

ARTICLE 163
Urban Landscape Commission

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CROSS REFERENCES

Authority to establish - see CHTR. Sec. 4.02

163.01 ESTABLISHED.

There is hereby established an Urban Landscape Commission for the City, the official name of which shall be the "Morgantown Urban Landscape Commission".
 (Ord. 17-11. Passed 4-18-17.)

163.02 PURPOSE.

The purpose of the Urban Landscape Commission shall be to advise and recommend to the City Manager and/or City Council such plans, programs and projects which in the opinion of the Commission would improve the natural, aesthetic, and environmental quality of life within the City. The Commission shall review and make timely recommendations in collaboration with the Tree Board on all landscape plans accompanying new or reconstructed City buildings, parks, parking lots, trails and other City-owned realty. The Commission shall also serve as a resource for the review of private sector projects as requested by the City Manager and/or the Planning Commission.
 (Ord. 17-11. Passed 4-18-17.)

163.03 MEMBERSHIP.

The Urban Landscape Commission shall consist of five members, one being a member of City Council and the remainder having expertise in any of the following areas: landscape architecture, landscape design, horticulture, plant health, urban planning, or civil engineering. All members shall be residents of the City. The members of the Commission shall be appointed by City Council. The City Manager and the Director of the Board of Park and Recreation Commissioners, or their designees, shall serve as ex officio members of the Commission but shall not be entitled to vote.
(Ord. 17-11. Passed 4-18-17.)

163.04 TERM.

(a) Membership Terms. Each member of the Commission shall serve a term of three years from the date of appointment and shall continue in office until replaced by a successor unless the office is vacated by death, resignation, or removal of the member; provided that, in order to stagger the terms of members and promote continuity in the Commission, the initial membership of the Commission prescribed by this article shall be appointed as follows:

- Two members shall be appointed to a one-year term
- Two members shall be appointed to a two-year term
- One member shall be appointed to a three-year term.

(b) Transition Provisions. The members of the Commission duly appointed and serving as of the effective date of this article shall continue in office until the appointment of the new membership of the Commission prescribed in this article.
(Ord. 17-11. Passed 4-18-17.)

163.05 VACANCIES.

Vacancies shall be filled in accordance with the conditions set forth in Section 163.03 and for the unexpired term only. The office of a member of the Urban Landscape Commission shall become vacant upon the member's death, resignation, or removal from office. Should a member fail to attend more than one-half of the meetings of the Commission in a consecutive twelve-month period, the Chairperson shall confer with the member so as to assess the ability of the member to continue serving as a member of the Commission. All members shall serve without compensation. (Ord. 17-11. Passed 4-18-17.)

163.06 OFFICERS.

At the first Commission meeting after June 30 in each year, the Urban Landscape Commission shall select from its own membership a chairperson, vice-chairperson, and secretary. (Ord. 17-11. Passed 4-18-17.)

163.07 MEETINGS.

The Urban Landscape Commission shall meet as often as it may deem necessary upon the call of the chairperson or three-fifths of its members. The Commission shall adopt its own by-laws or rules subject only to the action of Council.
(Ord. 17-11. Passed 4-18-17.)

163.08 APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS.

Council may appropriate any funds that it deems necessary to carry out any of the proposals set forth by the Urban Landscape Commission. The Commission, with the approval of City Council, may apply for federal and state financial aid in grants or other forms of financial assistance through the City Administration to assist in carrying out any of such proposals or projects. The Commission may also seek financial assistance from organizations or individuals for such purposes in consultation with the City Administration. All Commission funding shall be received and managed by the office of the City Manager.
(Ord. 17-11. Passed 4-18-17.)

163.09 ANNUAL REPORT.

Council may request a yearly report from the Urban Landscape Commission regarding its services provided throughout the previous year. This report may include information, statistics and recommendations which may be deemed of general interest.
(Ord. 17-11. Passed 4-18-17.)