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FLOOR DEBATE

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SENATOR STUTHMAN: All properties of the city. Then it would realistically not be private property adjacent to a project that they're maybe going to have a playground or something like this? This is what I would envision this to be, of what to plant, what to remove in something like this. Would this...would this constitute creating a district like that?

SENATOR PRICE: Sir, I believe I misspoke. It is all properties in the city. Is that how you heard that?

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Yes, I was wondering, you know, does it include the private property? Does that mean that if I have a tree that needs to be removed in my front yard and I want to have a new tree planted there, I can get my neighbors together and create a tree-planting district and then every one of my neighbors would be assessed an amount that would have to help me pay for my tree and replace my tree that would benefit just one individual, and the amount of money would be assessed to your district or ever how that is created? That's a concern of mine. You know, this looks really gray to me.

SENATOR PRICE: The trees, the brand new trees, that would be planted would be planted by the city. They'd be eight- to ten-foot trees, and they would be removed by the city as the city needs to remove trees.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Yes, I do see that, and I thank you for your answer. But the question that I have is, you know, are the trees in a city on private property, are those the property of the city? Are they the property and the responsibility of the individual that owns the property? If a tree needs to be removed or it falls down on the street, who's the one today that's really realistically responsible for that tree as to where, you know, who has to pay for it? I don't know. I don't know what the regulations are right now. And thing that I concern...I'm really concerned about is, you know, are we going to create a district? Who's going to create the district and are there going to be people that are going to be assessed a tax that is going to be utilized for improving somebody's property other than all of the individuals' property?