



URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

July 18, 2019

City Hall, Lovejoy Room

Commission Members present:	Chair Vivek Shandas, Vice Chair Barbara Hollenbeck, Gregg Everhart, Brian French, Lorena Nascimento, Bruce Nelson, Daniel Newberry, Damon Schrosk, Thuy Tu, Megan Van de Mark
Commission Members absent:	Anjeanette Brown
Urban Forestry staff present:	Jenn Cairo, City Forester; Brian Landoe, Analyst I
City staff present:	Tony Garcia, City Attorney's Office; Phil Nameny, BPS; Bill Cunningham, BPS

Public Comments

- Gregg Everhart expressed the significant support she observed to preserve the five Heritage Trees at 230 SW 2nd Ave. More than 250 individuals signed a petition at a showing of Canopy Stories opposing the delisting. Gregg also shared her disappointment at the lack of advance notice provided to the UFC ahead of the public hearing and the Council ordinance
- Doug Klotz provided comment in support of planting more trees at intersections. Mr. Klotz noted that given the many space conflicts in the right-of-way that prevent trees from being planted, allowing planting closer to intersections would allow for greater canopy and provide shade.

Forestry Report – Jenn Cairo, City Forester

- UF staff are working on the concerns raised about the Lovejoy Room's poor acoustics and general accessibility, which may include moving meetings to a new space.
- Responsibility for responding to tree emergencies has been successfully shifted from UF Tree Inspectors to UF Operations.
- On July 1st, 2019, the new Trees Fee Schedule went into effect. The online permit portal is also now available. Users can now apply for tree removal/replanting, root pruning, and pruning permits online.
- PBOT's Streets 2035 project is underway and Jenn is serving on the Technical Advisory Committee. More information will be shared with the Commission when available.
- The public outreach component of the Street Tree Task Force is being subsumed by the bureau wide Sustainable Futures project focused on identifying alternative and long-term funding sources for PP&R. The technical consultant work by Davey Resources Group to assess the cost of the City assuming responsibility for street trees will continue. This analysis will inform the Sustainable Futures project.

Urban Forestry Commission

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- Vivek Shandas has been appointed to the Alternative Funding Task Force which will advise PP&R on potential new funding options.
- The City Council Work Session on this issue is scheduled for November 19th.

Large Tree Amendment Next Steps – Vivek Shandas, UFC Chair

- Vivek led a brief discussion on the briefing provided by BDS staff at the June 2019 meeting.
- The Commission concluded that additional data is needed in order to assess the full impact of the code amendment. In the interim, given the urgent need to protect large trees in development situations, the Commission recommended extending the sunset clause to December 31, 2021.
- Bruce Nelson provided the motion to extend the sunset clause by two years. Barbara seconded.
 - Yay: Vivek Shandas, Barbara Hollenbeck, Gregg Everhart, Brian French, Lorena Nascimento, Bruce Nelson, Daniel Newberry, Damon Schrosk, Thuy Tu, Megan Van de Mark
 - Nay: None

Review and Approve Minutes*

- Barbara motioned to approve the minutes. Damon seconded.
 - Yay: Vivek Shandas, Barbara Hollenbeck, Gregg Everhart, Brian French, Lorena Nascimento, Bruce Nelson, Daniel Newberry, Damon Schrosk, Thuy Tu, Megan Van de Mark
 - Nay: None

Design Overlay Zone Amendment – Phil Nameny, BPS

- The DOZA project updates the rules and processes for Portland’s d-overly and design review program, which provides additional guidance for development projects in areas where design and neighborhood character are of special concern.
- Portland will grow by 123,000 households by 2035. Much of that growth will be in areas subject to the Design overlay zone, as 61% of projected housing units will be in mixed use/commercial or multi-dwelling zones within the d-overlay.
- Phil briefed the Commission on the tools proposed in DOZA to encourage tree preservation, native planting, planting of groups of trees in East Portland, and a potential proposal to encourage additional trees along civic corridors with setback requirements.
- The Commission generally felt that the language in DOZA of “encouraging” tree preservation was not sufficient. The project should focus more on creating and preserving sufficient space for trees to grow. The use of performance bonds to guarantee tree preservation as part of land use review was also discussed.
- Several Commissioners also expressed that the information provided by BPS could be clearer for the general public to understand.

Better Housing by Design – Bill Cunningham, BPS

- Bill Cunningham returned to the Commission to provide an update on the project
- The Recommended Draft will be release in August 2019 and it will include many of the recommendations supported and/or proposed by the UFC.
 - Tree preservation transfer of development rights
 - Requirements for outdoor common areas
 - Limitations on large parking lots
 - Front setbacks and limits on driveways/curb cuts
 - East Portland provisions for keeping centers of blocks greener and less built up
- A City Council hearing on the Recommended Draft is planned for October 2019.

The meeting was adjourned at Noon.