

IMPACT STATEMENT

Legislation title: Amend regulations for Tree Planting & Preservation Fund to improve tree planting program outcomes. (Ordinance; amend Code Section 11.10.070 and Chapter 11.15)

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Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:

The proposed amendments alter City Code governing the use of the Tree Planting and Preservation Fund (TPPF), which enables the City Forester to mitigate for lost canopy as a result of unmet tree preservation or planting standards. The TPPF is Urban Forestry's sole funding source dedicated to tree planting.

The following amendments are proposed:

- Remove language which requires the Tree Planting and Preservation Fund to be spent in the same watershed from which the funds were received.
- Extend the period for which the Tree Planting and Preservation Fund can be used to water and establish newly planted trees from two years to five years.

Watershed Requirement: This proposed amendment comes in response to the 2017 City Auditor's report on Title 11 implementation which advised the requirement "could perpetuate existing tree canopy inequities." Removing the requirement will also provide the necessary flexibility for Urban Forestry to execute the Citywide Tree Planting Strategy which prioritizes planting in low-income and low-canopy areas of the city. The strategy was informed by extensive public outreach with culturally specific focus groups, a public survey, and a community advisory committee representing immigrants, refugees, communities of color, and residents from low income and low canopy communities.

Two-Year Establishment Period: Portland's changing climate is resulting in longer, hotter, and drier summers necessitating a minimum of three years of watering, and sometimes more. The two-year restriction results in higher mortality and subsequent loss of significant investment. Extending the watering and establishment period to five years enables the City to more fully realize returns on its tree planting investments.

Financial and budgetary impacts:

There are no financial or budgetary impacts resulting from this ordinance.

Community impacts and community involvement:

The Urban Forestry Commission held a public hearing on March 20, 2019 to consider these amendments. The Commission voted unanimously in favor of the proposed changes.

100% Renewable Goal:

N/A

Budgetary Impact Worksheet

Does this action change appropriations?

- YES:** Please complete the information below.
- NO:** Skip this section

Fund	Fund Center	Commitment Item	Functional Area	Funded Program	Grant	Sponsored Program	Amount

Alper 4/1/19