

From: [Clarke Kahlo](#)
To: [Poon, DeAnna](#)
Cc: [Stippler, David](#); [Krohn, Karol](#)
Subject: additional comment on IURC draft rule 10.04, Cause 43663
Date: Wednesday, June 13, 2012 7:53:40 AM

Hello Judge Poon,

I presented brief comments during the Commission's public hearing on this matter last month. I urge the Commission to give close consideration to the recommendations of the Indiana Tree Alliance which has commented on the draft rule in great detail. I urge the Commission to incorporate the ITA's comments within the final rule.

While there are many considerations to weigh in reaching an effective final rule, it is becoming increasingly clear that trees play a very important role in our neighborhoods, communities, and our ecosystem.

Thank you.

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**Ten Rules for a Quality Community:**

- 1 Sense of Place-- clear boundaries
- 2 Human Scale-- not car scale
- 3 Self-contained Neighborhoods-- all facilities close together
- 4 Diversity of Housing
- 5 Transit-friendly design
- 6 **Trees-- no single element will do more to improve our communities than planting a lot of shade trees.**
- 7 Alleys and Parking Lots to the Rear
- 8 Humane Architecture (traditional)
- 9 Outdoor Rooms
- 10 Maintenance and Safety

Thomas Hylton, [Save Our Lands Save Our Towns](#)

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“As we rush headlong into the twenty-first century, the physicality of trees seems more vital now than ever. The modern workplace and home are becoming increasingly antiseptic. Americans now spend their days staring into computer screens that receive information as if by magic. Daily life seems alarmingly virtual. Trees provide the antidote. The smell of pine needles, the crunch of autumn leaves, the roughness of bark are all reminders that we are part of nature. Tree-hugging, in the most literal sense, offers a reconnection with the physical world, the world of our forefathers. The forest and their trees are a sanctity for the spirit. To enter them is to seek renewal.”

....Trees appear frozen in time, and the invisibility of gradual change can make problems difficult to spot. The nation tends to rediscover its tree resources only in periods of

catastrophe. The rest of the time most of us motor along with indifference, leaving the issue to the government, corporations, and the permanent environmental movement. But this is a risky approach. America's forests and trees are more necessary now than ever."

American Canopy-- Trees, Forests, and the Making of a Nation by Eric Rutkow, 2012