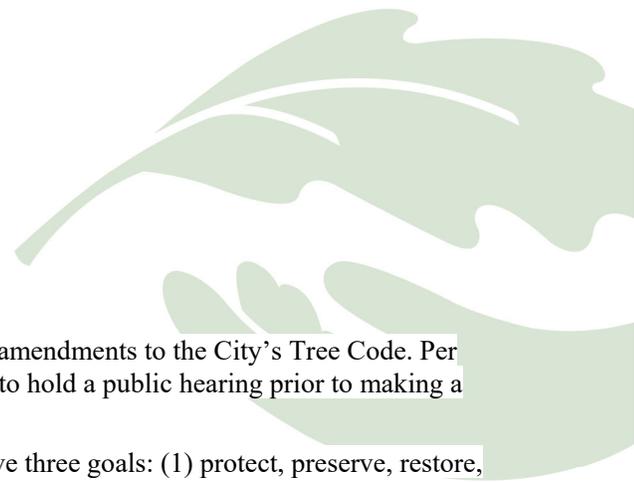




# PORTLAND PARKS & RECREATION <sup>SM</sup>

Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland

**Date:** March 21, 2019  
**To:** Urban Forestry Commission  
**From:** Angie DiSalvo  
**CC:** Jenn Cairo, Brian Landoe  
**Subject:** Proposed Amendments to Title 11 Trees



Thank you for the opportunity to brief you on two proposed amendments to the City’s Tree Code. Per Title 11.10.040, the Urban Forestry Commission is required to hold a public hearing prior to making a recommendation on changes to the Title.

The Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) seeks to achieve three goals: (1) protect, preserve, restore, and expand Portland’s urban forest; (2) promote stewardship of the urban forest; and (3) provide equitable urban forest benefits for all residents of the city. The purpose of the proposed amendments is to create a stronger nexus between the outcomes envisioned by the UFMP and the resources provided by Title 11, which is itself a primary implementation measure of the UFMP.

Both amendments alter City Code governing the use of the Tree Planting and Preservation Fund (TPPF), which enables the City Forester to mitigate for lost canopy as a result of unmet tree preservation or planting standards. The TPPF is Urban Forestry’s sole funding source dedicated to tree planting.

The table below summarizes the proposed changes:

Proposed Amendment	Code Section(s)	Purpose
Removes language which requires the Tree Planting and Preservation Fund to be spent in the same watershed from which the funds were received.	11.15.010.B 11.15.010.C 11.15.040.A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responds to the 2017 City Auditor’s report on Title 11 implementation which advised the watershed requirement “could perpetuate existing tree canopy inequities.”</li> <li>• Provides necessary flexibility to address the environmental justice issue of tree canopy disparity and UFMP goal of equitable urban forest benefits for all residents.</li> <li>• Allows Urban Forestry to focus efforts according to the Citywide Tree Planting Strategy which prioritizes planting in low-income and low-canopy areas of the city.</li> </ul>
Extends the period for which the Tree Planting and Preservation Fund can be used to water and establish newly planted trees from two years to five years.	11.15.010.B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responds to Portland’s changing climate which is resulting in longer, hotter, and drier summers. The two-year restriction results in higher mortality and subsequent loss of significant investment.</li> <li>• Enables the City to more fully realize returns on its tree planting investments.</li> </ul>

At the end of the March 21<sup>st</sup> public hearing, it is expected that the UFC will make a recommendation on the proposed changes. The amendments are currently scheduled to be considered by City Council on April 24, 2019.

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