Agenda Item 460

TESTIMONY

9:45 AM TIME CERTAIN

# STREET TREE INVENTORY REPORT

IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO CITY COUNCIL, PRINT YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AND EMAIL.

	NAME (PRINT)	ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE (Optional)	Email <i>(Optional)</i>
V	Doug Klotz	1908 SE 35+4 PI- 97214	dougurb @ g inail.com
$\checkmark$	Vivek Shandas, PSU	506 SW Millst 97201	vshandersequer ! ion
~	Barbara Wharton	5409 NE 35 Ave 97211	V
v	BRIAN STMES	4905 N.E 30 TH AVE	symesarchitect
	DANIEL NEWBERRY	FROATST 13338 SE CORA ST PDX 97236	dnewberry @jeffnet.ovg
$\checkmark$	Elizabeth Hilde	3RAND 4324 NE 26 AVE 9721	)
V	SOUTT FOGARTY		Sottf@Findsoffee.019
~	Mary Vogel		mary@plangreen.net
V	MidaetBURROW		Wedeldy Mail.com

Date 05-10-2017

Page \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_

Q

Doug Klotz 1908 SE 35<sup>th</sup> Pl. Portland, OR 97214 5-10-17

Mayor Ted Wheeler and Commissioners:

I support the Street Tree Asset Management Strategy:

Trees in the right of way are a very important aspect of an urban environment, one that becomes increasingly more valuable as the city grows and we have higher lot coverage in the Central City and in Centers and Corridors.

The city has a valuable asset in the existing street trees in our public rights of way, and we need to ensure that we maintain that asset.

In addition, we need better coordination, and perhaps re-examining some standards and practices, to make sure we get adequate tree coverage with new construction. Quite a few new buildings downtown and in the Pearl District have no trees at all for 100' at a time, or one tree for an entire quarter-block building. Locations of vaults, meters and street lighting should be studies and optimized for tree locations.

Trees are valuable for oxygen production, rainwater absorption, cooling the sidewalks, and providing a comfortable environment for pedestrians. This Strategy will ensure that we improve tree outcomes in Portland.

Thank you.

Jong Klog

Doug Klotz

From: Sent:	Jeffrey King <jkingeca@gmail.com> Wednesday, May 10, 2017 12:20 PM</jkingeca@gmail.com>
To:	Council Clerk – Testimony
Cc:	Planning and Sustainability Commission; Landoe, Brian; Anderson, Susan; Treat, Leah; michael.jordan@portlandoregon.gov
Subject:	Proposed development of a Street Tree Asset Management Strategy

Dear Commissioners,

I strongly support the Urban Forestry Commission proposal to establish an inter-bureau/community stakeholder effort to develop a Street Tree Asset Management Strategy. As a homeowner with street trees, a member of the Beaumont-Wilshire neighborhood "Tree Team" and having participated in the City's street tree inventory over the past several years, I have become increasingly aware of the conflicting impact of current city policies on the maintenance and expansion of the City's forest cover, even as the importance of the urban forest to meeting the City's climate action goals has become increasingly evident. Of particular significance are the near complete lack of support for planting and maintenance of trees in the city right-of-way, and the perverse effect of policies such as leaf cleanup charges in neighborhoods populated by large mature trees. These policies suppress tree planting, create reluctance to planting large-form trees where appropriate to the site and encourage replacement of large-form trees by smaller species. Current policy particularly burdens less affluent neighborhoods.

For these reasons, I urge the Council to support the establishment of the proposed effort to develop a Street Tree Asset Management Strategy.

Sincerely,

Jeff King

3828 NE Alameda St.

Jeffrey C. King jkingeca@gmail.com

From:	mvogelpnw@gmail.com on behalf of Mary Vogel <mary@plangreen.net></mary@plangreen.net>
Sent:	Wednesday, May 10, 2017 12:08 PM
То:	Council Clerk – Testimony
Cc:	Abbate, Mike; Cairo, Jenn; DiSalvo, Angie; Chomowicz, Amy; Jeff Speck
Subject:	Oral testimony Street Tree ROW Strategy
Attachments:	OralTestimonyMary VogelOregonWalks5-10-17.docx

### Oral Testimony of Mary Vogel/Oregon Walks - re: Street Tree Right of Way Strategy 5-10-17

I'm Mary Vogel with Oregon Walks. Our testimony was already submitted with our offer to participate on the ROW strategy development. So today, I'll only highlight my own experience. I also participated in the Inventory for Downtown and I've been testifying to the Planning and Sustainability Commission about the need for more street trees Downtown for the last 4 years re: CC 2035 and the West Quadrant Plan.

