

From: tammi harper [mailto:word.seeds@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2016 3:09 PM
To: Planning and Sustainability Commission <psc@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Willamette Greenway Plan/Central City 2035

Greetings,

I am unable to attend this evening's hearing on Central City 2035 but wanted to submit comments regarding the Willamette Greenway Plan for the Central Reach.

On 7/1/16, I observed indiscriminate vegetation cutting along the Willamette riverbank adjacent to the Bankside and RiverPoint Condos. I ride the Willamette Greenway Path to work every day and was quite surprised and disappointed to find the area being clear-cut during nesting season. The area covers a couple hundred yards of the riverbank, beginning just north of Willamette Sailing Club, along the Willamette Greenway path (between the path and the river). I realize this area is beyond the bounds of the Central City, but it warrants the same protection and vegetation management consideration. Many cottonwood saplings and natives along with fruiting blackberry were cut indiscriminately along this stretch of riverbank. After following up with the landscaping service, I learned that Johns Landing Owners Association contracted with them to cut the riverbank, and they do it every year. If the aim is to remove blackberry from the riverbank, digging up the root crowns and replanting native vegetation is necessary. Removing vegetation and leaving the bank bare contributes to erosion, poor soil health, and disrupts the phytoremediation services a healthy riparian area provides. Further, a 50 foot set back should be the bare minimum along the river.

We have a responsibility to be good stewards of the river that feeds our city.

thank you,

tammi harper
[503.890.2827](tel:503.890.2827)
2330 SE 22nd Ave
Portland, OR 97214