

RESOLUTION NO. 001257
PASSED April 30, 2001

A resolution of the City Commission of the City of Gainesville, Florida, declaring a tree emergency in the urban forest due to the imminent threat of destruction of pine trees by infestation of southern pine beetles; adopting an emergency pine beetle suppression program; and providing an immediate effective date.

WHEREAS, the City Arborist and the State of Florida Division of Forestry have identified a large population of southern pine beetles within the urban forest of Alachua County, including the City of Gainesville; and

WHEREAS, southern pine beetles can kill a pine tree in a matter of days; and

WHEREAS, the City of Gainesville is designated a Tree City USA, and contains thousands of pine trees; and

WHEREAS, the City Arborist and the State of Florida Division of Forestry have witnessed the infestation and destruction of hundreds of pine trees within the corporate limits by the southern pine beetle, and they believe that thousands of pine trees are currently under threat and at risk; and

WHEREAS, dead pine trees create fuel build-up as well as falling branches and trunks, thus creating an immediate and imminent threat to property and lives, thereby creating a danger to the public health, safety and welfare of the community; and

WHEREAS, the City Arborist and the State of Florida Division of Forestry concur that the best method to prevent further destruction and loss of pine trees is the immediate removal of trees infested by the pine beetle; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission finds that it is in the interest of the public health, safety and welfare to immediately remove pine trees that are actively infested by the southern pine beetle to prevent further destruction and loss of pine trees within the City of Gainesville;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA:

1. The City Commission declares a tree emergency in the urban forest of the City of Gainesville, Florida.
2. The City Commission approves the Emergency Southern Pine Beetle Suppression Program (“the Program”), a copy of which is attached to and made a part of

1 this resolution, and calls upon all citizens to participate in the Program and to cooperate in
2 the removal of trees infested by the southern pine beetle.

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4 3. The City Manager is authorized to purchase goods, supplies and materials
5 necessary to implement the Program and the Purchasing Policies of the City are waived to
6 that extent. Disaster Funds of the City are appropriated for this Program. The tree
7 emergency, the Program and the authorization shall end at 11:59 p.m. on November 15,
8 2001, unless extended or terminated by resolution of the City Commission.

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10 4. The City Manager is authorized to make application to the U.S. Forest
11 Service and the State of Florida Division of Forestry to seek grants and aid to offset the
12 costs and expenses of the City in implementing this program.


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14 5. The City Commission calls upon Alachua County and the cities in Alachua
15 County to monitor the infestation of the southern pine beetle in their communities and to
16 take all steps necessary to control the infestation.

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18 6. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

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20 **PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 30 day of April, 2001.

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25 PAULA M. DeLANEY
26 MAYOR

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29 ATTEST:

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31 _____
32 KURT M. LANNON
33 CLERK OF THE COMMISSION
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Approved as to form and legality

30 
31 _____
32 MARION J. RADSON
33 CITY ATTORNEY

MAY - 1 2001

City of Gainesville

Emergency Southern Pine Beetle Suppression Program

- ★ The City will immediately undertake a public education campaign to inform citizens about the Southern Pine Beetle Suppression Program.
- ★ The City will seek grants and aid from the Florida Division of Forestry and U.S. Forestry Service and any other governmental agency for any eligible expenses and costs to the City.
- ★ The City will undertake the removal of infested trees from City-owned properties including parks and rights-of-way immediately.
- ★ Through Section 30-254(h), the City Manager will waive the permit requirements for trees infested with Southern Pine Beetles provided the Florida Division of Forestry has verified the Southern Pine Beetle infestation in said trees. This authorization will expire with the expiration of the program.
- ★ The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Forestry, will identify the presence of Southern Pine Beetles in pine trees in Gainesville, marking and listing each infested tree and informing the property owner.
- ★ Property owner must contact the City within 48 hours (two business days) and execute the City's contract to participate in this program. Property owners will be charged one-half the City's direct cost for cutting and spraying of each infested tree. The City will be responsible for the remainder of the cost.
- ★ Cutting of infested trees will begin after property owners have signed a contract prepared by the City Attorney. Trunks and stumps will be sprayed with insecticide. No part of the tree will be removed from the site by the City. The homeowner should take immediate action to properly dispose of treetops and trunks.
- ★ The City may implement a mandatory compliance program for those owners who failed to remove infested trees.