

From: Robert Bernstein <bobbo1946@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 24, 2019 2:27 AM
To: Planning and Sustainability Commission <psc@portlandoregon.gov>
Cc: Landoe, Brian <Brian.Landoe@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Title 11, Tree Code, Large Healthy Tree Amendment

I'm heartened by the number of large trees that may have been saved due to the amendment. And I wish it's extension. But I find some troubling inconsistencies that could be rectified.

On the one hand the amendment dictates that I trust in the decades away, potential of a 2" diameter sapling, yet at the same time it affixes no "fee in lieu of preservation" or a minimal one for removal of a 35" tree. Even though the mature tree has REAL TIME value. Providing oxygen, storm water management, carbon storage, summer cooling, habitat, sound buffering, even improving mental health. Mitigation can be a poor trade off..especially if it omits the passage of time needed to fully recompense. We need these trees to maintain and renew our urban forest. You don't get to be a 36" inch tree without having first been a 20" inch tree. I didn't get to be 73 without being 50.

To fix this inequality, I propose that for trees from 21" through 35" that each inch over 20" would see the "fee in lieu of preservation" increased by \$840 plus \$3600(the base fee for a 20" tree). That is arrived at by subtracting the fee for a 20" tree from the fee for a 36" tree and dividing by the 15 inches that separate the 2 categories. Or please develop some other way that more truly reflects the very real current contributions of these trees. The same could be said of the 12" to 20" category.

As I drive around it becomes clear that climate change is stressing our trees. Many have or will succumb. Each healthy tree's value increases. I would recommend the amendment be applied to 1/2 or 2/3 of the trees on site. Perhaps sadly, we humans seem unable to sustain something without monetarily valuing it.

And I suggest no longer exempting Commercial, Industrial development or Residential lots under 5000 sq. ft. The trees present at those sites help with all the other aforementioned issues that effect us all as Portlanders.

Perhaps Parking requirements could be waived to save mature trees.

I would also want to increase fees in keeping with inflation and for any additional care needed for saplings due to drought. I wish to know the survival rate for saplings.

I wish to thank Mike Houck for his years of service.

Robert B. Bernstein

7415 SE Main Street

Portland, OR 97215