TREE PRESERVATION BOARD MEETING

City of Indian Harbour Beach, Florida

Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 7:00 PM

Council Chamber | 2055 South Patrick Drive

AGENDA

Tree Preservation Board

Adam Lucey, Chairman
Leigh McElroy, Vice-Chair
Anastasia Doshna, Voting Member
Beth Mahoney, Voting Member
Paul Oliveri, Voting Member
Jelena Salonina, Alternate Member
Joanna Auter, Alternate Member

Staff

Orrie Covert, Assistant to the City Manager

1. Call to order
2. Pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silent meditation
3. Roll call
4. Excusal of Board Members
5. Additions or deletions to the agenda
6. Approval of Minutes
   a. Meeting March 18, 2026
7. Old Business
   a. Champion Tree Selection
   b. Tree Preservation Board Public Communications
   c. Tree Management Plan
   d. Review Ord. No. 2026-04 on Wildflowers and Tall Grass
8. New Business
   a. 2026 Arbor Day Review
   b. Recommended Trees List for the Algonquin Sports Complex
   c. Tree Replacements at the Police Station
9. Board Member Comments
10. Public comments

11. Adjournment

PLEASE NOTE: TWO OR MORE CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS MAY BE PRESENT IN THE AUDIENCE.

ALL PERSONS WISHING TO BE HEARD SHOULD APPEAR IN PERSON AT THESE HEARINGS OR SEND WRITTEN COMMENTS TO THE CITY CLERK. ALL PERSONS AND PARTIES ARE HEREBY ADVISED THAT IF THEY SHOULD DECIDE TO APPEAL ANY DECISION MADE BY THE CITY COUNCIL WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT THE PUBLIC MEETING, HE OR SHE WILL NEED A RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS, AND FOR SUCH PURPOSE, HE OR SHE MAY NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS IS MADE, WHICH RECORD INCLUDES THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS TO BE BASED. FSS 286.0105. IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA), ANYONE WHO NEEDS SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION FOR THIS MEETING SHOULD CONTACT THE CITY CLERK AT 321-773-3181 AT LEAST 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THIS MEETING.

TREE PRESERVATION BOARD MEETING

City of Indian Harbour Beach, Florida

Wednesday, March 18, 2026, at 7:00 PM

Council Chamber | 2055 South Patrick Drive

MINUTES

Tree Preservation Board

Adam Lucey, Chairman
Leigh McElroy, Vice-Chair
Anastasia Doshna, Voting Member
Beth Mahoney, Voting Member
Paul Oliveri, Voting Member
Jelena Salonina, Alternate Member
Joanna Auter, Alternate Member

Staff

Orrie Covert, Assistant to the City Manager

1. Call to order
   - Chairman Lucey Called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. Pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silent meditation.

3. Roll call

   Adam Lucey - Present
   Anastasia Doshna - Present
   Leigh McElroy - Present
   Paul Oliveri – Present
   Beth Mahoney - Present
   Jelena Salonina – Present
   Joanna Auter – Present

4. Excusal of Board Members
   - N/A

5. Additions or deletions to the agenda

- N/A

6. Approval of Minutes
    a. Meeting February 18, 2026

7. Old Business

- Champion Tree Selection
    - Tabeling of the 1196 Yacht Club Drive nomination.

- Tree Preservation Board Public Communications
    - Member Doshna presented additional educational material regarding tree pruning.
    - Member Salonina suggests amending it for more positive language.
    - The board had consensus approved the new material.
- 2026 Arbor Day Planning
    - Member Doshna identified the number of tables each vendor would need
    - The board discussed arriving early to set up for the event
- Tree Management Plan
    - Discussed a plan of action for creating a recommendation
    - Chairman Lucey requested information from public works regarding what medians that would be the best candidates for trees.

8. New Business

- Review Ord. No. 2026-04 on Wildflowers and Tallgrass
    - Member Doshna offered some alternative options for accomplishing the intended goal of the ordinance
        - Permit
        - Nothing
        - Voluntary registration
        - Exemption
    - Member Doshna sited Florida State statute **373.185** claiming that the ordinance is illegal and suggested the city require properties to have a minimum amount of trees planted on their property.
    - Chairman Lucey proposed scheduling a workshop regarding the ordinance on May 6th at 7 p.m.

9. Board Member Comments

- Vice-Chair McElroy concerned about asking people for a native landscape and is against any form of permit process. Focused on bridging the gap between pristine yards and native yards.
- Member Oliveri expressed curiosity about how the ordinance came about.

10. Public comments

- Denis Mayo 117 Algonquin Terrace. Staff does not understand the ordinance. Says that natural yards are naturally unkept and messy and that manicured lawns are a wasteland. Highlighted the importance of native plants and native wildlife. Weeds are important too and should be protected. He would like to be able to share his knowledge with the board
- David burns 208 Bella Coola. Thanks the board. Said that he is against the permit process in any form. Said he's open to a list of accepted plants for people to refer to. Manage how the City enforces neglected property's yards.
- Cynthia Bennet 229 Micanopy Ct, Officer of the garden club. What education has the TPB provided? Will people need permits before planting a plant? How will this effect the butterfly garden in Gleason Park? Will additional code enforcement staff be hired? Who's idea was this?
- Neil Yorio 211 Wimico Drive, wildflower ordinance came up at the last meeting. Spoke to the intent of the ordinance and how it does not fall into the category of native plants. Is for enforcing the current system. Suggests pulling up anchor on most of the ordinance and focus on wildflowers and tall grass.

11. Adjournment

- Member Oliveri made a motion to adjorn, Member Doshna seconds. The motion was approved 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday April 15, 2026, at the City Hall Council Chamber.

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Tree Preservation Board Meeting

City of Indian Harbour Beach, Florida

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM

Champion Tree Selection

Attachments: Champion Tree Tracker, Champion Tree Inventory

Staff Recommendation:
Review and provide feedback to staff regarding which document to use moving forward. Select a champion tree for May/June 2026.

Background Information:
At the December 10, 2025 Tree Preservation Board Meeting:

- Chairman Lucey noted Council Member Dyer's comment about the strangler fig and that the council wanted to increase education.
- Member Doshna noted a missing champion tree (105 poinciana drive) from this year.
- Member Salonina created a new Champion Tree Tracker and the Board had consensus to have Assistant to the City Manager Orrie Covert work from it moving forward.

