



C I T Y O F
RENO
Memorandum

DATE: July 9, 2026
TO: Mayor and City Council
THROUGH: Jackie Bryant, City Manager 
FROM: Nathan Ullyot, Director
Matt Brezina, Parks Manager
DEPT: Parks and Recreation Department
SUBJECT: Status of Update to Reno Municipal Code Section 8.32(Trees and Shrubs)

The purpose of this memo is to provide background, public engagement processes, and next steps for the update of Reno Municipal Code Section 8.32 (Trees and Shrubs.)

Background

In early 2025, staff began a review and update of Title 8 Section 32 of the Reno Municipal Code (RMC 8.32) regarding the protection of trees in public spaces. The goal of this effort is to modernize language and provide the Urban Forester with the tools and protection needed to preserve the urban canopy.

The language drafted by staff was presented to the Reno Urban Forestry Commission in December 2025 for feedback and recommended changes. Comments were positive and constructive, and those changes were included in a draft submitted to the City Attorney's Office (CAO) for review in January 2026. CAO comments were provided to staff, and changes have been incorporated.

In April 2026, Parks and Forestry staff presented the draft to representatives of other City departments for feedback, and incorporated comments and concerns into the updated draft.

Public Engagement Process and Next Steps

Public engagement will begin Monday, July 13, 2026, with the release of a webpage dedicated to the Title 8.32 update, listed on reno.gov. The website will provide a copy of the code draft with proposed changes, a comment submission form, timelines and schedules of upcoming engagement meetings, and recordings of meetings previously held. The comment period will be

open for two weeks, ending on Monday, July 27, 2026; however, the website will remain live until the final code adoption.

During the public engagement period, staff will host two public workshops to present changes and encourage feedback. The first meeting will be held during the July 15, 2026 Reno Urban Forestry Commission (RUFC) meeting from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm in a hybrid style. Participants are encouraged to attend virtually or in person at the McKinley Arts & Culture Center. The second meeting will be virtual and held Thursday, July 23 from 12 pm to 2 pm. Links to the meetings will be advertised on the website and the Communications department will assist with media and public messaging.

Staff will evaluate and consider comments submitted and make changes to the code draft as necessary. A final draft will be presented to the RUFC Wednesday, August 19 at the regularly scheduled commission meeting for approval and recommendation to Reno City Council.

Staff expect to present the introduction to the code change at the August 26, 2026 City Council meeting and proceed with the first and second readings on the 9th and 23rd of September 2026, with final adoption September 23, 2026. A full timeline can be found below.

- July 13: Launch project webpage
- July 13-27: Online public input form available
- July 15: Reno Urban Forestry Commission meeting and hybrid Public Engagement Workshop 1
- July 23: Virtual Public Engagement Workshop 2
- August 19: Reno Urban Forestry Commission approval
- August 26: Project introduction to Reno City Council
- September 9: First reading at Reno City Council
- September 23 Second reading and final adoption at Reno City Council