

Proposed Amendments to Title 11, Trees Portland City Council October 5, 2022

Brian Landoe, UF Analyst III
Nik Desai, UF Botanic Specialist II – Forestry
Rick Faber, UF Permitting and Regulation Coordinator





Trees provide vital environmental and public health services:

- Absorb greenhouse gases and improve air quality
- Reduce extreme heat events
- Sequester and store carbon
- Reduce stormwater runoff
- Provide wildlife habitat
- Slow vehicle speeds and improve pedestrian safety
- Improve physical and mental health outcomes





Title 11, City Tree Code

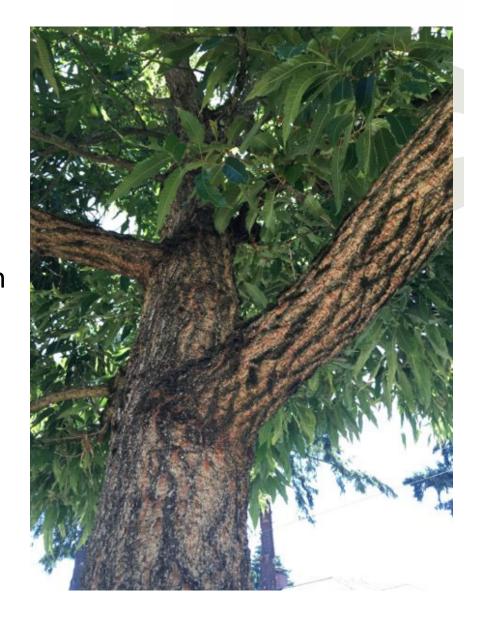
- Adopted by Council in 2011
- Implemented in 2015

	Development	Non-Development
Private Trees	Bureau of Development Services To CONSTRUCTION	PORTLAND PARKS & RECREATION Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland
Street & City Trees	PORTLAND PARKS & RECREATION Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland	PORTLAND PARKS & RECREATION Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland



Recent Background

- October 2020: Title 11 Amendments
- January 2020: Council Resolution 37473 directed PP&R, BDS, and BPS to develop a scope of work to strengthen Title 11.
- May 2021: PP&R presented multi-phase project to update Title 11 and Portland's Urban Forest Management Plan





Project Overview

Phase 1 (2021 – 2022)

Technical & Minor Policy amendments

Phase 2 (2022 - 2024)

Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) update

Phase 3 (2024 - 2025)

UFMP-informed amendments





Phase 1 Amendment Project Goals:

- Address technical and minor policy updates with existing staff resources
- Improve management of urban forest
- Improve clarity and efficiency
- Minimize impact to partner bureaus, permit customers, or regulatory process
- Early and continuous engagement with partner bureaus for support and transparency



Stakeholder and Community Review

- BDS, BES, BPS, PWB, PBOT, PF&R
- **Urban Forestry Commission** (Public Hearing)
- **Planning & Sustainability** Commission (Public Hearing)
- **Development Review Advisory** Committee (Briefing)
- **Public comment**
- Council staff briefings





Phase 1 Amendments

Package of 35 high priority updates

Better management of our urban forest:

- Clarity (16)
- Alignment with current practice (9)
- Alignment with other City Codes or policies (4)
- Correcting Errors (3)
- Improving equity (2)
- Avoiding negative outcomes (1)



Clarification

#1 Recognize Trees as Green Infrastructure

Communicates value of urban canopy and function within the urban environment in Purpose section of Title 11 (11.50.010), consistent with:

- Ordinance 184522: Implements Title 11
- <u>City of Portland Climate Emergency Declaration</u>



Alignment with current practice

#6 Add administrative review step to tree permit appeal process

Amends 11.30.040 to detail current practice of administrative review prior to Appeals Board Hearing.

- Similar to existing language in other city codes
- Improves efficiency of process, provides clarity, and sets expectations



Align with other City Codes

#40 Update T11 development type definitions to match Title 33

Aligns Title 11's definition of multi-dwelling residential with changes implemented in the Residential Infill Projects.



Equity

#41 Remove "without compensation" from UFC section

Amends 11.20.020 to allow possibility of compensating Urban Forestry Commission members for their time.



Avoiding Negative Impacts

#10 Consider tree removal impacts to other trees

Amends 11.40.040.B.2 to allow for consideration of tree removal impacts on other trees.



Questions?