At the January 21, 2026 Tree Preservation Board Meeting:

- Member Doshna voiced her concerns about the Tree trackers information. The board discussed an approach. Member Salonina volunteered to create a new tracker and update it with the information that Member Doshna has been using.

At the March 18, 2026 meeting the Board previously discussed the following:

- 1196 Yacht Club Drive was nominated
- The board had consensus to table the selection and approval of the May/June Champion Tree until next meeting.

Month Awarded	Address	Species
Dec 2024 - Jan 2025	230 Timpoochee Dr	Live oak
Jan - Feb 2025	155 Poinciana Dr	Live oak
March 2025	N/A	N/A
April 2025	1208 Mohawk Dr	*Swietenia mahagoni*
May 2025	952 Flotilla Club Dr	Live oak
June 2025	1177 Bay Dr East	Live oak
July 2025	360 Eutau Ct	Live oak
Aug 2025	N/A	N/A
Sept 2025	N/A	N/A
Oct 2025	1110 Sioux Dr	Strangler fig
Nov-Dec 2025	202 Apache Dr	Strangler fig
Jan-Feb 2026	275 Poinciana Dr	Live oak
Mar-Apr 2026	209 Micanopy Ct.	Laural oak
May-June 2026		

Tree Preservation Board Meeting

City of Indian Harbour Beach, Florida

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM

Tree Preservation Board Public Communications

Attachments:

Staff Recommendation:
Discuss any additional educational materials or resources that can be added to the website or Facebook page. Table social media post review and planning until the new communications manager position is filled with the city.

Background Information:
On May 15, 2024, the Board reached a consensus to have a standing agenda item to discuss possible public communications at future meetings.

On January 21, 2026, the following items were discussed:

- Member Doshna volunteered to provide additional "plant this, not that" materials to staff for posting on the City's Facebook and uploading to the website.
- Vice Chair McElroy mentioned the need of additional time to develop a social media assessment and review.

On February 18, 2026, the following items were discussed:

- The Board clarified that any new educational materials would have to be approved by the Board before they are to be posted or shared.
- The Board approved two new educational materials submitted by Member Doshna.
- Member Doshna suggested creating education materials for freezing weather impact on plants.

On March 18, 2026, the following items were discussed:

- Member Doshna presented additional educational material regarding tree pruning.
- Member Salonina suggests amending it for more positive language.
- The board had consensus approved the new material.

Tree Preservation Board Meeting

City of Indian Harbour Beach, Florida

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM

Tree Management Plan

Attachments: Tree Management Plan

Staff Recommendation:
Review the staff identified medians for possible tree planting.

Background Information:
On December 10, 2025, the Board reached a consensus to have a standing agenda item to discuss the Tree Management Plan.

ArborPro has completed its Urban Tree Canopy Assessment for the City of Indian Harbour Beach. This assessment was completed alongside the City's Tree Inventory project.

Previously discussed elements at the previous Tree Board Meeting include:

- Discussed possibly developing language for an ordinance to propose to the City Council that would require development/redevelopment sites to plant native trees and plants that would contribute to the City's tree canopy.
- The Board agreed to continually track possible revisions to the plan and conduct revisions and updates on an annual basis.

At the March 18, 2026 meeting the Tree Preservation Board discussed:

- Discussed a plan of action for creating a recommendation
- Chairman Lucey requested information from public works regarding what medians that would be the best candidates for trees.

The Public Works Department identified the following medians as the best candidates for trees:

- ATLANTIC BLVD
- BURNS BLVD
- PALM SPRINGS BLVD
- CHEYENNE BLVD

MUNICIPAL TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN

THE CITY OF INDIAN HARBOUR BEACH

INDIAN HARBOUR BEACH
TREE PRESERVATION BOARD

Tree City
— USA —
Arbor Day Foundation

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A. INTRODUCTION

The City of Indian Harbour Beach, located on Florida's Space Coast, values the protection of its barrier island ecosystem, tree canopy, and high quality of life. This Municipal Tree Management Plan is intended to serve as a guiding document that outlines policy recommendations for the care, preservation, and enhancement of the City's public trees.

The plan is designed to support the City's efforts to increase the resilience, biodiversity, and sustainability of its urban forest. It provides a framework for voluntary practices, community engagement, and potential policy considerations aligned with recognized standards in urban forestry, tree care and maintenance, and environmental stewardship.

B. BENEFITS OF A HEALTHY URBAN FOREST

A healthy and well-managed urban forest contributes significantly to the environmental quality, visual character, and livability of Indian Harbour Beach. Mature trees provide shade, reduce localized flooding, improve air quality, and support the natural beauty of the City's coastal environment.

The following benefits may be considered in support of future tree-related initiatives and policy decisions:

- **Environmental Benefits:**
  - Improve air quality through the capture of pollutants and particulates
  - Sequester carbon and help moderate the effects of heat and sun exposure
  - Reduce stormwater runoff and erosion
  - Enhance water quality in the Indian River Lagoon, nearshore waterways, and local waterbodies.
  - Moderate microclimates and heat island effects
  - Provide habitat for native wildlife

- **Aesthetic and Economic Benefits:**
  - Enhance the visual appeal of parks, rights-of-way, and public spaces
  - Contribute to increased residential and commercial property values
  - Help extend the life of paved surfaces by providing shade and cooling
  - Potentially reduce municipal costs for stormwater management and pavement repairs

- **Social and Psychological:**
  - Promote public health and well-being by encouraging outdoor activity and reducing stress
  - Support community identity and civic pride
  - Provide educational and volunteer opportunities for residents
  - Encourage positive interactions with our natural environment

C. GOALS

The following goals are recommended to guide the care, preservation, and enhancement of the City of Indian Harbour Beach's urban forest. These goals may inform future policy development, build community engagement, and enhance public land management practices:

