

Landoe, Brian

From: Suzanne Matthews <smatthewseducation@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2024 3:17 AM
To: Parks - Urban Forestry Commission
Subject: Title 11 Amendment

As climate change continues and our city also continues to rise on heat maps, It is crucial that the city extend this #11 amendment further protecting large trees. This is not just a random ask, this is a logical decision based on scientific evidence from multiple credible sources, including research conducted by OSU, PSU, and the National Forestry Service, all showing the dire need to protect tree canopies in our area.

In addition, I strongly urge the city to consider also adding an amendment to the Tree Code requiring all new development to create less concreted areas and more viable planting areas with open soil with ground cover in a larger percentage of space for retaining moisture and the planting of canopy trees and shrubs.

Also, for the city to proactively increase the percentage of recommended native trees and for tighter parking strip areas to include native shrubs on the Portland Street Tree Lists.

Currently, less than 5% on these lists are native species to our area. The city should as soon as possible set a goal of including native species to at least 20% or greater, as natives also provide the most long-term sustainable ecological benefit to our local environment and wildlife (which we know directly contributes to air quality, fruit and vegetable pollination, and overall mental health of citizens and desirability to live in a community).

We have the chance to make Portland, Oregon again the leader on the West Coast and the city to follow for implementing a research-based yet forward-thinking plan to support our people, precious environment and to better protect our ever shrinking canopy cover.

Please at least extend # 11, but also strongly consider stepping up to do more. It is not an exaggeration to say that our city depends on it. Thank you.

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