

Portland Streetcar Programmatic
Permit Through FY 2017/18
Appendix B

General	
Title: Tree Pruning Protocols (OCS & Right of Way)	SOP # 610
Date: 10/5/2016	Page 1 of 2

Purpose:

The City of Portland, PBOT/Portland Streetcar (PSC) Maintenance Dept. is responsible for all maintenance of track, signals, electrification, and all associated structures included in the PSC right-of-way.

PSC is responsible for maintaining proper safe clearance of trees along our 750VDC overhead catenary system (OCS), associated support wires/poles, and right of way adjacent to our track.

PSC has requested a programmatic permit from the City of Portland, Parks & Recreation Urban Forestry department, allowing PSC and qualified contracted arborists to trim trees along the PSC OCS and right-of-way. The purpose of obtaining the permit is to facilitate tree pruning only. PSC will obtain specific necessary permits when and if removal and/or replacement of a tree is needed due to age and/or disease.

In general, tree pruning standards and protocols PSC shall follow, are:

- Pruning shall be by qualified personnel in conformance with ANSI A300 pruning standards.
- Notification and courtesy shall be extended to adjacent property owners and businesses when necessary.
- Traffic control plans and parking permits will be obtained as needed.

Clearance Requirements:

Desired minimum safe clearance between foliage and the PSC OCS is as follows:

- Energized contact wires – 10' Minimum.
- Pole-top switches – 5' Minimum.
- Non-energized support wires – 1' minimum.

Other desired minimum clearances:

- Streetcar carbody clearance – 5'
- Structures – 5'
- Outside lighting – 5'

Arboricultural Requirements:

All work shall conform to the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Standard Practices for Tree Care Operations - Tree, Shrub, and Other Woody Plant maintenance (ANSI A300), which includes the following definitions:

- **Crown cleaning** – Selective removal of one or more of the following items: dead, dying, or diseased branches, weak branches and water sprouts.
- **Crown thinning** – Selective removal of branches to increase light penetration, air movement, and reduce weight.
- **Crown raising** – Lifting of canopy to obtain 7 ½' of clearance above sidewalks and 14' of clearance above streets.

Permitting and Notification Protocols:

- **Track Safety Training** – All personnel working on or near the right-of-way will be qualified, including flagging and traffic control personnel, and have attended track safety training from PSC prior to beginning operations.
- **EHAP Training** – In order to work around energized lines, all tree pruners must have completed Electrical Hazards Awareness Training (EHAP) or equivalent.
- **Traffic Control Plans and Parking Permits** – Traffic Control Plans will be developed and submitted for City approval before beginning work, whenever tree pruning operations require street travel lanes to be occupied. Parking permits will be obtained before beginning work for any tree pruning vehicles needing to occupy metered or non-metered spaces.
- **Prior Notice to Adjacent Property Owners / Businesses** – All adjacent property owners or businesses affected by tree pruning operations will receive courtesy notification by door hanger, flyer, or letter, prior to beginning work.
- **Holiday Lighting Removal** – When necessary, any trees having holiday lighting will have lighting removed before pruning. Notice of lighting removal & replacement shall be included in courtesy notifications of appropriate property owner.
- **Emergency Vehicles (Police, Fire, Ambulance)** – Emergency vehicles have priority when responding to a call. Tree pruning workers and vehicles will yield the right-of-way.