

CHANGE TREE REGS EFFECTIVE DATE TO JAN 1, 2015

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Email

NAME (print)	ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE	Email
✓ Bob Sallinger	Aurora	bsallinger@aurora-parkland.org
✓ Marget Barnett	9912 SW 25th Ave Portland 97219	mbarnett@earthlink.net
Justin We	15555 SW Beary Rd #301 Beaverton OR 97005	Justinw@hbapdx.org
✓ Linda Robinson		lvrobinspdx@comcast.net
✓ <del>Catherine Musher</del> - yes	Urban Forestry Commission	cmusher@comcast.net
✓ or Meryl Redisch		

**Moore-Love, Karla**

186053

**From:** Justin Wood [justinw@hbapdx.org]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 23, 2013 10:41 AM  
**To:** Commissioner Fritz; Commissioner Saltzman; Commissioner Fish; Hales, Charlie; Commissioner Novick  
**Cc:** Grumm, Matt; McNamara, Ed; Moore-Love, Karla; Esau, Rebecca  
**Subject:** HBA Tree Code Comments

Good Morning Mr. Mayor and members of Council. I signed up to testify yesterday on the proposed delayed implementation of the tree code but due to a conflict was not able to stay to the point when it reached discussion on the agenda. I wanted to take just a minute of your time and share a couple of my thoughts before you vote on this issue and the proposed amendment next week.

Several members of the HBA and the development community including myself worked hard on this tree code and believe that the finished product was the result of hard work from many different stakeholders. I believe that the finished product was one that most stakeholders were satisfied with. When the tree code was first brought before the task force working on it and subsequent review committees such as DRAC, the implementation component of the tree code was understood to be funded partly by developer fees and partly by general fund money. The general fund money was needed to pay for implementation of public and neighborhood services not related to the development side of the code. The proposed fee that was agreed upon was the development side of the tree code was somewhere in the neighborhood of \$65 for review. In subsequent meetings since passage of the tree code fees have climbed to projections of several hundred dollars to implement the tree code without any general fund support.

The tree code was never intended to be fully funded by development and for a matter of equity it should not be. Developers are willing to pay for services needed by building and development but services needed by the general public should be funded by the public or the general fund until such time as the fees from the public can sustain the needed services.

I am a believer in the tree code that we crafted and I do support its implementation. That said I understand that this is a tough time for programs in need of general fund money. When many programs and services are trying to figure out ways to survive needed cuts, it does not seem practical to add programs which will further tax the general fund. I therefore ask the council to support the staff recommendation of delayed implementation until January 2015 with the hopes that the economic picture will continue to improve and additional funding options may become available.

I also support Commissioner Saltzman's amendment asking for the involved bureaus to prepare a budget and staffing implementation plan by December 18<sup>th</sup> of 2013. If we are ever going to get this code off the ground then at some point we are going to have to try and figure out a fair and equitable way to fund it so that it can move forward.

Thank you for your time and please enjoy your Memorial Day Weekend.

**Justin Wood**

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