- Promote a proactive approach to the management of trees on City property.
- Support the adoption of policies and ordinances that protect public trees and establish criteria for tree species selection, removals, replacements, and long-term planning.
- Encourage the use of nationally recognized tree care standards, including the American National Standards Institute (**ANSI) A300 Parts 1-10** and their associated International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Best Management Practices (BMPs), as appropriate to municipal needs.
- Preserve and enhance the existing tree canopy, with attention to species diversity, age diversity, and ecological resilience.
- Identify opportunities to plant trees along public sidewalks, bike paths, parks, and open spaces to provide shade, aesthetic value, and wildlife benefits.
- Foster public awareness and participation through education, volunteer planting events, and tree stewardship programs.
- Encourage infrastructure designs that provide adequate growing space for healthy trees.
- Maintain eligibility and good standing in the Tree City USA program.
- Explore strategies to reduce stormwater runoff and improve air and water quality through thoughtful tree placement.
- The Tree Management Plan shall be updated annually, as required by the Tree Preservation Board Ordinance to reflect changing conditions, best practices, and community input.
- Prioritize the use of Florida native tree species with a focus on trees that are currently or historically native to coastal Brevard County.
- Discourage the planting of edible fruit-bearing trees on City-owned property to reduce environmental and public risk and liability (Increase pest/diseases requiring pesticides, risk of falling fruit damage and injury, feeding vermin, injury to people climbing trees to harvest fruit, illness from eating pesticides or diseased fruit, etc.).

D. TREE MANAGEMENT POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are offered to guide the City's future urban forestry policies, programs, and public engagement. These measures may help preserve the urban tree canopy, support best practices in tree care, and encourage public involvement.

1. **Tree Protection and Preservation**
    a. Consider adopting a tree protection policy to reinforce the City's commitment to preserve trees on public property.
    b. Policy may include procedures for mitigation or replacement in cases of removal or significant impact.

2. **Tree Replacement and Planting Coordination**
    a. Coordinate municipal tree planting projects in consultation with the Tree Preservation Board and Appropriate City staff to prioritize species diversity, native trees, and site-appropriate selections.

3. **Tree Debris and Recycling**
    a. Explore policies that support the reuse of tree debris as natural mulch for municipal landscaping or public distribution.

4. **Staff Training and Safety**
    a. Provide opportunities for continuing education in arboriculture and tree risk assessment for relevant City personnel.
    b. Support continuing education and training in arboriculture and tree safety for City personnel aligned with industry standards (e.g., **ANSI Z133 for arboricultural safety**).

5. **Public Education and Outreach**
    a. Outreach efforts and educational giveaways may be organized or supported by the Tree Preservation Board in collaboration with City staff.

E. ACTION PLAN

The following policy recommendations represent priority actions that support the long-term health, safety, and sustainability of the City's urban forest. These initiatives will be reviewed annually by the Tree Preservation Board to evaluate progress, adjust priorities, and reflect changing needs and available resources.

1. **Maintain and Utilize the Comprehensive Tree Inventory (Completed 2025)**
    a. In 2025, the City – through a grant-funded and competitively awarded contract with ArborPro, Inc. – completed a comprehensive Geographic Information Systems (GIS)-based inventory of all City-owned and maintained trees. This inventory establishes baseline data to support canopy analysis, risk management, maintenance scheduling, and ecological benefit.
    b. The ArborPro inventory should serve as a long-term reference for tracking tree health and canopy distribution on City-owned property.
    c. City staff should retain the inventory data as a planning tool and update it as new trees are added or removed through normal municipal operations.
    d. Refer to **Appendix III** for the detailed scope of work and deliverables, including the ArborPro Final Summary Report.

2. **Establish and Monitor Tree Canopy Coverage Goals (2026 – 2027)**
    a. Using information from the completed ArborPro inventory, evaluate canopy coverage by property type and location.

b. Identify City-owned properties with less than one percent (< 1%) canopy coverage and establish a target to increase canopy coverage in those areas through strategic tree planting, where space and site conditions allow.
c. Canopy coverage goals may guide and assist the City with future planting efforts, park improvements, and public-land management decisions.

3. **Prioritize Tree Maintenance Based on Condition and Risk (Ongoing)**
    a. As staffing and resources allow, the City may work toward implementing a data-driven maintenance schedule that prioritizes trees in poor condition, those with high-risk ratings, or those impacting public safety or infrastructure.
    b. Utilizing the ArborPro report, prioritize the removal of poor, dead, and critical trees and replace with Florida native species.
    c. Maintenance activities should align with **ANSI A300 standards and ISA BMPs**, as resources allow.

4. **Encourage Native and Resilient Species Planting (Ongoing)**
    a. Adopt planting guidelines that emphasize native species and those with strong resistance to drought, wind, and salt.
    b. Update species lists and educational materials accordingly.

5. **Increase Public Awareness and Engagement (Annual/Recurring)**
    a. Expand outreach programs and opportunities related to tree planting, maintenance, and invasive species removal.
    b. Collaborate with schools, neighborhood groups, and civic organizations to promote tree stewardship.

6. **Coordinate with Planning and Zoning Board and Departments (2026 and Ongoing)**
    a. Encourage coordination between the Tree Preservation Board, Planning and Zoning Board, and other departments to incorporate native tree-planting considerations into land-development codes, site-plan review standards, and landscaping requirements.
    b. Recommend policy updates that promote preservation of existing canopy and the inclusion of Florida native species in future development, redevelopment, and infrastructure projects.

F. TREE PLANTING STANDARDS

Municipal trees – those located on City-owned land such as parks, medians, rights-of-way, and public facilities – play an important role in supporting community aesthetics, environmental health, and resilience. The following policy recommendations are intended to guide tree planting practices across the City and may be referenced in future planning, ordinance updates, or program development.

1. **Tree Selection Guidelines**
    a. Tree species selected for planting on public property are encouraged to be native or regionally adapted Florida natives, with consideration for site conditions, growth habits, long-term maintenance needs, and environmental benefit.
    b. The City may reference the Florida Grades and Standards for Nursery Stock (*5th Edition, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services*) to ensure the selection of high-quality nursery trees. Trees meeting Florida Grade No. 1 or better are generally recommended for municipal planting projects.

2. **Recommended Planting Practices**
    a. Tree installation practices may follow **ANSI A300 (Part 6 – Planting and Transplanting) and the corresponding ISA BMPs** to promote healthy establishment and survivability.
    b. Considerations may include planting season timing, planting hole preparation, irrigation methods, and early care routines. These practices may be further detailed in a technical guide or internal policy reference.
    c. Training of appropriate staff responsible for planting operations and have a qualified arborist/horticulturist on staff to supervise planting, care, and maintenance.

