

Roadside Vegetation Management Program

The purpose of the City of Hillsboro vegetation management program is to provide and ensure for the safe operation, maintenance and use of the streets and sidewalks within the City of Hillsboro.

Maintenance of roadside trees, bushes, and other vegetation that are growing within road right-of-ways and any private vegetation that grows into or hangs over the roadway or sidewalks, covers up signs, blocks street lights, or impairs sight visibility at intersections is the responsibility of the adjacent property owner or lawful occupant (Hillsboro Municipal Code).

City of Hillsboro Public Works Operations personnel may trim trees or otherwise manage roadside vegetation within the right-of-way along roadways when it is identified as an immediate hazard or as having adverse impacts to the road or the traveling public according to Municipal Code 8.04.040. City of Hillsboro employees will trim vegetation in accordance to the ANSI A300 Pruning and Trimming standard. In many cases, you may receive a door hanger notifying you of a vegetation hazard along your property that needs your attention for code compliance.

Please plant appropriate vegetation along roadsides and trim vegetation:

1. Around signs and under street lights:

- Drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists need to be able to see the roadway and signs far enough in advance to allow adequate time to identify and respond to changes in the roadway.

2. At corners, so people can see approaching vehicles.

3. Over and adjacent to sidewalks and walkways:

- so pedestrians do not have to duck under a tree, brush up against a bush, or enter the roadway where vehicles may pass by
- to ensure unimpeded parking
- to aid in reducing unwanted materials from being washed down storm drains which may plug culverts, inlets, sewer pipes, or overburden storm water treatment facilities.

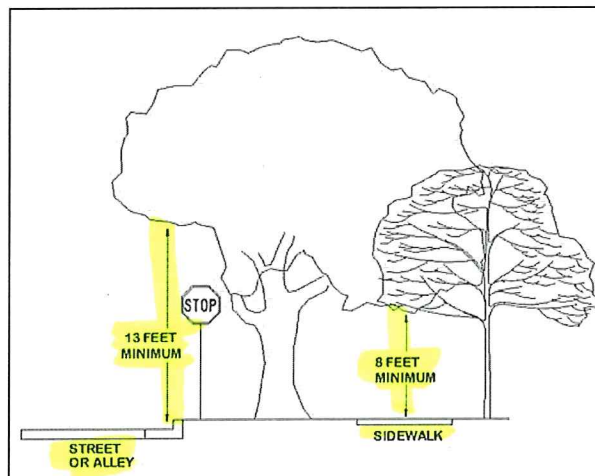
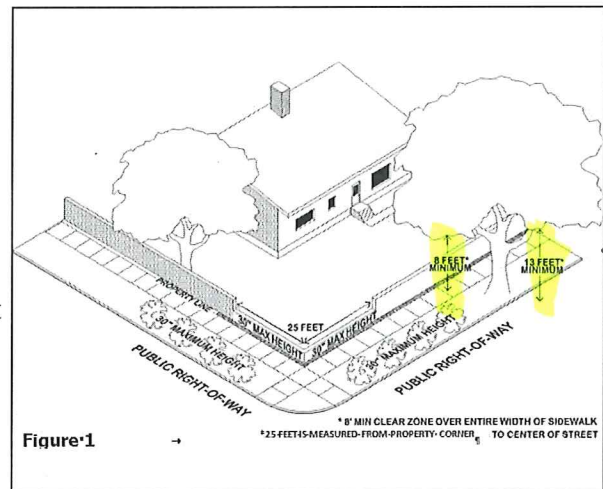
4. Along and over road lanes and up to the roadside edge or curb:

- Remember that school busses and larger vehicles (such as street sweepers, delivery trucks, and pavement maintenance equipment) need additional height so they can pass safely.

Below is more specific information about code requirements for vision clear zones at intersections and along streets and sidewalks.

Vision Clear Zones at Intersections

The vision clear zone at intersections includes the area behind the property line (on private property) and the area on the street side of the property line (within public right-of-way). The City of Hillsboro Zoning Ordinance No. 1945 87-97A, section 96 requires a minimum 25 foot vision clearance zone (triangle shaped) at intersections in residential zones, and 10 feet for alleys. For all other zones excluding C-2 Central Commercial Zone, the minimum vision clearance zone shall be 15 feet at intersections, and 10 feet for alleys. All objects within the vision clearance zone shall be no more than 30 inches in height above the top of the curb. In areas without curb or sidewalk, the height shall be no more than 36 inches from the surface of the roadway (see Figure 1).



Clear Zones Along the Street and Sidewalk

City of Hillsboro Municipal Code 6.16.020 requires that no owner or person in charge of property shall allow any vegetation to project into or across the street or sidewalk. Trees over the street must be trimmed a minimum of 13 feet above the roadway surface, beginning at the curb line or back of ditch if a curb does not exist. Trees over the sidewalk must be trimmed a minimum of 8 feet above the surface of the sidewalk or walkway, for its entire width. In cases where there isn't a sidewalk vegetation should be cleared 2 feet from the edge of the roadway (see Figure 2).

If you have further questions, please contact us at 503-615-6509