While we feel strongly about equity and strongly about the need to improve trees in far eastside neighborhoods, we do want to remind you that equity and street trees is not only an eastside issue. According to the PSU study cited by Vivek Shandas, both Downtown and Old Town also have low street trees and a high proportion of low-income people, so we hope that Downtown and Old Town will be part of the targeted area too.

A major principal in stream restoration is "Protect the Headwaters First!" By analogy, in what is becoming the bible for walkability for cities across the US, Jeff Speck chose as his subtitle for his book **Walkable City: HOW DOWNTOWN CAN HELP SAVE AMERICA ONE STEP AT A TIME.** Please don't leave your central city low-income neighborhoods out of Urban Forestry's targeted strategy. Start with the headwaters first! Make our Downtown and Old Town more walkable too!

## Mary Vogel, CNU-A

# PlanGreen: K

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Blog: <u>PlanGreen's City Council Priorities - Fossil Fuels and Housing</u> Follow <u>PlanGreen's Facebook page events and commentary</u>

#### **Oral Testimony of Mary Vogel/Oregon Walks - re: Street Tree Right of Way Strategy** 5-10-17

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From: Sent:	Eileen <eileen@sngdesign.net> Wednesday, May 10, 2017 8:49 AM</eileen@sngdesign.net>
To:	Council Clerk – Testimony; Planning and Sustainability Commission; Landoe, Brian; City
10.	Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero; Anderson, Susan; Treat, Leah;
	michael.jordan@portlandoregon.gov
Subject:	Management of "Street Trees"

Dear Portland City Leadership:

As a Portland resident and conservationist, I strongly urge you to support the Urban Forestry Commission's "Portland Street/Right-of-Way tree Asset Management Strategy."

Clearly, there are insidious threats to the preservation and growth of large, healthy street trees that are so essential to the health of the city's residents, no matter their species. Portland is losing a great number of street trees to "improvement" and development projects due to code requirements that actually sometimes force tree removal. And, the lack of a City street tree maintenance program is a hinderance to planting and caring for new trees. We can do much better!

We need to develop strategies that provide for the equitable stewardship and maintenance of valuable street and right-of-way trees. *Every* neighborhood ought to have healthy and abundant street trees. Research shows that urban tree canopies mitigate pollution and the urban heat island effect, improve human health, and provide essential wildlife habitat, among countless other benefits.

Street improvement and new development projects must better preserve street trees, and make space for new trees—including and especially large trees. The Council needs to redo parking and vehicle access requirements and other policies that place polluting cars and driving over the lives of trees! There also ought to be public notice for the planned destruction of all street trees, just as there is for trees on private land. As the City moves toward a renewable future, certainly trees ought to be an extremely high priority, not simply ornamentation!

If we do not move to address the threats to street trees today, we will step backwards, losing more trees and the opportunity to plant new ones. City bureaus and community stakeholders need to work together to address these issues and come up with recommended reforms, programmatic changes, and funding options. Street trees are everyone's responsibility.

#### Sincerely,

Eileen M. Stark landscape designer |author 503.467.8545 <u>Second Nature Garden Design</u> | <u>Real Gardens Grow Natives</u> | <u>facebook.com</u> Portland, Oregon

From:	Tyler Wagner <thwagner213@gmail.com></thwagner213@gmail.com>
Sent:	Tuesday, May 09, 2017 10:23 PM
То:	Council Clerk – Testimony
Subject:	Support of Portland Street Trees/Right-of way Tree Management Strategy

Dear City Council Members,

I ask that you develop strategies to provide for the equitable stewardship and maintenance our valuable street and rightof-way trees. Research demonstrates the health and social benefits of having trees and this should be available to all people in Portland.

Growing up in Eugene for most of my life and living in Portland for the past two years, I have loved the tree canopy that exists in our city and feel the positive effects of the trees that the research demonstrates. Yet I have seen neighborhoods where many trees are being removed for development. I also spent a year working in East Portland during an AmeriCorps year and saw the inequitable distribution of trees in our city.

I also ask that street improvement and new development projects need to better preserve street trees, make space for new trees, including large trees, and put trees on a level playing field. The burden to find available and often feasible alternatives to cutting trees needs to be set higher. Street trees in less affluent neighborhoods with fewer improved street trees should not have to fight more and harder to preserve their street trees.

If we do not act on this now, we will lose part of what makes Portland such a great city to live in and miss out on an opportunity to even improve on that in an equitable way.

City bureaus and community stakeholders need to work together to address these issues and come up with recommended reforms, programmatic changes, and funding options. Street trees are not just a nice bonus: they are an essential part of our public right-of-ways and every City bureau's responsibility! Thank you for the work that you are doing and I hope to watch you support the Urban Forestry Commission's Portland Street Trees/Right-of-way Tree Asset Management Strategy.

