

**Sec. 22.5-1. - Definitions.**

The following words and phrases shall have the meanings ascribed unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

*City* means the City of Richardson, Texas.

*City managed property* means public streets, alleys, city right-of-way, parks, public places and other property controlled by the city.

*City manager* means the city manager of the city.

*Director* means the director of parks and recreation or designee.

*Parkway* means the area lying between the street right-of-way line of any public street and/or alley, and the curb line of the street and/or alley; or if there is no curb line, the paved portion of the street and/or alley. Generally, the parkway area is the area between the edge of the road/curb and the farthest edge of the sidewalk.

*(Ord. No. 3702, 1, 4-14-08)*

*Cross reference— Definitions and rules of construction generally, § 1-2.*

**Sec. 22.5-2. - Grant of authority; coordination with public services department.**

- (a) The director is granted authority, control and supervision over all trees, plants and shrubs planted or growing in or upon the city managed property, public highways and public places in the city including, but not limited to, the planting, removal, care, maintenance and protection thereof.
- (b) The public services department will coordinate with the director and will provide services as required to assure compliance with this chapter as it relates to streets, alleys, rights-of-way, drainage, easements and other public properties not under the control or supervision of the director.

*(Ord. No. 3702, 1, 4-14-08)*

**Sec. 22.5-3. - Planting, preserving, removing, etc. on public property.**

- (a) The director shall have the authority to plant, preserve, spray, trim, cable or remove any tree, shrub or plant on any city-managed property, street, alley, public place or easement owned or controlled by the city. The director is authorized to remove, or order removed and/or sprayed any tree, shrub or plant or any part thereof that is in an unsafe condition, is injurious to the common good or to sewer pipes, public utility lines, drainage facilities, pavements, improvements, or is infested and dangerous to other trees, shrubs or plant.
- (b) It is an offense for any person to plant or remove, or permit or cause to be planted or removed any tree, shrub or plant on or from, any public street, park or other city-managed property

without the prior approval of the director. The parkway area not managed by the city is the responsibility of the adjacent property owner.

- (c) No tree, shrub or other landscaping shall interfere with the free passage of vehicles on a public street or alley, or of pedestrians on the sidewalk or obscure the view of motor vehicle operators of any traffic control device or street sign, visibility triangle, or otherwise create a traffic hazard.
- (d) City departments and authorized contractors of the city constructing and/or repairing streets, alleys, or other city utilities or facilities shall be exempt from this chapter upon city approval of construction plans and specifications identifying such construction.

*(Ord. No. 3702, 1, 4-14-08)*

**Sec. 22.5-4. - Breaking, injuring, etc., trees, shrubs on public property.**

Except to remove, prune, trim or maintain trees, shrubs or landscaping as required by [section 22.5-3.](#), or as authorized by the director in writing, it shall be an offense for any person, firm or corporation to cut or break any branch of any tree or shrub or injure in any way the bark of any tree or shrub on any public street, park or other city-managed property. It shall be an offense for any person, firm or corporation to permit, suffer or allow any injurious substance such as gas, salt, oil or other harmful substance to come in contact with any tree, shrub or plant on any public street, parkway area, park or other city property.

*(Ord. No. 3702, 1, 4-14-08)*

**Sec. 22.5-5. - Attaching objects to public trees.**

It shall be an offense for any person, firm or corporation to attach any cable, wire, rope, sign or any other object to any tree, shrub or plant on any public street, park or other city-managed property without the prior written consent from the director.

*(Ord. No. 3702, 1, 4-14-08)*

**Sec. 22.5-6. - City of Richardson Tree Board.**

- (a) There is hereby created a tree board which shall consist of the director and such other city employees as may be designated by the city manager.
- (b) The tree board shall meet on an as needed basis.
- (c) The responsibilities of the City of Richardson Tree Board shall include: the development and administration a comprehensive community tree management program for the care of trees on city property; service as an advisory capacity concerning the planting, maintenance and preservation of trees on city property; and assist the city staff in preparing recommendations to the city council regarding the application, membership and ongoing participation in the Tree City USA Program.