

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. 09-38. Passed 8-18-09.)

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 on all **landscape** plans accompanying new or reconstructed City buildings, parks, parking lots, trails and other City- owned realty. The **Commission** shall also appoint a Tree Board, which shall serve in an advisory capacity to the City Manager, when called upon by him/her, in administering the City’s Tree and Shrub Ordinance (Article917). 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. 09-38. Passed 8-18-09.)

163.03 MEMBERSHIP.

The **Urban Landscape Commission** shall consist of thirteen members, consisting of the following: one from each ward of the City, one having expertise in **Landscape**Architecture, one having expertise as an **Urban** Forester, one having expertise as a Botanist or equivalent expertise, one being a member of the Board of Parks and Recreation**Commission**, one being a member of the Chamber of Commerce, and one being a member of City Council. All persons shall be residents of the City. The City Manager shall appoint a member of the City

Administration to serve as an ex-officio member of the **Commission**. The seven **Commission** members, who represent wards, shall be nominated by the City Manager, upon the recommendation of their ward Councilperson and confirmed by City Council. The remaining members shall be nominated by individual Councilpersons and confirmed by City Council.

(Ord. 09-38. Passed 8-18-09.)

163.04 TERM.

All non-ward members of the **Urban Landscape Commission** shall serve three-year terms as previously established by City Council. Whereas, it is the intent of City Council to stagger the terms of ward **Urban Landscape Commission** members so that no more than three of the seven ward terms shall expire in the same year. The terms of current ward members shall be as follows:

1 st Ward	7-01-09 to 7-01-12
2 nd Ward	7-01-10 to 7-01-12
3 rd Ward	7-01-09 to 7-01-12
4 th Ward	7-01-10 to 7-01-13
5 th Ward	7-01-10 to 7-01-13
6 th Ward	7-01-10 to 7-01-13
7 th Ward	7-01-10 to 7-01-11

All subsequent appointments of ward members shall be for a term of three years each.
(Ord. 09-38. Passed 8-18-09.)

163.05 VACANCIES.

Vacancies shall be filled subject to 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. 09-38. Passed 8-18-09.)

163.06 OFFICERS.

At the first **Commission** meeting of July in each year, the **Urban Landscape Commission** shall select from its own membership a chairperson, vice-chairperson, and secretary.

(Ord. 09-38. Passed 8-18-09.)

163.07 MEETINGS.

The **Urban Landscape Commission** shall meet as often as it may deem necessary by its members, upon call of the chairperson. The **Commission** shall adopt its own by-laws or rules subject only to the action of Council.

(Ord. 09-38. Passed 8-18-09.)

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. 09-38. Passed 8-18-09.)

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. 09-38. Passed 8-18-09.)