Tyler Wagner St. Ignatius Ecojustice Fellow 503-777-1491 thwagner213@gmail.com

From:	Robert Bernstein <bobbo1946@yahoo.com></bobbo1946@yahoo.com>
Sent:	Tuesday, May 09, 2017 9:22 PM
То:	Council Clerk – Testimony; Planning and Sustainability Commission; Landoe, Brian
Cc:	City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero; Treat, Leah; michael.jordan@portlandoregon.gov
Subject:	Urban Forestry Commission Proposal

Portland is losing it's larger trees. Some to age, some to Developers, storms, drought/climate change. The Urban Forest needs our care.

Without it we will be noisier, hotter, more polluted, less biologically diverse and ugly.

My wife and support the Urban Forestry Commission's proposal for convening a Task Force aimed at developing a broad plan for the care, maintenance and renewal of our Urban canopy.

Trees need to be an integral priority to ANY and all planning. Not an afterthought. All City Bureaus need to be brought into compliance with a Code that sets trees as an important part of how the City does its business. The smaller types of ornamental trees often planted are simply not the equivalent of the multi-canopied mature trees that we are losing. They offer little of the benefits of their larger brethren. It is ludicrous to think otherwise.

Stewardship strategies should be developed that benefit homeowners, trees and our City as a whole.

Respectfully, Robert B. Bernstein Laura Webb 7415 SE Main St. Portland, OR 97215

From:	barbara wharton <barbaralwharton@yahoo.com></barbaralwharton@yahoo.com>
Sent:	Tuesday, May 09, 2017 4:37 PM
То:	Council Clerk – Testimony
Subject:	Fw: City Council Testimony for 5-10-2017 session Street Trees

I am writing to provide testimony to the Urban Forestry Commissions "Portland Street/Right of Way Tree Asset Management Strategy".

I have been an active Portland Tree Steward for the past 8 years, as well as a Concordia Tree Team Member. I am also a Portland Arbor Day planning committee member for the past two years. I have seen many successfu efforts city wide as they relate to our Urban Forest, but see many opportunities not yet seized, that can and should be.

Most significant, citing my own neighborhood as an example, is the impact of development on the overall health of the urban forest. I understand and embrace the concepts of infill and increased density within the inner neighborhoods. I observe that while mature trees must often be removed to accommodate growth, we are failing in almost all development projects to plant a tree that is suitable to the space available, and an investment in the property just as the structure is. My observations are that with very little effort we can overcome this shortcoming. We have the knowledge at the city level for successful plantings at the time the opportunity presents itself. It requires little to no financial resources to be successful, only the will to achieve.

Secondly with the street tree inventory in hand we have a clear picture of which of our neighborhoods offer the greatest opportunity to expand the growth of the Urban Forest and bring an equitable benefit to the entire city.

Please approve the effort to come together and develop strategies to move to an optimal urban forestry outcome throughout Portland. With the data in hand, now is the time.

Thank you

Barbara Wharton 5409 NE 35<sup>th</sup> Ave Portland, OR 97211 503-915-6408

From: Sent:	Laura Paulini <laurapaulini@yahoo.com> Tuesday, May 09, 2017 3:55 PM</laurapaulini@yahoo.com>
То:	Council Clerk – Testimony; Planning and Sustainability Commission; Landoe, Brian; City
	Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero; Anderson, Susan; Treat, Leah; michael.jordan@portlandoregon.gov
Cc:	Laura Paulini
Subject:	[Approved Sender] Let's Rethink Our Management of "Street Trees": We Can Do Better!

Dear Portland City Leadership,

As a fairly new resident of Portland, I was perplexed to learn that the City of Portland does not have dedicated crews responsible for the care and maintenance of trees in its planting strips and roadways. I have lived in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and Madison, Wisconsin; Armonk, New York and Brooklyn, New York; Taipei, Taiwan; Berkeley, California and Albany, California. Never before have I lived in a city without dedicated city-employee crew(s) in charge of the street trees.

While Portland is blessed with an abundance of large trees planted by forward-thinking individuals during its initial urban development 100 years ago, when one looks closely it's apparent that the health and beauty of those old trees is compromised. It is also apparent that not enough new trees are being planted now. The results of the recent tree inventory undertaken by Parks & Rec clearly bears this out.

After the storms this fall and winter, I watched many trucks from private landscaping and arborist companies scrambling to work on trees. Many times, these private companies hired by individual property owners were working on trees at adjoining properties on the same street at the same time. (!) I also noticed that in the less affluent neighborhoods of the city, many damaged trees and downed limbs were left untended for weeks - even months - afterward. For me, this evidenced just how inefficient and inequitable the current system is.

