



**AIA**  
Dallas

A Chapter of The American Institute of Architects

June 22, 2018

The Honorable Sandy Greyson  
Dallas City Hall  
1500 Marilla Street  
Dallas, Texas 75201

Dear Councilmember Greyson:

Thank you for your leadership in reviewing and updating Article X. The work of staff, City Plan Commission, and Quality of Life, Arts & Culture Committee over the last several years has been impressive. The proposed ordinance provides a set of balanced and innovative tools that has the support of a broad coalition of stakeholders.

The Dallas Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA Dallas) supports this ordinance as a substantial improvement over existing code. Proposed updates address complex issues at the intersection of development, environment, and quality of life within Dallas. AIA Dallas is hopeful that its implementation will have a meaningful effect on the conservation of the City's tree canopy and future green development efforts.

To ensure orderly and effective implementation and use of the new Article X provisions, the landscape and tree manual should be developed through a transparent and open process in consultation with experts. Additionally, AIA Dallas recommends that City Council incorporate the following process requirements into the revised ordinance:

1. Review and update Article X and the landscape and tree manual every five years to monitor the effectiveness that changes have had in meeting intent and to account for advances in ecological best practice and other practical implications.
2. Establish an effective date for the ordinance at least 90 days following public posting of the completed manual to provide for a smooth rollout.

As practitioners, AIA Dallas commits to partnering with the City of Dallas and area experts to provide expertise and education to its members regarding the new ordinance and its implementation. AIA Dallas is hopeful that with this recommended implementation framework, this ordinance can be utilized effectively and as intended.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to our organization if we can provide additional information. Thank you again for your leadership and vision on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Mike Arbour, AIA  
AIA Dallas Board President

Jan Blackmon, FAIA  
Executive Director  
AIA Dallas | Dallas Center for Architecture

C: Dallas City Council

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