3. **Young Tree Establishment**
    a. Newly planted trees may benefit from routine inspection and structural pruning during the first several years following installation to ensure healthy form and minimize future maintenance needs.
    b. Consistent mulching, watering, fertilization, and protection from mechanical damage are recommended to improve establishment success rates.

4. **Supplemental Support**
    a. When supplemental support systems such as staking or guying are necessary, it is recommended they follow **ANSI A300 (Part 3 – Supplemental Support Systems)** and be removed as soon as conditions allow to prevent long-term damage.

G. TREE MAINTENANCE

Proper tree maintenance supports public safety, tree health, and long-term canopy resilience. The following recommendations may serve as a policy framework to guide pruning, watering, mulching, and risk assessment for trees on City property. These practices are intended to align with nationally recognized arboricultural standards and may be adapted to site-specific conditions as needed.

1. **Pruning and Structural Care**
    a. Pruning of municipal trees is encouraged to follow **ANSI A300 (Part 1 – Pruning) standards and associated ISA BMPs.**
    b. Routine pruning cycles may be determined based on species, age, location, and risk potential. Examples include:

i. Young trees: structural pruning on an annual basis for the first 10–15 years
ii. Mature hardwoods: every 2–3 years
iii. Palms: as needed
iv. Flowering or fast-growing trees: annually

2. **Tree Risk Assessment**
   a. Trees located on public property may be evaluated periodically for structural health and risk. It is recommended that assessments be conducted by an ISA Certified Arborist with Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ) if resources allow or as budget permits.
   b. Level 2 assessments may follow the ISA Tree Risk Assessment BMP and use the standard Tree Risk Assessment form.

3. **Watering and Fertilization**
   a. Newly planted and young trees should receive consistent irrigation, where available, to support healthy establishment.
   b. Fertilization practices, if pursued, may follow the guidance in **ANSI A300 (Part 2 – Soil Management)** and consider species-specific needs.

4. **Mulching**
   a. Mulching is recommended for moisture retention, weed suppression, and mechanical damage prevention.
   b. Application may follow ISA standards: 2–4 inches deep, spread beyond the root ball, and kept away from direct contact with the trunk.
   c. Recommended seasonal mulch application, typically between October and April, may be considered where feasible with seasonal rotation by location (e.g., City buildings, parks, medians).

5. **Pest and Disease Monitoring**
   a. Tree health monitoring programs may help identify signs of pest infestation, disease, or nutrient deficiency.
   b. If dead, dying, or diseased trees are identified, they may be assessed for treatment, removal, or replacement recommendations by City staff trained in tree maintenance or a certified arborist.

H. ROADWAY AND PEDESTRIAN CLEARANCE

Maintaining adequate clearance around streets, sidewalks, signage, and intersections is essential for public safety, visibility, and accessibility. The following recommendations are intended to guide clearance-related tree maintenance practices on City property.

- Recommended pruning for roadway and pedestrian clearance may consider visibility requirements for traffic signs, streetlights, intersections, and pedestrian corridors, in coordination with the Public Works Department.

- Tree maintenance for safety and access may follow **ANSI A300 (Part 1 – Pruning)** standards and applicable ISA BMPs.

- Utility line clearance is managed by Florida Power & Light (FPL). The City does not conduct pruning or maintenance near energized lines.

- For locations near overhead utilities, utility-compatible tree species may be recommended for future plantings to minimize long-term conflicts.

I. TREE REMOVALS

While preserving the City's existing tree canopy is a primary goal, the removal of trees may be necessary under certain conditions, including declining health, structural failure risk, or the presence of pests or disease. The following policy recommendations are intended to guide how removals are assessed, documented, and mitigated on City property.

Tree removals on public property should be limited to instances where trees present a safety hazard, are in severe decline or poor health, interfere with critical infrastructure, or are identified as invasive and ecologically disruptive species. Removal decisions should be based on certified arborist assessments and, where applicable, public safety concerns or ecological restoration goals.

1. Removal Criteria

a. Tree removals may be considered when a tree is determined to be dead, dying, structurally unsound, or affected by disease or infestation that presents a public hazard or risk of spreading.

c. It is recommended that a qualified professional, such as an ISA Certified Arborist or designated Urban Forester assess trees prior to any removal decision if resources allow or as budget permits.

b. Concerns or inquiries regarding tree removals may be referred to the Tree Preservation Board for discussion or guidance.

c. Invasive species planted on public property that are determined to be invasive should also be considered for removal to avoid further spread and establishment.

d. Encourage private property owners to remove invasive species growing on their property or rights-of-way adjacent to their property.

2. Wildlife and Habitat Consideration

a. In cases where dead trees (snags) do not present a risk to public safety, the City may consider retaining them as wildlife habitat if deemed ecologically beneficial.

3. Removal Process Recommendations

a. Tree removal may include disposal of all above-ground debris, stump removal or grinding, and restoration of the site with clean fill or suitable landscaping materials.

b. When a stump cannot be removed immediately, stump grinding may be scheduled within a reasonable timeframe.

4. **Replacement Recommendations**
   a. A tree replacement guideline may recommend planting two new trees for every tree removed, where space and site conditions allow.
   b. Replacement trees may be planted either at or near the removal site or elsewhere on City property, based on canopy goals and site suitability.

5. **Planning for Replanting**
   a. Removal sites may be evaluated for future planting potential and logged as part of ongoing tree inventory efforts.

6. **Invasive Species**
   a. Trees listed as invasive species by the Florida Invasive Species Council (FISC) and University of Florida (UF)/Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) may be prioritized for removal due to their negative impacts on native ecosystems. These include, but are not limited to, species such as Brazilian pepper, melaleuca, Australian pine, and carrotwood. For the City's full list of invasive species of concern, refer to Appendix I.
   b. Whenever possible, tree removals should be followed by replanting with native or non-invasive species in suitable locations, aligned with the City's reforestation and canopy goals.

J. PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION

Tree preservation plays a vital role in maintaining canopy cover and ecological value during construction or maintenance activities on City-owned property. The following policy recommendations are intended to guide protective practices that help avoid unnecessary damage to trees and their root systems.

