

City of Biloxi Planning Commission

Subject: Case Number: TR25-002 – Jordan Bursch on behalf of Meritage (formerly owned by Elliott Homes) – an application to remove (27) protected trees (Live Oaks and Magnolias), to authorize the construction of a new Single-Family subdivision (Hawk Creek Ph II), for a parcel of land identified as lot 23 of Hawk Creek Subdivision located on W. Oaklawn Rd. (Tax Parcel No. 1108-01-003.023).

Commission Members:

On Wednesday October 1, 2025, the Biloxi Tree Committee voted 4-0-2 to approve the request from Meritage Homes for Hawk Creek Subdivision Phase 2 for the removal of 26 protected trees under the following conditions:

1. The Live Oak Tree located near the entrance with the historic anchor will be saved by rerouting the adjacent road around the tree.
2. The developer will be required to provide a sound buffer on the lots adjacent to the I-10 right of way with Cedar Trees or acceptable protected trees that meet our mitigation requirements. Biloxi's consulting arborist will participate in the development of this plan.
3. The Director of Community Development has the Administrative Authority to Adjust the Building Setback requirements of the Land Development Ordinances by up to 20% in order to save existing protected trees. This authority will be exercised in an effort to protect additional trees where possible.
4. Tree Mitigation will be provided as required by the Biloxi Tree Ordinance (replacement at a ratio of 2 to 1, payment into the City of Biloxi Tree Bank, or a combination of both.)

We are hopeful the Developer will agree to our recommendations.

Respectfully,

Susan Peterson, City of Biloxi Tree Chairperson