



## Marion County Board of County Commissioners

Office of the County Attorney

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### Business Impact Estimate

*In accordance with Section 125.66(3)(a), F.S., a Business Impact Estimate (BIE) is required to be: 1) prepared before enacting certain ordinances and 2) posted on Marion County Board of County Commissioners' website no later than the date the notice proposed enactment/notice of intent to consider the proposed ordinance, is advertised in the newspaper (which, per Section 125.66(2)(a), F.S., is ten (10) days before the Public Hearing).*

#### **AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE (LDC) RELATED TO ARTICLE 6, TECHNICAL STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS, DIVISION 7, TREE PROTECTION AND REPLACEMENT**

This Business Impact Estimate is provided in accordance with Section 125.66(3)(a), *Florida Statutes*. If one or more boxes are checked below, this means that the Marion County Board of County Commissioners is of the view that a business impact estimate is not required by state law for the proposed ordinance.

Notwithstanding, Marion County is preparing this BIE to prevent an inadvertent procedural issue from impacting the enactment of this proposed Ordinance. Marion County reserves the right to revise this BIE following its initial posting and to discontinue providing this information for proposed ordinances believed to be exempt under state law.

- The proposed ordinance is required for compliance with Federal or State law or regulation;
- The proposed ordinance relates to the issuance or refinancing of debt;
- The proposed ordinance relates to the adoption of budgets or budget amendments, including revenue sources necessary to fund the budget;
- The proposed ordinance is required to implement a contract or an agreement, including, but not limited to, any Federal, State, local, or private grant or other financial assistance accepted by the municipal government;
- The proposed ordinance is an emergency ordinance;
- The ordinance relates to procurement; or
- The proposed ordinance is enacted to implement the following:
  - a. Part II of Chapter 163, *Florida Statutes*, relating to growth policy, county and municipal planning, and land development regulation, including zoning, development orders, development agreements and development permits;
  - b. Sections 190.005 and 190.046, *Florida Statutes*, regarding community development districts;
  - c. Section 553.73, *Florida Statutes*, relating to the *Florida Building Code*; or
  - d. Section 633.202, *Florida Statutes*, relating to the *Florida Fire Prevention Code*.

Consistent with the posting requirement set forth in Section 125.66(3)(a), F.S., the County hereby publishes the following BIE information for this proposed ordinance on its website for public viewing and consideration on this **10<sup>th</sup> day of April 2026**: (Date being published)

1. Summary of the proposed ordinance (must include a statement of the public purpose, such as serving the public health, safety, morals, and welfare): **The proposed ordinance amends the Land Development Code to strengthen protections for larger, significant trees, recognizing their important environmental, aesthetic, and community value. The ordinance establishes enhanced preservation standards, clarifies when and how such trees may be removed, and provides clear, predictable replacement and mitigation strategies when removal is unavoidable. In addition, the ordinance introduces incentives to encourage the preservation of significant trees during development and redevelopment, including flexibility in site design and alternative compliance options. Protecting large, established trees supports neighborhood character, property values, and community aesthetics. By clarifying tree replacement requirements and offering incentives for preservation, the ordinance provides equitable, transparent, and consistent standards that balance responsible development with long-term environmental stewardship for the benefit of current and future residents.**

2. An estimate of the direct economic impact of the proposed ordinance on private, for-profit businesses in unincorporated Marion County, if any:  
(a) An estimate of direct compliance costs that businesses may reasonably incur;  
(b) Any new charge or fee imposed by the proposed ordinance or for which businesses will be financially responsible;  
(c) An estimate of Marion County regulatory costs, including estimated revenues from any new charges or fees to cover such costs. **This ordinance does not have a clear, direct economic impact.**

3. Good faith estimate of the number of businesses likely to be impacted by the proposed ordinance: **Unknown at this time**

4. Additional information the governing body deems useful (if any): **Proposed changes provide additional protections to larger, significant trees, provides incentives for protection of such trees, and clarifies tree replacement strategies.**