1. **Tree Protection During Construction and Site Work**
   a. Tree protection measures may be incorporated into the planning and execution of public infrastructure or facility projects where trees are present.
   b. In accordance with the City's Land Development Code and related regulations, project teams and contractors must identify trees and tree protection zones to be retained early in the planning process and implement appropriate protection measures during construction.

2. **Standards and Best Practices**
   a. Tree protection efforts may follow guidance in **ANSI A300 (Part 5 – Management During Site Planning, Design, and Construction)** and its associated ISA BMPs.
   b. Protection zones should extend beyond the dripline of the tree when feasible, with root zone preservation prioritized over convenience of access.

3. **Applicability**
    a. These policies may apply to City-led projects, and contracted operations on public land where City trees may be affected.
    b. The City may also encourage developers and private contractors working adjacent to City property to consider voluntary tree protection measures and use the Tree Management Plan as a resource and guide for tree selection and care.
    c. The City encourages private landscape projects to consider using the Tree Preservation Board (TPB) as a resource in identifying suitable species for landscaping plans.

K. EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Public education and community participation are key components of a resilient and sustainable urban forest. The following policy recommendations aim to encourage engagement, foster stewardship, and improve awareness of the benefits and responsibilities of urban tree care. This responsibility is managed by the Tree Preservation Board in collaboration with City Staff.

1. **Public Education and Awareness**
    a. The City may consider developing educational resources to inform residents about tree planting, care, native species, invasive plant identification, and the role of trees in stormwater and habitat management.
    b. Public communication efforts could include website materials, signage in parks or rights-of-way, workshops, and outreach during community events, e.g., "Plant this…Not That!"

2. **Incentive and Give-Away Programs**
    a. The City may consider offering a periodic free or low-cost native tree giveaway program to encourage residents to plant and care for trees on private property. This would be an expansion of the tree giveaway program during Arbor Day.
    b. Participation in such programs could be tied to public education efforts, tree care guidance, and opportunities for long-term canopy tracking.

L. ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION

Arbor Day is both a symbolic and practical opportunity to promote the value of trees in Indian Harbour Beach. As part of the City's commitment to maintaining its Tree City USA designation, an annual Arbor Day celebration is held each year. This event fulfills one of the four core requirements of the Tree City USA program, along with maintaining a tree board, having a public tree ordinance, and meeting the program's minimum funding level for urban forestry.

Arbor Day activities may include a ceremonial tree planting, public outreach, educational materials, and participation from City staff, volunteers, local vendors, and community organizations. The event also serves to promote awareness of native species, tree care practices, and conservation topics relevant to the local environment. In addition, the Arbor Day celebration

may support other elements of the Tree Management Plan, such as encouraging volunteer participation and distributing native trees to residents through educational giveaways or planting events.

M. TREE CITY USA

The City of Indian Harbour Beach was recently awarded Tree City USA designation by the Arbor Day Foundation in recognition of its ongoing commitment to sound urban forestry practices and community engagement. To maintain this designation, the City must meet four core standards annually:

1. **Maintain a Tree Board or Department**
   A designated board or staff role must be responsible for overseeing the care, planning, and protection of public trees. This helps ensure accountability, professional oversight, and public engagement.

2. **Have a Public Tree Care Ordinance**
   A municipal ordinance must establish policy guidance for planting, maintenance, and removal of public trees. The ordinance provides legal authority and promotes consistent practices across City properties.

3. **Allocate a Minimum of $2 Per Capita to Urban Forestry**
   The City must demonstrate a financial commitment by spending at least $2 per resident annually on tree planting, maintenance, education, or management. This funding can include staff time, contracts, supplies, or program costs.

4. **Celebrate Arbor Day with a Proclamation and Event**
   The City must observe Arbor Day each year through an official proclamation and a public tree-related activity, such as a planting event, educational program, or volunteer day.

Maintaining Tree City USA status affirms the City's dedication to long-term canopy stewardship, enhances public visibility, and may improve eligibility for grants and support from forestry partners. This Tree Management Plan provides policy guidance that supports these standards through recommendations related to tree planting, care, education, and public involvement.
The City intends to maintain its Tree City USA status each year through continued adherence to these four core standards.

N. CONCLUSION

The Indian Harbour Beach Tree Management Plan provides a framework of policy recommendations designed to support the preservation, enhancement, and responsible stewardship of the City's urban forest. By focusing on best practices in planting, maintenance, protection, and community involvement, the Plan serves as a guide for sustaining the

environmental, aesthetic, financial, and social benefits that trees provide to residents and future generations.

This document reflects the City's ongoing commitment to maintaining Tree City USA status and strengthening its natural infrastructure. The recommendations contained herein are intended to inform and guide future planning decisions, ordinance updates, program development, and public engagement efforts related to urban forestry.

The Tree Management Plan may be reviewed and updated annually in accordance with City Ordinance and to reflect emerging best practices, changing environmental conditions, and community priorities. Through continued collaboration among City staff, advisory boards, volunteers, and residents, Indian Harbour Beach can maintain a resilient and thriving urban tree canopy for years to come.

APPENDIX I: Invasive Tree Species

The following tree species are identified as invasive and ecologically disruptive to native plant communities in coastal Florida. These species are recognized by the Florida Invasive Species Council (FISC) and UF/IFAS as Category I invasives and may be considered for removal from public properties as part of long-term restoration and tree management efforts:

- Brazilian Pepper (Schinus terebinthifolius)
- Melaleuca (Melaleuca quinquenervia)
- Australian Pine (Casuarina equisetifolia)
- Carrotwood (Cupaniopsis anacardioides)

These species are known to outcompete native vegetation, disrupt wildlife habitats, and alter natural hydrological processes. The City may prioritize the gradual removal and replacement of these trees with native or non-invasive alternatives on City-owned lands.
Private property owners are encouraged to voluntarily remove invasive tree species and replace them with native trees that support the ecological integrity of the region.

