12-181 Conduct a Public Hearing to Consider/Discuss/Act on the Request by the City of McKinney for Approval of an Amendment to the Code of Ordinances, Appendix A of Chapter 146 - Zoning Regulations by Adding Xeriscape Plants to the Approved Landscape Plant List.

Ms. Emily Braht, Arborist for the City of McKinney, explained the proposed amendment to the Code of Ordinances, Appendix A of Chapter 146 – Zoning Regulations by adding Xeriscape plants to the Approved Landscape Plant List. She discussed Xeriscape plants and why the use of these plants is important in our area.

Commission Member Bush asked if there are any commercial buildings in McKinney that have used Xeriscape plants. Ms. Braht stated that the Wal-Mart located at Highway 75 (Central Expressway) and Highway 380 (University Drive) used them on their site.

Commission Member Franklin asked for clarification on the change to the required caliper and height of a canopy tree at time of planting. Ms. Braht explained that this requirement was already changed in the ordinance amendments last year and that Appendix A needs to be updated to match the ordinance.

Chairman Clark opened the public hearing and called for comments. There being none, the Commission unanimously approved the motion by Commission Member Thompson, seconded by Commission Member Bush, to close the public hearing and recommend approval of the proposed amendments as recommended by Staff.

Chairman Clark stated that the recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Commission will be forwarded to the City Council meeting on April 17, 2012.