

Published, by title, in *The Oklahoman* in Oklahoma County, Oklahoma on the 6th day of March, 2026. Published, in full, in *The Oklahoman* in Oklahoma County, Oklahoma on the 13th day of March, 2026.

Ordinance No. 4079

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 2 ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL OF THE EDMOND MUNICIPAL CODE BY AMENDING SECTION 2.92.010 PURPOSE; AMENDING SECTION 2.92.020 DEFINITIONS; AMENDING SECTION 2.92.030 CREATION AND ESTABLISHMENT OF THE URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION; AMENDING SECTION 2.92.040 TERM OF OFFICE; AMENDING SECTION 2.92.050 COMPENSATION; AMENDING SECTION 2.92.060 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES; AMENDING SECTION 2.92.070 OPERATION; AMENDING SECTION 2.92.080 REVIEW BY THE CITY COUNCIL; PROVIDING FOR REPEALER AND SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EDMOND, OKLAHOMA:

Section 1. Section 2.92 of the Edmond Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

2.92.010 Established, Composition, Nomination, Appointment, Terms, and Organization. The City Council hereby establishes an advisory commission to be known as the Urban Forestry Commission, referred to for purposes of this Chapter as the “Commission”, consisting of nine (9) voting members, and twelve (12) total members. Each Councilmember shall nominate two (2) members, the Mayor shall nominate one (1) member, and there shall be three (3) ex-officio, non-voting members. The ex-officio members shall be the Urban Forester, the Director of Parks and Recreation or their designee, and the Student Member.

All voting members must reside within the corporate boundaries of the City of Edmond. All terms shall expire on October 31st of the respective year. All nominations are subject to approval of the Mayor and Council.

The nine (9) members nominated by the Mayor and Council shall serve a three (3) year term with a maximum of three (3) consecutive terms. The two (2) ex-officio members from the City of Edmond shall serve until replaced.

The “Student Member” shall be an ex-officio, non-voting member who is: (1) enrolled as a home school or high school student at an Edmond high school; or (2) enrolled as a college student at the University of Central Oklahoma or Oklahoma Christian University. The Student Member shall serve a one-year term with no maximum number of consecutive terms.

At its first meeting, and subsequently on an annual basis during its first regular meeting after October 31st, the Commission shall elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson to serve in the respective role for a period of one (1) year. Commission members shall be eligible to serve as Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson for two (2) consecutive terms. Provided, a Commission member who serves two (2) consecutive terms as Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson shall not be precluded from then serving in the role of Vice-Chairperson or Chairperson, respectively. A Commission member who fills the unexpired term of Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson and who serves no more than three (3) months before being elected to a full-term may serve for two (2) full terms in addition to the unexpired term. In the case the office of the Chairperson becomes vacant, the Vice-Chairperson shall become Chairperson and fill out the remaining term. An election shall then be held at the first regular meeting following the date upon which the vacancy occurs to fill the Vice-Chairperson's position.

2.92.020 Definitions.

(d) Street right-of-way. A strip of land that is legally designated for public use, even if it passes through or is adjacent to private property. It often includes transportation and/or utility infrastructure, including sufficient space for the maintenance and future expansion of those infrastructure.

2.92.030 Purpose and Mission.

It is the purpose of this ordinance to promote and protect the public health, safety, and general welfare by providing for the development of a community forestry plan to encourage the use and preservation of trees and address the planting, maintenance, and removal of public trees and shrubs within the City of Edmond in order to promote, maintain, and improve the City's urban forest resources and the benefits they provide.

2.92.040 Duties and Powers.

It shall be the responsibility of the Commission to identify, study, investigate, counsel, develop and/or update annually and support implementation of a comprehensive written plan addressing the community's urban forest resources.

A major focus of this plan will be for the care, preservation, trimming, planting, replacing, removal and disposition of trees and shrubs on public lands and in public rights-of-way.

A second focus will be public education and other programs to encourage more effective and efficient development and maintenance of public and private tree resources. This includes review and recommendations on tree and landscaping ordinances related to development.

A third focus will be to seek grants and other outside funding sources to assist in the development and maintenance of Edmond's urban forest.

The plan will be developed and presented to the City Council and upon approval shall constitute the official comprehensive tree plan for the City of Edmond. In addition, a progress report shall be made annually to the City Council.

It shall be the duty of this Commission to seek designation as a Tree City, U.S.A. and then actively participate in the development and update of ordinances relating to the removal and disposition of hazardous conditions related to trees, dead or dying trees, and diseased trees.

These ordinances, when adopted by the City Council, shall serve as the statutory basis for the enforcement authority of advisory recommendations made by the City's Urban Forestry Commission. These ordinances should identify planting, development and maintenance procedures to include species, types, sizes, spacing, location restriction and care of trees in the public domain, as well as outlining duties and liabilities of both City personnel and the private professional engaged in tree care and removal and landscape planning or design.

In addition, it shall be the duty of the Urban Forestry Commission to assist in planning and implementation of any annual Arbor Week activities.

2.92.050 Meetings.

The Commission shall hold regular meetings, at least one (1) per month, unless provided otherwise by the Commission. The date and time of regular meetings shall be set by the Commission and filed with the City Clerk. Five (5) voting members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum. All meetings will be held in accordance with the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act.

2.92.060 Cause for Removal.

When any member has three (3) consecutive absences from regular meetings of the Commission, the Chair or Vice Chair shall immediately report such absences to the appointing Councilperson or the Mayor. Removal is subject to a vote of the majority. Additionally, any member who fails to attend half of all regularly scheduled meetings during any twelve-month period shall be reported to the appointing Councilperson or the mayor who may remove said member at their discretion. When a Commission member moves out of the corporate limits of the City of Edmond, the Commission member's membership shall cease immediately.

Section 2. REPEALER. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of any such conflict.

Section 3. SEVERABILITY. If any section, sub-section, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Ordinance is, for any reason, held invalid or unconstitutional by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and

independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of this Ordinance.

Section 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED in an open meeting of the City Council by an affirmative majority vote of the governing body on the day of March 9th, 2026.

Attest: (seal)

/s/ Kory Atcuson-Coley
Kory Atcuson-Coley
City Clerk

/s/ Mark A. Nash
Mark A. Nash
Mayor

Approved as to form and legality this 9th day of March, 2026.

/s/ Madeline Sawyer
Madeline Sawyer
City Attorney