Might having a set maintenance schedule and crews of trained personnel to attend to all street trees city-wide in an equitable and in timely manner — whether for routine pruning or for post-storm damage assessment and clean up — be a more logical and cost-effective system? Could this change also lessen the reluctance (even fear) many neighbors express about planting trees they are solely responsible for in their planting strips?

I strongly encourage the City of Portland to develop a system which would provide for the equitable stewardship and maintenance of our valuable street trees, preserving the old and planting the new. Portland is a very beautiful and health-conscious city. Its trees deserve credit for being one of the main reasons this is so. Let's show our appreciation — and wisdom — by caring for them well as we work to increase their numbers and variety.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Laura Paulini

From: Sent:	Lorna Lyons <lorna.lyons@gmail.com> Tuesday, May 09, 2017 3:38 PM</lorna.lyons@gmail.com>
То:	Council Clerk – Testimony; Planning and Sustainability Commission; Landoe, Brian; City
	Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero; Anderson, Susan; Treat, Leah
Subject:	Print & Distribute in Support of Portland Street/ Right of Way Tree Asset Management
	Strategy

I live here in Portland and have already submitted comments for tomorrow's meeting. This morning Wired Magazine posted an article outlining the new science proving that loss of street trees has been directly linked to loss of human life.

I encourage you to read it prior to the vote. Preview attachment WIRED Kill Tree Kill Self. JPG

WIRED Kill Tree Kill Self.JPG 109 KB

In appreciation... Lorna

Lorna Lyons, Energy Coach 2035 NW 29th #3 Portland OR 97210 Rekindle your Calling & Personal Energy Upgrades

Cell: 617.549.9045 Web: Lornalyons.com Skype: Iplyons

Change is inevitable, but personal growth is a choice. Bob Proctor

"There is almost a sensual longing for communion with others who have a larger vision. The immense fulfillment of the friendships between those engaged in furthering the evolution of consciousness has a quality almost impossible to describe." Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

From:	
Sent:	
To:	
Subject:	

Donna Richards <webbed@msn.com> Tuesday, May 09, 2017 2:51 PM Council Clerk – Testimony Keeping the quality of our trees in tact

The reason I live in Portland is because we so often do the right thing. Unfortunately some of our polluting companies haven't been as concerned about our city's livability. We need to work our hardest to keep the tree population healthy and increase our planting. With the incredible "Friends of Trees" it should be a no brainer. Please make us all proud with your legislation on this matter. Donna Richards

1534 NE 26th Ave. 5 Portland, Or. 97232

From: Sent:	Lisa Skube <lisa@journalismaccelerator.com> Tuesday, May 09, 2017 2:19 PM</lisa@journalismaccelerator.com>
То:	Council Clerk – Testimony; Planning and Sustainability Commission; City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero; Anderson, Susan; Treat, Leah; michael.jordan@portlandoregon.gov
Cc:	Cairo, Jenn; Landoe, Brian; Carol; Vivek Shandas
Subject:	Citywide Tree Inventory & Future Steps
Attachments:	Reckless development + insta house out of character.JPG; Reckless Development =.JPG; full shot of trees looking down at them SW 3rd 2011.JPG; photo (75).JPG; 2011 Wooded Corner Lot 7209 SW 3rd.JPG; tree down to needles.jpg; Sept 3-2014.JPG; IMG_7201.JPG; signage before building began.PNG; 2011 Beauty 150 footer SW Nevada Place & SW 3rd 2014 DEAD.JPG; 7210 SW 3rd IMAGE SERIES lot and SEVEN TREES now GONE-under a year SW 3rd.pdf

Greetings and thank you for the opportunity to weigh in on the moment at hand, as tomorrow the City Council will receive a presentation on the Citywide Tree Inventory with additional activities slated in support of steps to come.

I cannot urge strongly enough these points, supporting an approach to administering policy. **But this? Is more than that.** There are no Portland B's - we've got one Portland. One shot, now that development is fully throttled in every nook and cranny of our city. That we administer in the spirit of the city's legacy, the opportunity of stewardship and keeping a long view on our city's vitality, vibrancy and resilience. If we undercut the system that makes Portland, Portland. Our city's first defense, nature, will fail.

1. Develop strategies to provide for the equitable stewardship and maintenance our valuable street and right-of-way trees. You should not have to live in an affluent neighborhood to have healthy and abundant street trees. Research indicates urban tree canopy mitigate pollution and urban heat island and improve health outcomes.

And the neighborhoods with these existing assets, NOT THE FIRST to lose all their "forested" assets, as it seems, by zip code, would be the case...

