

VILLAGE OF LOMBARD
REQUEST FOR BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACTION
For Inclusion on Board Agenda

Resolution or Ordinance (Blue) _____ Waiver of First Requested
 X Recommendations of Boards, Commissions & Committees (Green)
Other Business (Pink)

TO: PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM: David A. Hulseberg, Village Manager

DATE: May 18, 2012 (COW) (B of T) **Date:** June 7, 2012

TITLE: Proposal to Allow Gardens on Vacant Parcels

SUBMITTED BY: David P. Gorman, Assistant Director of Public Works *DPG*

BACKGROUND/POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

A recommendation from the Environmental Concerns Committee to amend Village Code Section 92.33 to allow gardens on vacant parcels.

FISCAL IMPACT/FUNDING SOURCE:

Review (as necessary):

Village Attorney X _____ Date _____

Finance Director X _____ Date _____

Village Manager X _____ Date _____

NOTE: All materials must be submitted to and approved by the Village Manager's Office by 12:00 noon, Wednesday, prior to the Agenda Distribution.



MEMORANDUM

TO: David A. Hulseberg, Village Manager

THROUGH: Carl S. Goldsmith, Director of Public Works *CG*

FROM: David P. Gorman, Asst. Director of Public Works *DGP*

SUBJECT: **Proposed Amendment to Village Code Section 92.33 to Allow Gardens on Vacant Parcels**

DATE: May 18, 2012

Staff is forwarding a recommendation from the Environmental Concerns Committee (ECC) to amend Village Code Section 92.33 to provide the flexibility to allow gardens on vacant parcels. The proposed language was developed by the Departments of Community Development and Public Works. Such parcels could be privately or, on occasion, publicly owned. Currently, such an activity on a parcel without a principal structure is subject to the eight-inch maximum height for non-woody vegetation and, thus, is not allowed by Village Code.

The ECC did not expect that many vacant lots would be utilized for gardens but they did not want to preclude the possibility of this productive use by the owner or by others that have been allowed access by the owner. This amendment would not impede Code Enforcement officers from their normal duties to enforce violations of excessive weeds or grasses over 8 inches high.

Gardens on vacant lots could be allowed administratively by the Director of Community Development by amending Section 92.33 as underlined below.

§ 92.33 XERISCAPING.

In cases where the person, firm, or corporation owning or controlling any lot or parcel of property, landscapes said lot or parcel of property either with vegetation native to the region, so as to reduce or eliminate required maintenance, or a vegetable/flower garden that does not extend into the front, side or corner side yard setbacks, said person, firm or corporation shall provide upon request of the Director of Community Development a landscape plan, including plan box detailing the species of vegetation planted, or other documentation required by the Director to show compliance with section 92.31 of this Code.

Recommendation:

Staff and the ECC recommend that Village Code Section 92.33 be amended as previously stated to allow the Director of Community Development the flexibility to administratively approve the use of a vacant parcel for gardening.

CG/DG:dg H:\PW\Environmental\Vacant lot Gardens - Memo to BOT.doc

cc: David Hulseberg, Village Manager
Bill Heniff, Director of Community Development
Joan Rogers, Code Enforcement Coordinator

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 9, CHAPTER 92, SECTION 92.33 OF
THE LOMBARD VILLAGE CODE IN REGARD TO XERISCAPING

BE IT ORDAINED by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Lombard,
DuPage County, Illinois, as follows:

SECTION 1: That, effective July 1, 2012, Title 9, Chapter 92, Section 92.33 of the
Lombard Village Code is amended to read in its entirety as follows:

§ 92.33 XERISCAPING.

In cases where the person, firm, or corporation owning or controlling any lot or parcel of property, landscapes said lot or parcel of property either with vegetation native to the region, so as to reduce or eliminate required maintenance, or a vegetable/flower garden that does not extend into the front, side or corner side yard setbacks, said person, firm or corporation shall provide upon request of the Director of Community Development a landscape plan, including plan box detailing the species of vegetation planted, or other documentation required by the Director to show compliance with section 92.31 of this Code.

SECTION 2: That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect on from and after its adoption, approval and publication in pamphlet form as provided by law.

Passed on first reading this _____ day of _____, 2012.

First reading waived by action of the Board of Trustees this _____ day of _____, 2012.

Passed on second reading this _____ day of _____, 2012, pursuant to a roll call vote as follows:

AYES: _____

NAYS _____

ABSENT: _____

APPROVED by me this _____ day of _____, 2012.

William J. Mueller
Village President

ATTEST:

Brigitte O'Brien
Village Clerk

Published by me in pamphlet form this ___ day of _____, 2012.

Brigitte O'Brien
Village Clerk