



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

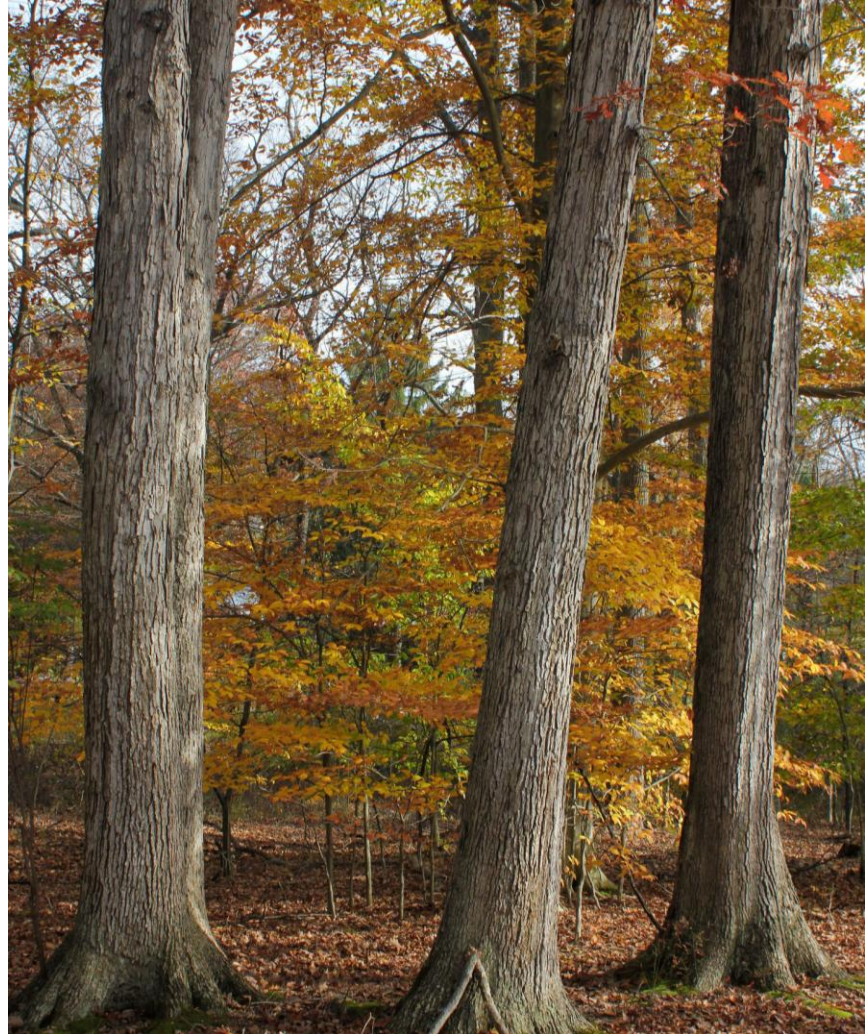


I move to adopt the ordinance at Attachment 1 of the staff report to amend Chapter 10.5 of the Rockville City Code entitled, "Forest and Tree Preservation Ordinance."

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."