

RESOLUTION NO. 27113

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA REQUESTING AND ENCOURAGING APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS AT THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY TO CAREFULLY MONITOR ITS TREE-TRIMMING POLICIES TO CUT AS FEW TREES AS POSSIBLE WITHIN THIS CITY AND, WHEN TRIMMING IS REQUIRED, TO TRIM AS LITTLE AS REASONABLY FEASIBLE IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN POWER LINES.

WHEREAS, Chattanooga officially has been designated as a "Tree City USA" because the citizens and residents of this City, along with their elected representatives, historically have recognized and appreciated that trees provide unique benefits to the community in assisting the natural control of solar heat, soil conservation, flood control, air pollution, and noise control, in providing a haven for wildlife and in providing citizens with psychological relief from the increasing complexities of the man-made urban environment; and,

WHEREAS, the conservation, preservation, and protection of trees within the corporate limits of the City is an issue of genuine concern to the members of the Council of the City of Chattanooga; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council fully recognizes and acknowledges that it is important that trees within the right-of-way of power lines be appropriately maintained so as to avoid damage to power lines and facilities and to prevent to the fullest extent possible interruptions in the provision of service by the Tennessee Valley Authority ("TVA"); and,

WHEREAS, the City Council understands TVA needs to maintain its power line right-of-ways but, based upon anecdotal evidence and observation, it appears that on many occasions TVA has cut more trees than may be reasonably required within this City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council would urge the appropriate officials at TVA charged with responsibility of implementing TVA's Right-of-Way Vegetation Maintenance Program to heighten their level of sensitivity to the serious negative impacts which may result to the community from excessive trimming and cutting of trees within power line right-of-ways within the City of Chattanooga; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that TVA understands the potential problems arising out of the necessary conflict between conserving the beauty of our trees and providing reasonably priced and reliable electrical service, but the City Council is of the opinion that more needs to be done to effectively monitor and enforce policies designed to protect these special natural resources.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA, that the City Council of the City of Chattanooga requests and encourages appropriate officials at the Tennessee Valley Authority to carefully monitor its tree-trimming policies within the City of Chattanooga and to enforce such policies reasonably and objectively to cut as few trees as possible within this City and, when trimming is required, to trim as little as reasonably feasible in order to maintain power lines. The City Council Clerk is further authorized to send a certified copy of this Resolution to all members of the TVA Board of Directors following the passage of this Resolution.

ADOPTED: May 22, 2012

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