Additional guidance and a current list of invasive species may be found at: https://www.floridainvasives.org/

APPENDIX II: Recommended Tree Species

KEY: *K=Known keystone tree, W=Wind resistant, S=Salt tolerant, F=Flood tolerant, D=Prefers dry soil, E=Edible fruits*

Scientific Name	Common Name		K	W	S	F	D	E
IHB Small Tree List (up to 25 feet)								
Quercus chapmanii	Chapman oak		K		S			
Carya floridana	Scrub hickory		K	W			D	E
Viburnum obovatum	Walter's viburnum		K	W		F		
Eugenia foetida	Spanish stopper			W	S			
Bourreria succulents	Bahama strongbark				S			
Canella winterana	Cinnamon bark				S			
Ilex vomitoria	Yaupon holly			W	S	F		
Myrcianthes fragrans	Simpson's stopper				S			E
Sideroxylon tenax	Tough bumelia				S		D	
Dodonaea viscosa	Varnish leaf			W	S			
Citharexylum spinosum	Fiddlewood			W	S			
IHB Medium Tree List (25' – 50' feet)								
Quercus geminata	Sand live oak		K	W	S			
Quercus mytifolia	Myrtle oak		K	W				
Conocarpus erectus	Buttonwood			W	S			
Coccoloba uvifera	Seagrape				S			E
Coccoloba diversifolia	Pigeon plum				S			E
Guapira discolor	Blolly				S			
Krugiodendron ferreum	Black ironwood			W	S			
Sapindus saponaria	Wingleaf soapberry				S			
Ilex cassine	Dahoon holly			W		F		
Laguncularia racemosa	White mangrove		K	W	S	F		
Rhizophora mangle	Red mangrove		K	W	S	F		
Avicennia germinans	Black mangrove		K	W	S	F		
IHB Large Tree List (50+ feet)								
Quercus virginiana	Live oak		K	W	S			
Carya floridana	Scrub hickory		K	W		F	D	
Pinus palustris	Longleaf pine		K	W		F		
Bursera simaruba	Gumbo limbo			W	S			
Sideroxylon foetidissimum	False mastic			W	S			E
Simarouba glauca	Paradise tree			W	S			
Piscidia piscipula	Jamaican dogwood				S		D	

Lysiloma latisiliquum	False tamarind				S			

APPENDIX III: Tree Inventory Scope and Deliverables

The City of Indian Harbour Beach has completed a comprehensive, City-wide tree inventory with funding support from a competitive grant. This initiative is part of a broader strategy to improve urban forestry planning, support the City's new Tree City USA designation, and establish baseline metrics for canopy coverage and tree health.

1. **Project Purpose**
    a. The tree inventory will identify and catalog every tree located on City-owned or managed properties—including parks, medians, rights-of-way, and public facilities. The data collected will provide a foundation for long-term tree management planning, maintenance scheduling, risk assessment, and analysis of ecological services such as carbon sequestration and stormwater mitigation.

2. **Scope of Work**
    a. A certified arborist, qualified under International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) standards and preferably holding a Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ), will lead the inventory process. The project deliverables include:
        i GIS Mapping and Geolocation – Every tree will be assigned a unique ID number, mapped using GPS coordinates, and included in an ArcGIS-compatible database.
        ii Tree Characteristics – Data collected will include species (common and botanical name), DBH (diameter at breast height), estimated height, canopy size, estimated age category, condition rating (ISA standards), and minimum growing space.
        iii Observations and Maintenance Needs – The inventory will document up to three observed tree issues (e.g., decay, pest damage, root constraints) and identify up to two maintenance needs per tree, following ANSI A300 and ISA BMPs.
        iv Utilities and Infrastructure Conflicts – Overhead utility presence and potential tree/infrastructure conflicts will also be noted.

3. **Training and Dynamic Maintenance**
    a. The selected consultant will train City staff in data collection and maintenance procedures to ensure the inventory becomes a living, continually updated database that supports future decision-making and grant applications.

4. **Data Collected**
    a. Each tree will be recorded with the following attributes:
        i Tree ID and GPS location
        ii Species (common and botanical name)
        iii DBH (Diameter at Breast Height)

iv Estimated height and canopy spread
v Age category
vi Minimum growing space
vii Overall condition rating (ISA scale)
viii Observed issues (e.g., decay, root constriction)
ix Maintenance needs (e.g., pruning type, removal, pest treatment)
x Presence of overhead utilities

5. **Reporting and Deliverables**
   a. Upon completion, the consultant will provide:
      i A summary report assessing overall tree condition by location
      ii Maps with tree IDs over aerial imagery
      iii Digital datasets in ArcGIS Shapefile and PDF format
      iv An ecological services estimate (carbon storage, stormwater interception, energy savings, etc.)

The inventory was completed in late 2025, with periodic updates encouraged thereafter.

APPENDIX IV: References

The following documents, standards, and publications informed the development of this Tree Management Plan. They represent widely accepted industry guidance, regulatory frameworks, and best practices for municipal tree care and urban forestry planning.

NATIONAL AND INDUSTRY STANDARDS

- **ANSI A300 Standards for Tree Care Operations**
  - Part 1: Pruning
  - Part 9: Tree Risk Assessment
  - Part 6: Planting and Transplanting
  - Published by the Tree Care Industry Association (TCIA)

- **ANSI Z133 Safety Requirements for Arboricultural Operations**

- **International Society of Arboriculture Best Management Practices**
  - Tree Pruning
  - Tree Risk Assessment
  - Tree Planting
  - Utility Pruning of Trees
  - Managing Trees During Construction

FLORIDA-SPECIFIC GUIDELINES

- **Florida Grades and Standards for Nursery Stock**
  - Published by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS)

    - Referenced in Section F: Municipal Tree Management
- **FPL Line Clearing Standards**
    - Florida Power & Light utility clearance and vegetation management guidelines
- **Florida Urban Forestry Council Publications**
- **Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Program Principles**
    - University of Florida IFAS Extension

CITY OF INDIAN HARBOUR BEACH DOCUMENTS

- **Tree Inventory RFP (RFP No. 2025-03)**
    - Included to supplement the Action Plan and Appendix III
- **Tree Preservation Ordinance** (2024)
    - Establishes the Tree Preservation Board and local tree protection policies

Tree Preservation Board Meeting

City of Indian Harbour Beach, Florida

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM

Wildflower & Tall Grass Ordinance

Attachments: Ord 2026-04 wildflowers tall grass

Staff Recommendation:
Set a new date for the special workshop.

