

PRESENTATION ON  
PROPOSED HERITAGE TREES TO  
THE CITY COUNCIL BY  
THE URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION  
PORTLAND, OREGON

April 3, 2013

We have three candidates for Heritage Tree status to propose today: a Dawn Redwood, a Pin Oak, and a European Beech. One is on holdings of Hoyt Arboretum, and two are on private property. All were nominated by the owners, who have also signed the consent forms. One of these trees is in southwest Portland; one is in northwest Portland; and one is in north Portland. The Urban Forestry Commission unanimously approved these proposals at its regular meeting on February 21.

1. The first tree we propose be designated is a **Dawn redwood** (*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*) on S.W. Bray Lane in Hoyt Arboretum. It is near the end of this stub road and has had some competing trees cleared away—so that it stands by itself in a singular way.

While trees of this type are not uncommon in our system (four designations have been made) and all of these trees date from about the same

time (ca. 1948), this would be the tallest in our system. It is now 103' feet high, and its circumference is one of the larger (10.6'); [its crown spread is 33']. It has begun to assume a more mature form and shape, and is easy to observe from the road.

It has already been designated as a Heritage Tree by the state. It was recognized as being the first of its species to set cones in the United States since the extinction of this species in North America. Hoyt Arboretum officials believe Portland should join the state in recognizing this specimen by adding it to our system.

We believe it should be designated because of its size, type, and history. The seeds were brought over from China in 1947, after having been discovered a few years before. It had been thought to be extinct. It is one of the few species of deciduous conifers. If designated, we hope that Hoyt can make it easier for visitors to find it.

2. Our next candidate is a **Pin oak** (*Quercus palustris*) in the northwest hills at 1611 N.W. 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave, which was nominated by its owner. It is an old tree, having been planted in 1903. Some of its branches are braced with cables, having been damaged in various storms. Nonetheless, it is still growing vigorously and has an adequate crown.

Located in a corner of a front yard, it is quite visible from two adjoining streets, which intersect at that property.

Currently, we have only one other Pin oak in our system, which is in southeast Portland. This specimen exceeds its dimensions in two respects: it is taller (at 115' of height in contrast to 60' for the other) and in terms of its circumference (at 12.4' in contrast to 11.5'). Its crown spread is the same (at 75').

All who looked at it agreed it was most impressive and deserves to be in our system because of its age, size, and type. We felt that we can use more suitable specimens of this species in our system.

3. The third tree we propose designating is the **European Beech** (*Fagus sylvatica*), which is located at 4073 N. Gantenbein St. This tree is in the front yard of this property, and is easily observed. While we already have ten of this type of tree in our system, this specimen has a crown spread that exceeds that of all of the trees of this type now in our system. Its circumference also is in the middle of the range of the trees of this type in our system. The tree's dimensions are: H: 85'; C: 16.3'; and crown spread: 120'.

We felt that it merits designation because of its size. It is also

admirable because of its beauty, and deserves special protection because of the services it provides. It is a very impressive specimen.

Michael McCloskey, Chair  
Heritage Tree Committee  
Urban Forestry Commission

Portland, Oregon

## FINANCIAL IMPACT and PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT STATEMENT For Council Action Items

(Deliver original to Financial Planning Division. Retain copy.)

1. Name of Initiator Anne Kroma		2. Telephone No. 3-5396	3. Bureau/Office/Dept. Parks and Recreation
4a. To be filed (hearing date):  April 3, 2013	4b. Calendar (Check One)  Regular    Consent    4/5ths X <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		5. Date Submitted to Commissioner's office and FPD Budget Analyst: March 20, 2013
6a. Financial Impact Section: X <input type="checkbox"/> Financial impact section completed		6b. Public Involvement Section: X <input type="checkbox"/> Public involvement section completed	

**1) Legislation Title:**

Approve the designation of three trees as Portland Heritage Trees. (Ordinance)

**2) Purpose of the Proposed Legislation:**

To complete nomination process for trees worthy of recognition in the City by having them designated as Portland Heritage Trees.

**3) Which area(s) of the city are affected by this Council item? (Check all that apply—areas are based on formal neighborhood coalition boundaries)?**

- |  |                                    |                                    |                                |
|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City-wide/Regional | <input type="checkbox"/> Northeast | <input type="checkbox"/> Northwest | <input type="checkbox"/> North |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Central Northeast             | <input type="checkbox"/> Southeast | <input type="checkbox"/> Southwest | <input type="checkbox"/> East  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Central City                  |                                    |                                    |                                |

**FINANCIAL IMPACT****4) Revenue:** Will this legislation generate or reduce current or future revenue coming to the City? If so, by how much? If so, please identify the source.

No impact on current or future revenue.

**5) Expense:** What are the costs to the City as a result of this legislation? What is the source of funding for the expense? (Please include costs in the current fiscal year as well as costs in future years. If the action is related to a grant or contract please include the local contribution or match required. If there is a project estimate, please identify the *level of confidence*.)

None

**6) Staffing Requirements:**

- Will any positions be created, eliminated or re-classified in the current year as a

**result of this legislation?** *(If new positions are created please include whether they will be part-time, full-time, limited term, or permanent positions. If the position is limited term please indicate the end of the term.)* No

- Will positions be created or eliminated in *future years* as a result of this legislation?

No

*(Complete the following section only if an amendment to the budget is proposed.)*

**7) Change in Appropriations** *(If the accompanying ordinance amends the budget please reflect the dollar amount to be appropriated by this legislation. Include the appropriate cost elements that are to be loaded by accounting. Indicate "new" in Fund Center column if new center needs to be created. Use additional space if needed.)*

Fund	Fund Center	Commitment Item	Functional Area	Funded Program	Grant	Sponsored Program	Amount

**[Proceed to Public Involvement Section — REQUIRED as of July 1, 2011]**

**PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

**8) Was public involvement included in the development of this Council item (e.g. ordinance, resolution, or report)? Please check the appropriate box below:**

☒ **YES:** Please proceed to Question #9.

☐ **NO:** Please, explain why below; and proceed to Question #10.

**9) If "YES," please answer the following questions:**

**a) What impacts are anticipated in the community from this proposed Council item?** None

**b) Which community and business groups, under-represented groups, organizations, external government entities, and other interested parties were involved in this effort, and when and how were they involved?**

Heritage Tree nominations may come from an individual or neighborhood associations. They are vetted by a Committee that includes retired City staff with current and former Urban Forestry Commission members. They are considered and recommended to City Council by the Urban Forestry Commission at a public meeting.

**c) How did public involvement shape the outcome of this Council item?**

One consideration is how visible the tree is to the surrounding community.

**d) Who designed and implemented the public involvement related to this Council item?**

The Urban Forestry Commission Heritage Tree Committee

**e) Primary contact for more information on this public involvement process (name, title, phone, email):**

City Forester Jenn Cairo 503-823-4405 Jenn.Cairo@portlandoregon.gov

**10) Is any future public involvement anticipated or necessary for this Council item? Please describe why or why not.**

Citizens may become involved by using an app to locate these and other Heritage Trees and are encouraged to upload photographs of them. A dedication ceremony is planned for the Dawn redwood at Hoyt Arboretum as part of the Arbor Month celebration. Heritage Trees will be the focus of the Arbor Day Festival at the PSU Farmers Market.



Mike Abbate Parks & Recreation Director

APPROPRIATION UNIT HEAD (Typed name and signature)