Or not giving existing neighborhoods ENOUGH NOTICE on hasty removals of our right to our existing "forested" assets (see attached) - my neighborhood HAS BEEN DECIMATED, species of birds that once migrated here? Aren't coming anymore. We lost a pairing of small screech owls, we have ZERO remediation or proper offsets, city trees lost (nearly half a dozen) - the largest easily at 150 foot height, another red wood 64" in diameter removed needlessly.

2. Street improvement and new development projects need to better preserve street trees, make space for new trees, HONOR THE TREES THAT ALREADY LIVE THERE - including large trees, and put trees on a level playing field. The burden to find available and often feasible alternatives to cutting trees needs to be set higher. Street trees in less affluent neighborhoods with fewer improved street trees should not have to fight more and harder to preserve their street trees.

3. If we do not move to address the threats to street trees now, will be moving backwards through street tree loss and lost opportunity to plant new trees.

4. City bureaus and community stakeholders need to work together - MEANING TO DEDICATE RESOURCES - BUDGET and INFRASTRUCTURE, to enable INFORMATION EXCHANGE WITH PUBLIC SERVED - RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF PDX and in particular, HOME/PROPERTY OWNERS -- to address these issues and come up with COLLABORATIVE FIRST and THEN recommended reforms, programmatic changes, and funding options - TO INCLUDE PUBLIC AND NEIGHBORHOOD GROUPS AND URBAN FORESTRY AS OUR VOICE & EDUCATOR & platform to engage and contribute.

# Street trees are not a frill: they are an essential part of our public right-of-ways and every City bureau's responsibility!

# THESE PHOTOS offer what "that looks like" I live it, and look at it, and grieve it EVERY DAY. PLEASE PRINT THESE OUT AND PASS THEM AROUND.

My legacy rhodies are dying, can't take the heat.

Developers first? Or is it going to be our legacy and citizens first. Not ONE TREE WAS REPLANTED. NOT ONE.

We can do better.

Respectfully, Lisa Skube

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Lisa Skube Journalism Accelerator Cell | 503-757-8392 on twitter @journaccel | @lskube





7210 SW THIRD AVENUE - PDX - Hillsdale Neighborhood BUILDING IRV/PERMITS # 3648207 VIOLATION REVIEW IRV # 3673875



SUPER NARROW LOT -- DO NOT WANT A DOZEN VEHICLES BLOCKING SW Nevada -- AGAIN -- ITS BEEN FOUR YEARS OF NON STOP DEVELOPMENT & CITY PROJECTS that stage and blocks my back driveway. CHAOS STARTS AT 7 AM - TRUCKS LEAVE THEIR ENGINES RUNNING - EXHAUST FLOODS MY HOUSE - ITS MISERABLE!



SW THIRD - ALL TREES WITH ARROWS HAVE BEEN FELLED, YOU CAN SEE THE DEAD TREES LINING THE NEW DEVELOPMENT RIGHT SIDE OF STREET // Directly across the street from me

WE HAVE HAD BIG PIPE COME IN/RIPPING UP THE STREET - NEW RED MONSTER HOUSE TWO YEARS OF DEVELOPMENT + LAW SUITS (NW "VINTAGE " HOMES- DEVELOPMENT INTENTIONALLY KILLED THREE CITY TREES AND HAVE HAD ZERO ACCOUNTABILITY OR CONSEQUENCE) across the street from my home 7149 SW 3rd.

NOW 7210 ALSO GOING THE EXACT SAME DIRECTION - OVER DEVELOPING THIS LOT REMOVING ALL FOUR TREES FROM THE SITE. Middle two did have to go, the TWO IN THE BACK OF THE LOT - did not.

WE CAN DO BETTER.

7/30/2015 - what remains of the four trees strewn about the lot - 64" in diameter REDWOOD - 36" FIR





















From: Sent:	Drew DeVitis <drew.devitis@gmail.com> Tuesday, May 09, 2017 1:46 PM</drew.devitis@gmail.com>
То:	Council Clerk – Testimony; Moore-Love, Karla
Cc:	Mary Vogel
Subject:	Testimony for May 10, 2017 Council Agenda Item 460
Attachments:	OregonWalks-TestimonyonPortlandStreetRight-of-WayTreeAssetManagementStrategy.pdf

Greetings,

I am submitting testimony on behalf of Oregon Walks for Council Agenda Item 460 related to the Urban Forestry Commission's presentation on the Street/Right-of-Way Tree Asset Management Strategy (not indicated on the Council agenda but will be the second half of item 460).

Thanks!

Drew

May 10, 2017



### Oregon Walks: Testimony to City Council Regarding Portland Street/Right-of-Way Tree Asset Management Strategy

PROTECTING YOUR RIGHT TO ROAM

Mayor Wheeler and Commissioners:

Oregon Walks appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the Portland Street/Right-of-Way Tree Asset Management Strategy proposed by the Urban Forestry Commission. We are the state's pedestrian advocacy organization that works to make walking a safe, convenient, and accessible transportation option in every community, for every Oregonian. Oregon Walks wholeheartedly supports the proposed strategy.