Background Information:
At the February 10, 2026 City Council meeting the City will have it's first reading of Ord. 2026-04 amending Sec. 10-2. - Lawns and weeds on improved property of the City's Code to include the following language:

> *"Native plants and/or wildflower areas on improved properties permitted by the city shall be exempt from the maximum height of eight (8) inches. The City strongly encourages property owners to use native plants and Florida-friendly landscaping. Property owners seeking to designate a native plant and/or wildflower area within their lawn must submit a permit application to the City, which will be reviewed by the Tree Preservation Board. The Board will then make a recommendation for approval or denial to the City Manager, who will either approve or deny the permit application. The City Manager's decision may be appealed to the City Council. Permits are valid for three years and may be renewed.*
> *Native plants and /or wildflower areas permitted by the City shall be kept the majority weed-free. Failure to maintain the permitted areas in a majority weed-free condition shall result in said permit being revoked by the City."*

On February 18, 2026 the Tree Preservation Board Reviewed the Wildflower ordinance and expressed their concerns regarding the following topics:

1. Permitting process
2. Enforcement
3. Language that discourages native yards
4. Vagueness of definitions (ex: grass, weed, etc.)
5. Possible unintended impacts (increased use of chemicals in lawn care)

- Member Doshna made a motion to recommend revisions to ordinance 2026-04 with consideration of their comments. Seconded by Chairman Lucey. Motion passes 3-0.

At the February 24, 2026 City Council meeting the City Council requested that the Tree Preservation Board provide specific changes to the language of the ordinance that would help accomplish it's intended goal.

At the March 18, 2026 meeting the Tree Preservation Board Reviewed the Wildflower & Tall Grass ordinance and expressed their concerns regarding the following topics:

- Member Doshna offered some alternative options for accomplishing the intended goal of the ordinance
    - Permits
    - Nothing
    - Voluntary registrations
    - Exemptions
- Member Doshna sited Florida State statute **373.185** claiming that the ordinance is illegal and suggested the city require properties to have a minimum amount of trees planted on their property.
- Chairman Lucey proposed scheduling a workshop regarding the ordinance on May 6th at 7 p.m.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-04

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF INDIAN HARBOUR BEACH, BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA; AMENDING CHAPTER 10, MAINTENANCE STANDARDS FOR IMPROVED AND UNIMPROVED PROPERTY REGULATIONS OF THE CITY; AMENDING SECTION 10-2, LAWNS AND WEEDS ON IMPROVED PROPERTY; PROVIDING FOR PROVISIONS RELATING TO NATIVE PLANT AND/OR WILD FLOWER AREAS ON IMPROVED PROPERTY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, SEVERABILITY, INCORPORATION AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF INDIAN HARBOUR BEACH, BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, as follows:

Section 1. Section 10-2 of Chapter 10 of the Maintenance Standards for Improved and Unimproved Property of the City of Indian Harbour Beach is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 10-2. - -Lawns and weeds on improved property.

All improved property in the city shall be maintained in a manner such that grass shall be kept to a height of eight (8) inches or less. All other weeds and vegetation and prohibited landscaping materials, as defined in section 107-10 of the land development regulations shall either be completely removed or shall be kept to a height of eight (8) inches or less. Nothing herein shall apply to approved trees, shrubs or vegetation pursuant to chapter 107 of the land development regulations.

All improved property in the city shall be maintained in a manner such that all ground areas in open spaces shall be covered with turf grass or pervious groundcover, including but not limited to, such things as low growing plants, mulch, stone, or other natural material designed to cover-up or cover over bare dirt, ground or soil. Noxious Weeds and Invasive Plants, as listed in 5B-007 of the Florida Administrative Code, as amended from time to time and prohibited landscaping materials, as defined in section 107-10 of the land development regulations are not permitted as ground cover. Nothing in this section shall prohibit xeriscaping or the use of Florida Friendly plants.

Native plants and/or wildflower areas on improved properties permitted by the city shall be exempt from the maximum height of eight (8) inches. The City strongly encourages property owners to use native plants and Florida-friendly landscaping. Property owners seeking to designate a native plant and/or wildflower area within their lawn must submit a permit application to the City, which will be reviewed by the Tree Preservation Board. The Board will then make a recommendation for approval or denial to the City Manager, who will either approve or deny the permit application. The City Manager's decision may be appealed to the City Council. Permits are valid for three years and may be renewed.

Native plants and /or wildflower areas permitted by the City shall be kept the majority weed-free. Failure to maintain the permitted areas in a majority weed-free condition shall result in said permit being revoked by the City.

Section 2: Conflicts. Any and all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflicts.

Section 3: Severability. If any provisions of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the Ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this and the provision of this Ordinance are declared severable.

Section 4. The City Clerk is hereby directed to incorporate the provisions of this ordinance into the City's Code of Ordinances.

Section 5. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF INDIAN HARBOUR BEACH, BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, ON THIS ____DAY OF _____, 2026.

CITY OF INDIAN HAROUR BEACH
BREVARD COUNTY FLORIDA

X

Scott Nickle
Mayor

ATTEST

X

Nicole "Nikki" Gold
City Clerk

First Reading: February 24, 2026
Second Reading: March 10, 2026

Tree Preservation Board Meeting

City of Indian Harbour Beach, Florida

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM

2026 Arbor Day Review

Attachments: N/A

Staff Recommendation:
Discuss and reflect on the 2026 Arbor Day event and identify possible changes for next year's event.

Background Information:
The Board held the 2026 Arbor Day event in Gleason Park from 10 am – 1 pm and included a ceremonial tree planting and the following vendors:

- FNPS Conradina chapter
- Wildlife Tree Nursery
- Dano's Pizza
- Lagoon Loyal
- Marine Lagoon Council
- Tree Nursery (Tree Giveaway)
- Painter
- One Lagoon

The Board hosted it's 3rd annual IHB Arbor Day Celebration on Saturday April 5, 2025. On April 16, 2025, the Board conducted an after-action review with the following comments:

- Chairman Yorio was pleased with the effort the Board and staff put into the event. Special recognition goes to Public Works Grounds Supervisor Smith for his efforts.
- All the giveaway trees were handed out.
- Member Salonina suggested starting earlier, possibly at 9 am.
- Chairman Yorio suggested an hour shorter, also.
- 2 hours' prep time seemed to work well.
- Member McElroy suggested all members visit the location before and have a more detailed layout printed for everyone to reference.
- City Manager Coffey suggested having a group site visit as part of a future meeting.
- Chairman Yorio suggested inviting more plant vendors.

