Next Steps



Suggested Motion



I move to adopt the ordinance at Attachment 1 of the staff report to amend Chapter 10.5 of the Rockville City Code entitled, "Forest and Tree Preservation Ordinance."

Background

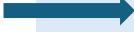
FTPO Amendments

- ▶ SB 526: Forest Preservation and Retention Act (2023)
 - State-mandated changes
 - Opportunity for recommendations from staff and M&C
- ▶ Mayor and Council
 - Introduced (05/24)
 - Public Hearing (08/24)
 - Discussion & Instruction (11/24)



2025 Timeline: FTPO Amendments



- ▶ Latest M&C hearing  September 30, 2024
- ▶ MDNR releases model ordinance and begins accepting submissions  May 23, 2025
- ▶ FTPO submitted to MDNR  June 20, 2025
- ▶ Comments from MDNR received  September 29, 2025
- ▶ Rockville submits responses to MDNR comments  October 20, 2025
- ▶ MDNR confirms compliance  October 24, 2025

Direction from MDNR and Mayor & Council



Amendments for Review

1. Off-site Planting (MDNR)	→ Implemented
2. Native Species Requirement	→ Implemented
3. Native Species Definition	→ Implemented
4. Encourage Biodiversity	→ Implemented
5. Adding "Forestry Official"	→ Implemented
6. Public Notice Extension	→ Implemented
7. Cemetery Exemption	→ Not Implemented

Next Steps



- Implementing the amended FTPO
- Publicizing the amended FTPO
- Updating the Forest Conservation Manual

Suggested Motion



I move to adopt the ordinance at Attachment 1 of the staff report to amend Chapter 10.5 of the Rockville City Code entitled, "Forest and Tree Preservation Ordinance."