Street trees along sidewalks are a great benefit to pedestrians—in many cases nearly as important as the sidewalks themselves. They provide shade and cooling, provide oxygen, and provide a valuable buffer between people and street traffic. Yet, efforts to provide more street trees, and maintain existing ones, are coming up short in Portland.

New developments often result in fewer trees than they could, because of bureaucratic inefficiencies in the permitting process, in which street trees are not given the priority that other infrastructure receives. Utility vaults and sidewalk elevators—both used and unused—often get more consideration than street trees. This strategy will ensure trees get the attention they deserve and that Portland can maximize the urban canopy.

As the draft strategy indicates, maintenance is hampered by lack of a comprehensive program to maintain street trees as public assets. Instead, that responsibility falls to the adjacent property owner, who may be reluctant to fulfill such a responsibility even if they don't face an undue financial burden. Some adjacent property owners resist planting needed trees in the first place, often, because of this maintenance requirement. For example, I directly asked property owners of downtown multi-family buildings overlooking I-405 to plant trees on the 1200 blocks of SW Jefferson and Columbia—where many lower income residents live and where the urban heat island effect is strongest. I was not successful even though the City was offering to plant and maintain the trees for three years through a BES program to control stormwater.



#### PROTECTING YOUR RIGHT TO ROAM

Oregon Walks is enthusiastic about the proposed Inter-bureau/community stakeholder effort to develop the Street/Right-of-Way Tree Asset Management Strategy. We would like to be one of the community organizations considered as a community stakeholder for the Task Force.

The proposed Portland Street/Right-of-Way Tree Asset Management Strategy will be a first step to improving outcomes from development and Right of Way improvements, as well as improving tree maintenance and preservation.

We urge you to adopt this Strategy proposal. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Mary Vogel, CNU-A mary@plangreen.net for Oregon Walks–Plans and Projects Committee cc: Urban Forestry Commission

From: Sent: To: Subject: Mary McMurray <artfirstcolors@spiritone.com> Tuesday, May 09, 2017 1:41 PM Council Clerk – Testimony Please support stewardship of Street Trees

Dear Council,

Please support the Urban Forest Commission's "Portland Street/Right-of-Way Tree Asset Management Strategy!

Thank you, Mary McMurray Portland Tree Advocate

From: Sent:	Carolyn and Bruce <nelson-matthews@comcast.net> Tuesday, May 09, 2017 7:07 AM</nelson-matthews@comcast.net>
To:	Council Clerk – Testimony; Planning and Sustainability Commission; Landoe, Brian; City
	Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero; Anderson, Susan; Treat, Leah; michael.jordan@portlandoregon.gov
Cc: Subject:	jlabbe@urbanfauna.org; Studer-Spevak, Noelle; Starr Hogeboom Portland Street Tree Policies, Development and the Cully Neighborhood
Subject:	Fortiand Street Tree Folicies, Development and the Cully Neighborhood

I write as a long -time resident of the Cully neighborhood, a certified Arborist for over 20 years, someone who deeply loves this city, an active participant in gathering street tree information in the Cully neighborhood and someone strongly in support of furthering the development of quality urban canopy within Portland.

Within the Cully neighborhood in northeast Portland, the state of affairs for large trees under current Portland policies and practices is:

1. no protections for existing large trees in new developments, if the buildings occur within 10 feet of the large trees;

2. no requirements for designs that allow for adequate space to replant trees that can attain heights of 50' or more;

3. no city policies that clearly give a homeowner any economic advantage for stewarding the health of large trees (50' or larger) which contribute positively to storm water management and air cleansing for the neighborhood;

4. no city policies that can protect large trees in the right of way when street improvements are mandated or planned;

5. no city policies that promote the use of structural engineered soil under sidewalks and other hardscapes which would increase potential rooting area for street trees while reducing sidewalk raising.

