San Antonio Workshop on *Managing Wet Weather with Green Infrastructure*

Tree Preservation, Landscape and Park/Open Space Code Requirements

City of San Antonio
Planning and Development Services
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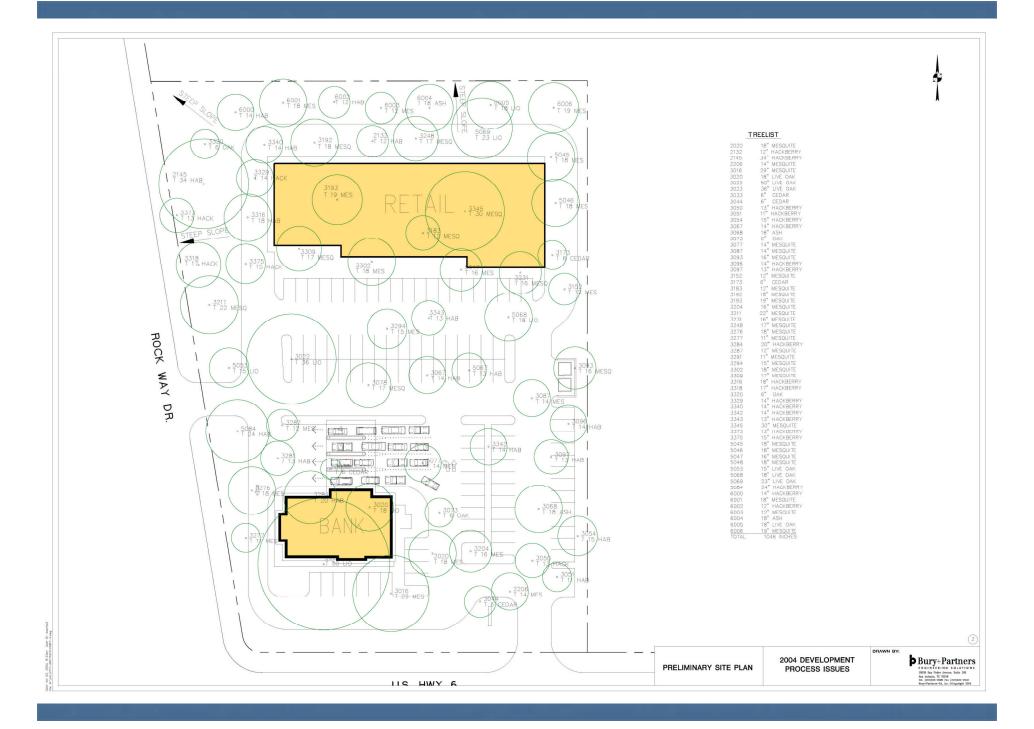
Tree Preservation

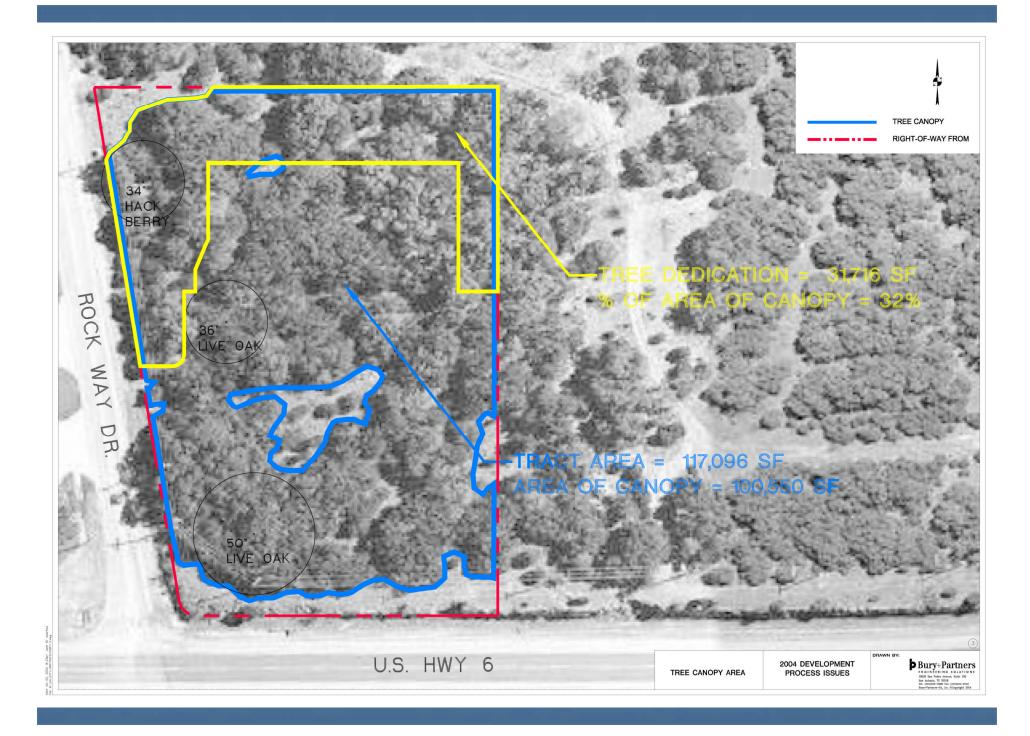
- Two categories of protected trees:
 - Heritage
 - Significant
- 3 ways to inventory trees
 - Ground survey
 - Tree canopy without understory vegetation preservation is the same as ground survey
 - Tree canopy with understory vegetation or Tree Stand Delineation is incentivized

