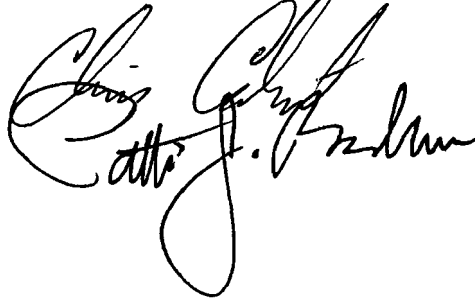


CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

BILL NO. 2008-9

INTRODUCED BY:



AN ORDINANCE

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

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

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

- (b) All evergreen trees shall be a minimum of 6 feet high at the time of planting. Deciduous trees shall be a minimum of 2 inch caliper at the time of planting and shall also be tall enough such that the foliage provides the desired screening effect at the time of planting. All vegetation shall be planted and maintained at a density commensurate with ~~[75 to 100 percent of]~~ the adjacent existing natural landscape up to a maximum of 60 basal area as approved by the City. The density may be further reduced when

1 deemed necessary to reduce wildfire risk. The commensurate  
2 density shall be determined by an inventory of existing natural  
3 trees and shrubs of 4 feet or greater in height in a 50 by 50 foot  
4 square within the cut or fill area prior to excavation. An  
5 inventory of the existing natural trees and shrubs within the cut  
6 and fill area shall be shown on the landscape plan.

7 **Section 2. Section 14-5.6(G)(4)(b) SFCC 1987 (being ordained as Ord. #2001-**  
8 **38, §2 as amended) is amended to read:**

9 (b) All graded areas shall be regarded to approximate the original  
10 terrain conditions and revegetated with a similar type and density  
11 of vegetation commensurate with ~~[75 to 100 percent of]~~ the  
12 adjacent existing natural landscape up to a maximum of 60 basal  
13 area as approved by the City, which shall include but not limited  
14 to planting of trees with a minimum height of 6 feet for  
15 evergreen and 2 inch caliper for deciduous, as described in  
16 paragraph (G)(2)(b) above, and reseeding to approximate the  
17 original ground cover. The density may be further reduced when  
18 deemed necessary to reduce wildfire risk; and

19 **Section 3. Section 14-5.6(G)(7) SFCC 1987 (being ordained as Ord. #2001-38,**  
20 **§2 as amended) is amended to read:**

21 (7) There shall be one tree, existing or planted meeting minimum height and  
22 size requirements, for every 15 linear feet of horizontal wall of each  
23 structure which shall be located ~~[not more than 15 feet from such wall]~~  
24 no closer than five feet and no further than 30 feet from such wall.  
25 Escarpment screening trees shall not exceed 60 basal area.

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

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

5           **Section 5.     Section 14-5.6(I)(7)(b) SFCC 1987 (being ordained as Ord. #2001-38,**  
6 **§2 as amended) is amended to read:**

- 7                   (b)   All graded and trenched areas shall be regraded to approximate  
8                               the original terrain conditions and revegetated with a similar type  
9                               and density of vegetation commensurate with ~~[75 to 100 percent~~  
10                              ~~of]~~ the adjacent existing natural landscape up to a maximum of  
11                              60 basal area as approved by the City, which shall include but  
12                              not be limited to planting of trees and large shrubs with a  
13                              minimum height of six feet and reseeding to approximate the  
14                              original ground cover. The density may be further reduced when  
15                              deemed necessary to reduce wildfire risk; and

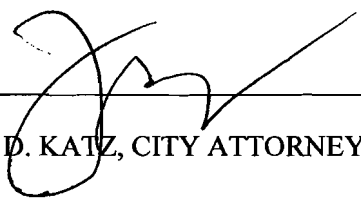
16           **Section 6.     Article 14-12 SFCC 1987 (being Ord. #2001-38, §2 as amended) is**  
17 **amended to add the following definitions:**

18 **BASAL AREA**

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

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APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
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FRANK D. KATZ, CITY ATTORNEY

Jp/bills 2008/escarpment landscaping and fire