

**CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION
LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**



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Bill Type and Number: Ordinance 2020-409

Introducer/Sponsor(s): Council President at the request of the Mayor

Date of Introduction: July 27, 2020

Committee(s) of Reference: LUZ

Date of Analysis: July 30, 2020

Type of Action: Amending *Ordinance Code*

Bill Summary: The bill Chapter 656 (zoning code), Part 12 (Landscape and Tree Protection Regulations), Subpart B (Tree Protection), Section 656.1205 (Removal Of Protected Trees Prohibited; Exceptions), *Ordinance Code*, to create a new exemption for City maintained cemeteries and remediation sites in certain circumstances.

Background Information: The bill adds language requiring the cleanup of contaminated soils, sediments, surface waters, and groundwater, including hazardous waste and solid waste debris materials and air discharges and cemeteries where trees interfere with burial plots and associated structures. The primary methodology used for the City of Jacksonville-owned sites is to remove the upper 2.0-feet of soils, place a clean soil cap, establish a vegetative cover, and place engineering and covenant restrictions on the parcel to eliminate threats to human health and the environment. Clearing and grubbing to remove the underbrush, timber, and root mat/balls are essential to placing the soil cap. Contaminated sites subject to the tree ordinance requirements severely affect the cost of remediation that limits the Solid Waste Division from getting regulatory closure of these sites in a timely manner. The remediation of contamination where the City of Jacksonville has been determined to be the Responsible Party for cleanup also includes cemeteries requiring maintenance, repair, and/or rehabilitation where the cemetery has no "perpetual care" entity.

Policy Impact Area: Cemeteries and remediation sites

Fiscal Impact: Cost of remediation/cleanup

Analyst: Mitchell