

Detroit Historic District Commission

RESOLUTION 23-02

**Approval for DTE Tree Trimming and Removal Work in Historic Districts,
As Required for Infrastructure Improvements**

BY COMMISSIONER _____

WHEREAS, the Michigan Local Historic Districts Act, that being MCL 399.205, requires that a permit shall be obtained before any work affecting the exterior appearance of a resource is performed within a historic district, and that the person, individual, partnership, firm, corporation, organization, institution, or agency of government proposing to do that work shall file an application for a permit with the inspector of buildings, the commission, or other duly delegated authority;

WHEREAS, Sections 21-2-71 through 21-2-73 of the 2019 Detroit City Code requires that before work commences within an historic district, an interim historic district, or proposed historic district, the person, individual, partnership, firm, corporation, organization, institution, or agency of government shall seek approval of the Detroit Historic District Commission, being the Commission empowered by state law;

WHEREAS, the DTE Energy Company has properly submitted an application to the Commission for tree trimming and tree removal work in support of electrical infrastructure improvements in historic districts city-wide, and the Commission has duly considered the appropriateness thereof pursuant to Chapter 21, Article II of the 2019 Detroit City Code and MCL 399.205 of the Local Historic Districts Act;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that DTE Energy Company (and its contractors) is hereby issued a Certificate of Appropriateness in all locally-designated historic districts for the purpose of trimming and removing trees under the following conditions:

- Trees may be trimmed to a maximum 15' radius from poles, equipment, and conductors (i.e, overhead wires) as recommended by DTE and/or its contractors;
- Should a property owner agree in writing, trees on private property at or near the alley recommended by DTE for removal are hereby approved, under the following conditions:
 - An appropriate replacement tree at a different location on the property be offered to the property owner, subject to Commission staff approval
- For street trees, defined here as trees in the public right-of-way between the street and the public sidewalk, DTE and/or its contractors may remove trees only upon satisfaction of the following conditions:
 - The City of Detroit's arborist or forester has specifically approved the removal of the subject tree, and;
 - A new tree of an appropriate type be planted elsewhere within the boundaries of the historic district, in consultation with and as approved by both the city forester

and Commission staff, as close to the removed tree as feasible without reproducing the original conflict, and;

- DTE and/or its contractors shall be responsible for submitting information about each such street tree removal to Commission staff no later than one week prior to removal, to allow Commission staff to plan for responses to any community inquiries surrounding the activity and review the proposed location of the replacement tree.
- A planting plan and planting schedule may be submitted to Commission staff and the city's arborist/forester that bundles replacement plantings across historic districts over a single planting season (i.e., fall or spring) rather than individual planting plans.

Dated: February 8, 2023