- Chairman Yorio suggested having someone do a short presentation about the importance of native plants and how to plant a tree correctly and volunteered to make this presentation next year.
- Chairman Yorio suggested using the Recreation Center as part of the event, such as the How to Plant a Tree presentation.
- Member Salonina liked the water dispenser.
- Members McElroy and Oliveri agreed that the ice cream truck was well-received by attendees.
- Member McElroy stated that including activities for kids was a strength of the event.
- Member McElroy suggested adding some food next year.
- Chairman Yorio suggested a coffee truck.
- Chairman Yorio stated the Board needs to consider the time of the event, as vendors will want a longer event.
- Vice-Chairman Lucey suggested expanding the educational component of the event and having Public Works Grounds Supervisor Smith provide a short series of educational presentations.
- Member Salonina suggested the scavenger hunt include identifying native trees.

Tree Preservation Board Meeting

City of Indian Harbour Beach, Florida

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM

Algonquin Sports Complex – Planting Suggestions

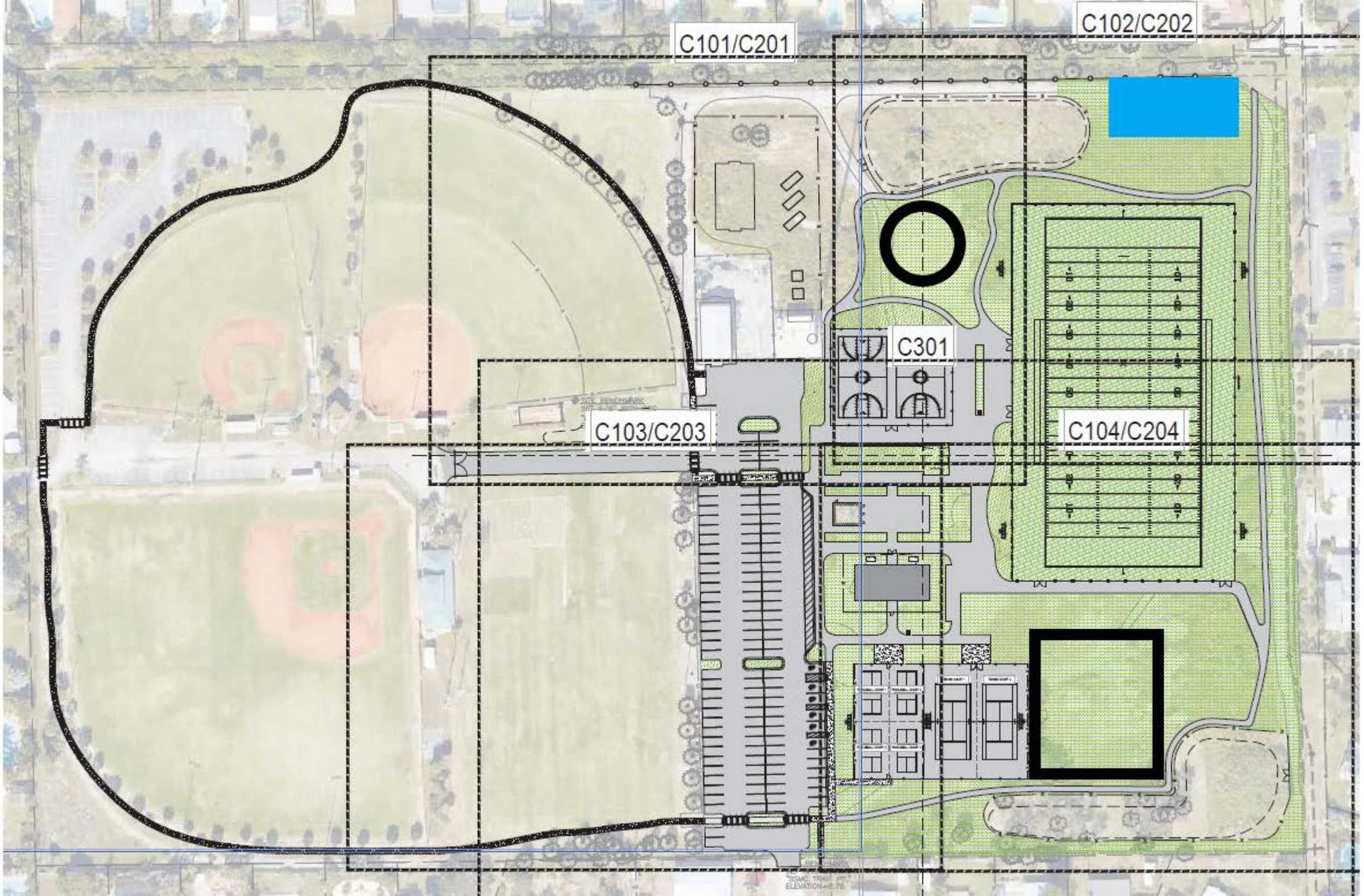
Attachments: ASC Planting Suggestion Map

Staff Recommendation:
Develop a recommended tree list alongside City staff for the outlined areas of the Algonquin Sports Complex.

Background Information:
City leadership has requested that the Tree Preservation Board discuss their collective ideas with Todd and Quincy regarding the interior plantings and vegetative parameter buffer, while understanding that the opinions of the adjacent homeowners will weigh heavily on the decision. The opinion of the Tree Preservation Board will be taken into strong consideration and would allow staff to have Tree Preservation Board approved recommendations before meeting with the homeowners.

Please note:

- The blue rectangle is reserved for a future baffle box to treat stormwater runoff into the Indian River Lagoon
- The black circle is reserved for a possible pavilion in the future
- The black square is reserved for possible future additional tennis courts
- The size and locations of the retention ponds has shifted slightly from this map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C301
C103/C203
C104/C204

Tree Preservation Board Meeting

City of Indian Harbour Beach, Florida

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM

Police Department Tree Replacement Recommendations

Attachments: N/A

Staff Recommendation:
Develop a list of trees/vegetation that would be suitable replacements for the trees that recently died at the Police Department.

Background Information:
On March 30, 2026 board member Doshna requested staff to add an agenda item for the Tree Preservation Board regarding the creation of a recommended tree list for staff to consider when replacing the recently deceased trees at the Indian Harbour Beach Police Department.