



PORTLAND PARKS & RECREATION SM

Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland



Urban Forestry Trust Fund Report Fiscal Year 2016-17

November 2017



Third grade students at Parklane Elementary put mulch around their newly planted tree.

With the implementation of Title 11, Trees in 2015, two new funds were established: The Tree Planting and Preservation Fund and the Urban Forestry Fund. Both are administered by the City Forester, are independent of the general fund, and any fund balance is carried forward into subsequent fiscal years. The City Forester is required to provide City Council and the Urban Forestry Commission with an annual report on fund revenue, expenses, and fiscal year end balances.

Tree Planting and Preservation Fund

The Tree Planting and Preservation Fund enables the City Forester to mitigate for lost canopy as a result of unmet tree preservation or planting standards. Fund contributions come from several sources:

- Payment made in lieu of tree replacement as part of a tree permit issued as stated in Title 11 Chapter 11.40;
- Payment made in lieu of preservation or planting where site or street characteristics or construction requirements make it infeasible to meet the requirements of Chapter 11.50;
- Payment of restoration fees for enforcement actions for private trees; and
- Voluntary contributions.

Title 11 outlines the following allowable uses for the Tree Planting and Preservation Fund:

- To plant trees on public or private property, including streets, in the same watershed as the site from which the funds were collected. Planting trees includes the cost of materials and labor necessary to install and establish a tree for a two-year period;
- To purchase conservation easements for the perpetual retention of trees and tree canopy. Such conservation easements shall allow the City to replace trees that are removed when they die or become dangerous; and
- To acquire land to permanently protect existing trees or groves.



A ceremonial elm tree planting in honor of Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month on the South Park Blocks.

Tree Planting and Preservation Fund	
Beginning FY 17 Balance	\$984,892
Total Revenue	\$736,230
Fees-in-lieu of planting and preservation	\$726,480
Penalties	\$9,750
Total Expenses	\$202,054
Planting	\$79,924
Watering and establishment	\$28,251
Tree Planting Strategy development	\$93,879
Ending FY17 Balance	\$1,519,068

Per Title 11 requirements, revenue collected is to be spent in the watershed in which it was generated. Using permit data from January 2015-July 2016, the current allocation is: Columbia Slough 19%, Willamette 56%, Johnson Creek 17%, and Tryon and Fanno Creek 8%. Allocations will be updated on a three-year cycle. Expenses with city-wide benefit, such as development of the Tree Planting Strategy, are distributed across all watersheds.

Expenditures

Park Tree Planting

PP&R plants trees at both developed parks and natural areas. In developed parks, large-caliper trees are planted for their immediate impact and resilience to vandalism. In natural areas, PP&R plants native trees as part of larger natural area restoration efforts.

Trees planted in developed parks: 120

Trees planted in natural areas: 1,935

Learning Landscapes Tree Planting

PP&R partners with volunteers to plant trees at schools and in community spaces via the Learning Landscapes program. Students, teachers, and community members work together to select sites and species. On planting day, students and volunteers gather to dig holes, plant, water, and name their trees.

Trees planted: 61

Trees planted in low canopy neighborhoods: 82%

Students participating: 556

Community volunteers: 128

Watering and establishment care

Newly planted trees require a minimum of two years of establishment care, including weekly watering during dry months, mulching, and staking. PP&R Urban Forestry tree establishers visit trees weekly June through September to care for and monitor young trees planted at parks, schools, and other community spaces. Restoration plantings generally do not receive establishment care.

Trees provided establishment care: 380

Tree Planting Strategy Development

Portland's existing tree canopy is not equitably distributed throughout the city: lower income neighborhoods have significantly lower tree canopy coverage and fewer street trees than other neighborhoods.



Volunteers assist with a restoration tree planting at Powell Butte Natural Area.



FY17 Learning Landscape locations included Alliance High School at Meek Floyd Light Park, Forest Park Elementary, Llewellyn Elementary, Lynch View Elementary, Parklane/Oliver Elementary, Roseway Park Blocks, Vernon School (above) and Wellington Park.

In order to better provide equitable access to trees and improve planting efforts, PP&R contracted with Portland State University to develop a Citywide Tree Planting Strategy. The project seeks to identify barriers, challenges, and opportunities to tree planting in underserved areas of the City and create an interactive map that identifies plantable areas based on City and community priorities. The final report will be available in spring 2018 and will guide future planting efforts and expenditures of the Tree Planting and Preservation Fund.



Left: A Community Advisory Committee reviews all aspects of the Citywide Tree Planting Strategy. Committee members represent low-canopy and low-income areas of the city. Right: Five culturally specific focus groups were conducted to identify barriers and opportunities in tree planting, including this focus group with African immigrants and refugees.

Urban Forestry Fund

Restoration fees, civil penalties, or civil remedies resulting from City or street tree enforcement actions are paid into the Urban Forestry Fund. The purpose of the fund is to enhance the urban forest through the planting of street or City trees, and to increase public awareness of trees, tree care, and the values of the urban forest.

Title 11 outlines the following allowable uses for the Urban Forestry Fund:

- To replace, establish, and maintain street or City trees illegally removed or damaged;
- To plant, establish and maintain street or City trees wherethey will enhance the values of the urban forest;
- To provide education, outreach and technical assistance to the community; and
- Other forestry-related actions or programs, as determined by the City Forester.

Urban Forestry Fund Beginning FY17 Balance	\$11,650
Total Revenue	\$55,339
Total Expenses	\$0
Ending FY17 Balance	\$66,989

Portland Parks & Recreation Urban Forestry
1900 SW 4th Avenue, Portland, OR 97201
Portland, OR 97201
Tel: (503) 823-8733

portlandparks.org
Commissioner Amanda Fritz
Director Mike Abbate



Sustaining a healthy park and recreation system to make Portland a great place to live, work and play.