Standards

Protected Tree Designations		
Common Name	Significant	Heritage
All except the Tree Species listed below	6"	24"
Mesquite, Huisache, Ash* Juniper*, Hackberry*	10"	24"
Small Tree Species* - Condalia, Crabapple, Texas Persimmon, Possum Haw, Texas Redbud, Texas Mountain Laurel	5"	12"

^{* =} Only the largest trunk is measured and that is the value used for calculations 6





Tree Preservation

- Significant Preservation Requirements:
 - 40% of diameter inches of protected trees on commercial sites
 - 35% of diameter inches of protected trees for residential sites
 - 80% for floodplains
- Heritage Preservation Requirements 100% for the above
- Mitigation is allowed and preservation can be reduced to 10% with mitigation

Tree Preservation

- There are incentives to preserve clusters or contiguous tree canopy:
 - Tree survey: use of cluster of 3 or more trees receive 105% credit
 - Tree stand delineation which requires contiguous canopy of 20,000 sq ft or more with understory, allows 5% reduction in preservation with no Heritage tree survey

Landscape

- Requires 70 points (pts) for commercial sites
 - Mandatory 25% parking lot shading for 20 pts
 - Parking lot screening 25 pts
 - Use of existing understory vegetation can add 15 pts to each of the above
 - Up to 40 pts for tree preservation
 - Street trees 25 pts

Landscape Buffer

Required for:

- Commercial abutting single family residential areas
- Side yard of sites located on major intersections

Conventional Development

- Tree and landscape areas are raised above grade and isolated in curbed islands
- These curbs are used to direct stormwater quickly, either off site or to a detention area:
 - stormwater is unable to infiltrate into the soil
 - peak flooding can be increased
 - long term reserves of soil moisture is reduced
 - Reduced soil moisture increases dependency on external irrigation

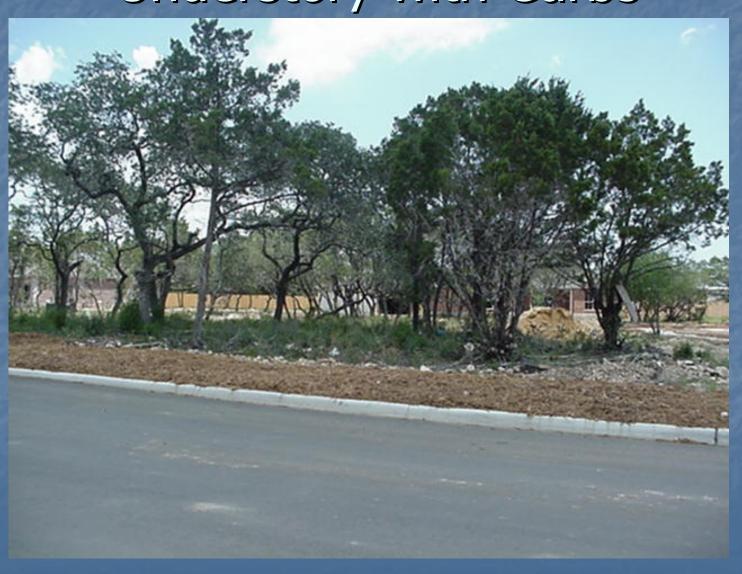
Park/Open Space Requirements

- Required for residential projects
- These areas can be used with limits:
 - Floodplain
 - Detention basins
- Enhancements such as trails, ball parks, etc. receive additional credit

Maximizing the Use of Green Infrastructure

- Tree Save and Landscape Areas can provide for stormwater management
- Residential open space areas can be used to:
 - preserve natural drainageways
 - connect commercial tree save/landscape areas to provide additional areas for stormwater management
 - provide for pedestrian and bike access

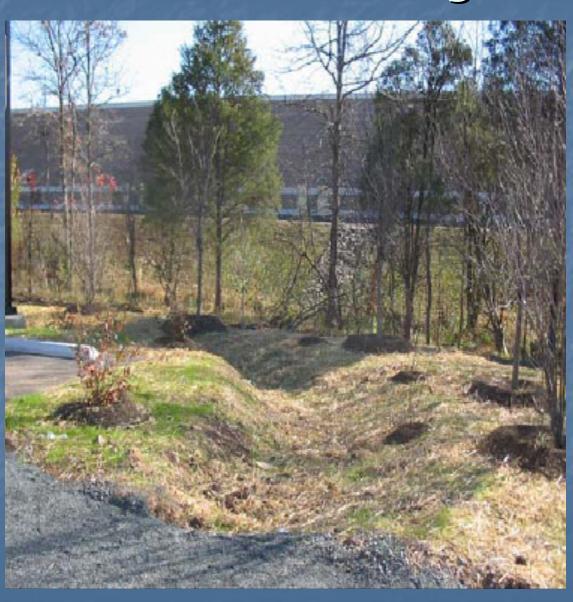
Existing Preservation Area with Understory with Curbs



New Landscape Area used for retention



Bioswale from Parking Lot



Numerous methods for detention/infiltration combine stormwater with tree and



Summary

Insure that Tree Preservation, Landscape and Park/Opens Space Requirements enable and incentivize use for stormwater management