

Keeping the GREEN in GREENville



January 3, 2008

TREE ORDINANCE LIKELY TO GET SECOND CHANCE TUESDAY TAKE ACTION—CONTACT YOUR COUNCIL MEMBER!

By now, most readers are painfully aware that the proposed tree conservation ordinance was stopped dead in its tracks at the last County Council meeting of 2007. After nearly three years of hard work by many dedicated citizens and elected officials, the ordinance fell short by just one vote at second reading on November 20. Voting in favor of the ordinance were Jim Burns, Cort Flint, Judy Gilstrap, Butch Kirven, Xanthene Norris, and Tony Trout. Council members voting against it were Sid Cates, Joe Dill, Lottie Gibson, Willis Meadows, Fred Payne, and Bob Taylor. Seven votes were needed to approve the ordinance and move it forward to third and final reading.

However, all is not lost. The good news is that Council rules allow for a member on the losing side of a vote to make a motion to reconsider at the following meeting. It is our understanding that such a motion will be made on January 8. If the motion is successful, as we believe it will be, the Council will pick up the debate where it left off on November 20.

Please contact your Council member before Tuesday. For those who voted in favor last time, please thank them and encourage continued support of a strong, comprehensive ordinance. For those who voted against, urge them to reconsider their position and support the ordinance that was approved at first reading, with Chairman Kirven's amendments that were approved on November 20. A watered-down version, with no protection for large trees, a less stringent stream buffer provision, fewer and smaller trees required per developed acre, and more exemptions and waivers, is likely to be proposed; however, we are hopeful that the earlier, stronger version (which is actually quite minimal compared to what is required in other communities around the nation) will prevail. If the motion to reconsider fails on Tuesday, the issue will truly be dead for another year.

We will attend Tuesday's meeting and encourage you to join us. Our presence in Council Chambers does make a difference.

LET'S KEEP THE GREEN IN GREENVILLE!

GREENVILLE COUNTY
COUNCIL

TUESDAY, JANUARY 8
6:30 P.M.

Council Chambers
Greenville County Square
301 University Ridge

[CLICK HERE](#) TO READ THE TREE CONSERVATION ORDINANCE AS AMENDED 11-20

[CLICK HERE](#) FOR COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS' CONTACT INFORMATION