The result in our neighborhood, planned or unplanned, is the cutting of large trees (often Douglas fir trees 80' or more) and new plantings of trees that perhaps reach 20-25' tall which have a greatly reduced environmental benefit to our neighborhood. Recent activities occurring in our neighborhood that document this result:

a. plans for development of street improvements on NE 72nd Avenue between Prescott and Killingsworth include 3' wide planting strips that can only support very small trees while preliminary design may lead to the removal of several large trees;

b. plans as part of Connected Cully on 60th Avenue between NE Prescott and NE Lombard, yet to be released as to what side of the road the sidewalk will occur nor how many large trees will be removed as part of the project nor what width of planting strip, if any, will be part of the improvement; c. apartment housing project on 42nd Avenue north of Killingsworth, will likely remove most or all of the only 5 trees on property (3 Douglas fir trees 70' or taller, one big leaf maple 50' tall and one *50' tall Cryptomeria japonica* - because of building design, needs of construction access and demands for street improvements (sidewalks and curbs); preliminary presentation of project did not include any information suggesting replanting of trees capable of attaining heights of 50' or more;

d. anticipated duplex/triplex development on NE Going Street between NE 47th and NE 52nd resulting in greatly reduced tree canopy on 1-acre area, despite preservation efforts of the developer for a few selected large trees; required right of way planting due to presence of water main and current policy of not allowing curb-tight sidewalks in residential neighborhoods will result in no allowable street tree planting;

e. recently completely new home construction on NE Going between NE 47th and NE 52nd which dictated by city policies new sidewalk and new curb construction with planting strip and sidewalk yielded no street tree planting due to one policy that precludes curb tight sidewalks and another policy that excludes tree planting within 3' of a water main;

f. anticipated duplex/triplex multi-unit development on NE Going between NE 47th and NE 52nd resulting in greatly reduced tree canopy on 1 acre area, despite anticipated preservation efforts of the developer for a few selected large trees; required right of way planting strip and required sidewalk that can't be curb-tight result in no street tree planting due to policy excluding tree planting in right of way within 3' of water main;

The direction in our neighborhood that is resulting from development pressures and current city policies and practices, if not modified, is leading to increased population density of people and a decreased density of pollution cleansing, storm water- harvesting and people-calming trees and tree density. I support the request from the Urban Forestry Commission to appoint a Task Force to :investigate and propose strategies for equitably stewarding and maintaining Portland's street trees, and for preserving and planting more street trees when and where new development occurs.

**Bruce Nelson** 

From: Sent:	Glenna Hayes <gahportland@yahoo.com> Monday, May 08, 2017 4:53 PM</gahportland@yahoo.com>
To:	Council Clerk – Testimony; Planning and Sustainability Commission
Cc:	City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero; Anderson, Susan; Treat, Leah;
	michael.jordan@portlandoregon.gov
Subject:	Preserve, protect and steward our street trees

To the City Council members,

I support the Urban Forest Commissions "Portland Street/Right-of-Way Tree Asset Management Strategy."

I urge you to move forward on this plan because it will develop strategies to provide for the equitable stewardship and maintenance our valuable street and right-of-way trees. You should not have to live in an affluent neighborhood to have healthy and abundant street trees. Research indicates urban tree canopy mitigate pollution and urban heat island and improve health outcomes.

Street improvement and new development projects need to better preserve street trees, make space for new trees, including large trees, and put trees on a level playing field. The burden to find available and often feasible alternatives to cutting trees needs to be set higher. Street trees in less affluent neighborhoods with fewer improved street tree should not have to fight more and harder to preserve their street trees.

Now is the time address the threats to street trees and avoid moving backwards through street tree loss and lost opportunity to plant new trees.

Please find a way to ensure that City bureaus and community stakeholders work together to come up with recommended reforms, programmatic changes, and funding options. Street trees are not a frill: they are an essential part of our public right-of-ways and every City bureau's responsibility!

Thank you, Glenna Hayes 7254 SW 53rd Ave Portland 503-939-9677

From: Sent:	Matt Morrissey <morrissey.matt@ymail.com> Friday, May 05, 2017 11:28 AM</morrissey.matt@ymail.com>
To:	Council Clerk – Testimony; Planning and Sustainability Commission; Landoe, Brian; City
10.	Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero; Anderson, Susan; Treat, Leah;
	michael.jordan@portlandoregon.gov
Subject:	Portland Street/Right-of-Way Tree Asset Management Strategy

I urge you to support the Urban Forest Commissions "Portland Street/Right-of-Way Tree Asset Management Strategy" on May 10. Thank you for your consideration of this note.

From: Sent:	Lorna Lyons <lorna.lyons@gmail.com> Sunday, May 07, 2017 11:49 PM</lorna.lyons@gmail.com>
To:	Council Clerk – Testimony; Planning and Sustainability Commission; Landoe, Brian; City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero; Anderson, Susan; Treat, Leah;
	michael.jordan@portlandoregon.gov
Subject:	I live in NW PDX and Support of Portland Street/Right-of-Way Tree Asset Management Strategy

I first want to thank you for your efforts to make Portland such a great city. The mature Street Trees and Canopy Cover of Portland are genuinely one of the primary reasons I live here. As such I am writing in support the Portland Street/Right-of-Way Tree Asset Management Strategy.

