

From: Jane Pullman [mailto:jane.scout@gmail.com]  
Sent: Saturday, January 09, 2016 9:39 AM  
To: Planning and Sustainability Commission <psc@portlandoregon.gov>  
Subject: Title 11 Tree Code

Dear Planning and Sustainability Commissioners:

I am an ordinary citizen who lives in close-in SE Portland. I bought my small house in the Sunnyside Neighborhood 1991 when the neighborhood was distressed. The properties immediately east and west of me are both rentals and have very large trees on them. These large trees to the west of me are cedars, maples and cherries and provide shade all summer and keep my house at least 10 degrees cooler than the outside temperature. The house to the west is in bad condition and will probably be sold when the older man who owns it dies. My biggest fear and concern is that the house will be demolished and the trees will be cut down. These trees not only provide shade for my house, thereby allowing me to live without air conditioning, but they are home to local birds and other wildlife. My neighborhood has had a large decline in birds since I moved here in 1991.

The property to the east of my house is a 4-plex that was sold just over a year ago and the new owner is rehabbing it indoors and out. There is an old, very large cedar tree in the front of the property. I overheard the new owner talking to a landscape design consultant a few weeks ago. She advised him that he could decide to take the large tree out and replace it with a smaller one. Again, this large cedar is home to birds that come into my yard to feed at my bird feeders.

The prospect exists under current tree code that ALL of the trees to my east and west could be killed to make room for development (to my west) and for updating (to my east). This would be a travesty.

We need to have a tree ordinance that takes our large trees seriously for the benefits they provide on every property and in the aggregate. We take our trees for granted, but there is no way to accurately put a monetary value on what they provide. In fact, no amount of money replaces what a large, healthy tree provides.

PLEASE TAKE OUR TREES AND THE VALUE TO OUR AIR, WATER, BIRDS, HEAT MITIGATION THEY PROVIDE. WE NEED MORE BIG TREES, NOT FEWER. PEOPLE NEED NATURE.

Thank you,  
Jane Pullman  
3423 SE Alder St  
97214