



August 9, 2016

Testimony for Central City 2035 Plan
Planning and Sustainability Commission (PSC)
Friends of Trees

Dear PSC -

We would like to see tree canopy targets for the plan that are aspirational but also accomplishable. These targets should project an increase in canopy cover that are aggressive to help combat heat island effect which is a direct cause of human health concerns. Tree canopy targets should be robust and based on the Central City Master plan to increase open area from 20%-30% and establish gradual tree density requirements depending on tree size. Areas such as Industrial zones should require a greater tree canopy percentage as they have more impervious surface and less greenspace capacity.

We support the expanded river setbacks from 25' to 50' or greater (75'). These setbacks ensure greater habitat along trails and natural areas including the Willamette River. Setback distances should be extended in the South Reach up to 100' or more as it has more environmentally significant resources that should remain intact.

We support increased Greenway Replanting efforts for ALL vegetation removal including non-native plant removal. There should be no exemptions for non-native removal without strong and immediate requirement for revegetation on those sites.

We support building setbacks from property lines to allow for potentially more trees in the Central City. These setbacks are especially important to include trees along designated flexible streets and streets within the Green Loop.

We fully support the "Green Loop" concept and City investments to incorporate this plan in all future Central City Plans. This plan will help improve access, livability and community health in the central city as well as for all residents in the area.

Thank you for consideration of these items.

Scott Fogarty
Executive Director