- I have enough \$ to live at 2035 NW 29th Ave in Portland, 97210 where there are many street and right of way trees. But I also feel it should be a priority throughout Portland for the Health Benefits of all Portlanders and to offset Global Warming.
- •
- I recognise that more and more people are drawn to move to Portland and you are trying to balance the need for development with the quality of life that brings folks here. Street trees and especially protection and inclusion of space for large trees is a very high priority and should be encouraged.
- •
- When Mature trees are removed they create a gap that it takes at least 2 generations to mitigate. They really are a clear asset and it should be a high priority to make every effort to preserve as many as possible and while simultaneously planting more for the future.
- •
- City bureaus and community stakeholders need to work together to address these issues and come up with recommended reforms, programmatic changes, and funding options. **Street trees are** 
  - not a frill: they are an essential part of our public right-of-ways and every City bureau's responsibility!
- I urge you to adopt the Portland Street/Right of Way Tree Asset Management Strategy so that Portland remains the special city we all love.
- Thanks for your time and consideration.

In appreciation... Lorna In appreciation... Lorna

Lorna Lyons, Energy Coach Rekindle your Calling & Personal Energy Upgrades

Cell: 617.549.9045 Web: Lornalyons.com Skype: Iplyons

Change is inevitable, but personal growth is a choice. Bob Proctor

"There is almost a sensual longing for communion with others who have a larger vision. The immense fulfillment of the friendships between those engaged in furthering the evolution of consciousness has a quality almost impossible to describe." Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

From:	Lorna Lyons <lorna.lyons@gmail.com></lorna.lyons@gmail.com>
Sent:	Sunday, May 07, 2017 11:41 PM
То:	Council Clerk – Testimony; Planning and Sustainability Commission; Landoe, Brian; City
	Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero; Anderson, Susan; Treat, Leah;
	michael.jordan@portlandoregon.gov
Subject:	In Support of Portland Street/Right-of-Way Tree Asset Management Strategy

I first want to thank you for your efforts to make Portland such a great city. The mature Street Trees and Canopy Cover of Portland are genuinely one of the primary reasons I live here. As such I am writing in support the Portland Street/Right-of-Way Tree Asset Management Strategy.

- I have enough \$ to live where there are many street and right of way trees. But I also feel it should be a priority throughout Portland for the Health Benefits of all Portlanders and to offset Global Warming.
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- I recognise that more and more people are drawn to move to Portland and you are trying to balance the need for development with the quality of life that brings folks here. Street trees and especially protection and inclusion of space for large trees is a very high priority and should be encouraged.
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- City bureaus and community stakeholders need to work together to address these issues and come up with recommended reforms, programmatic changes, and funding options. Street trees are not a frill: they are an essential part of our public right-of-ways and every City bureau's responsibility!
- I urge you to adopt the Portland Street/Right of Way Tree Asset Management Strategy so that Portland remains the special city we all love.
- Thanks for your time and consideration.

In appreciation... Lorna

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From: Sent:	Maurine Canarsky <canarskyyomo@gmail.com> Sunday, May 07, 2017 5:03 PM</canarskyyomo@gmail.com>
То:	Wheeler, Mayor
Cc:	Council Clerk – Testimony; Planning and Sustainability Commission; Landoe, Brian;
	Anderson, Susan; Treat, Leah; michael.jordan@portlandoregon.gov
Subject:	PortlandStreet/Right-of-way Tree Asset Management Strategy

To All It May Concern:

I support the development of a tree asset management strategy for the city of Portland and would like to see the following occur:

1. Develop strategies to provide for the equitable stewardship and maintenance our valuable street and right-of-way trees. You should not have to live in an affluent neighborhood to have healthy and abundant street trees. Research indicates urban tree canopy mitigate pollution and urban heat island and improve health outcomes.

2. Street improvement and new development projects need to better preserve street trees, make space for new trees, including large trees, and put trees on a level playing field. The burden to find available and often feasible alternatives to cutting trees needs to be set higher. Street trees in less affluent neighborhoods with fewer improved street trees should not have to fight more and harder to preserve their street trees.

3. If we do not move to address the threats to street trees now, we will be moving backwards through street tree loss and lost opportunity to plant new trees.

4. City bureaus and community stakeholders need to work together to address these issues and come up with recommended reforms, programmatic changes, and funding options. Street trees are not a frill: they are an essential part of our public right-of-ways and every City bureau's responsibility!

To help restore our degraded environment and be on the road to a healthy environmental future, these are positive steps to take. They are in keeping with our long time respect for our resources and our stated movement for sustainability.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Maurine Canarsky

canarskyyomo@gmail.com 1977 SE 22nd Ave. Portland, OR 97214-4851 503-719-7332