

1 CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

2 ORDINANCE NO. 2008 – 13

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4
5 AN ORDINANCE

6 AMENDING SECTION 14-5.6 SFCC 1987, THE ESCARPMENT OVERLAY DISTRICT,
7 REGARDING LANDSCAPE SCREENING IN ORDER TO BETTER COORDINATE
8 WITH FIRE PROTECTION PURPOSES.

9
10 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF SANTA FE:

11 Section 1. Section 14-5.6(G)(2)(b) SFCC 1987 (being ordained as Ord. #2001-
12 38, §2 as amended) is amended to read:

13 (b) All evergreen trees shall be a minimum of 6 feet high at the time
14 of planting. Deciduous trees shall be a minimum of 2 inch
15 caliper at the time of planting and shall also be tall enough such
16 that the foliage provides the desired screening effect at the time
17 of planting. All vegetation shall be planted and maintained at a
18 density commensurate with the adjacent existing natural
19 landscape up to a maximum of 60 basal area as approved by the
20 City. The density may be further reduced when deemed
21 necessary to reduce wildfire risk. The commensurate density
22 shall be determined by an inventory of existing natural trees and
23 shrubs of 4 feet or greater in height in a 50 by 50 foot square
24 within the cut or fill area prior to excavation. An inventory of the
25 existing natural trees and shrubs within the cut and fill area shall

1 be shown on the landscape plan.

2 **Section 2. Section 14-5.6(G)(4)(b) SFCC 1987 (being ordained as Ord. #2001-**
3 **38, §2 as amended) is amended to read:**

4 (b) All graded areas shall be regarded to approximate the original
5 terrain conditions and revegetated with a similar type and density
6 of vegetation commensurate with the adjacent existing natural
7 landscape up to a maximum of 60 basal area as approved by the
8 City, which shall include but not limited to planting of trees with
9 a minimum height of 6 feet for evergreen and 2 inch caliper for
10 deciduous, as described in paragraph (G)(2)(b) above, and
11 reseeding to approximate the original ground cover. The density
12 may be further reduced when deemed necessary to reduce
13 wildfire risk; and

14 **Section 3. Section 14-5.6(G)(7) SFCC 1987 (being ordained as Ord. #2001-38,**
15 **§2 as amended) is amended to read:**

16 (7) There shall be one tree, existing or planted meeting minimum height and
17 size requirements, for every 15 linear feet of horizontal wall of each
18 structure which shall be located no closer than five feet and no further
19 than 30 feet from such wall. Escarpment screening trees shall not exceed
20 60 basal area.

21 **Section 4. [NEW MATERIAL.] A new Section 14-5.6(G)(13) SFCC 1987 is**
22 **ordained to read:**

23 (13) Plantings should be consistent with wildfire safety guidelines
24 recommended by the City's Fire Department.

25 **Section 5. Section 14-5.6(I)(7)(b) SFCC 1987 (being ordained as Ord. #2001-38,**

1 §2 as amended) is amended to read:

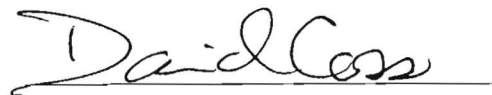
2 (b) All graded and trenched areas shall be regraded to approximate
3 the original terrain conditions and revegetated with a similar type
4 and density of vegetation commensurate with the adjacent
5 existing natural landscape up to a maximum of 60 basal area as
6 approved by the City, which shall include but not be limited to
7 planting of trees and large shrubs with a minimum height of six
8 feet and reseeding to approximate the original ground cover. The
9 density may be further reduced when deemed necessary to
10 reduce wildfire risk; and

11 Section 6. Article 14-12 SFCC 1987 (being Ord. #2001-38, §2 as amended) is
12 amended to add the following definitions:

13 **BASAL AREA**

14 The cross section area of the stem or stems of a plant or of all plants in a stand expressed as
15 square feet per acre. Bushes and shrubs, including pinon and juniper, are generally measured at or
16 less than one inch above soil level. All other trees generally are measured at 4.5 feet above
17 ground inclusive of bark. Measurements are taken from the uphill side of the slope. For the
18 purposes of explanation only, 60 basal area is approximately equal to evergreen trees, each six
19 feet tall, planted on 12 foot centers over one acre.

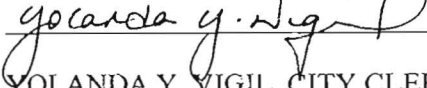
20 PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 27th day of February, 2008.

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22 DAVID COSS, MAYOR
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1 ATTEST:

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4 YOLANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK

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6 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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9 FRANK D. KATZ, CITY ATTORNEY

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25 mdb/Ord. 2008/escarpment landscaping and fire