

From: arthur bradford <arfbradford@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 17, 2019 10:25 AM
To: Planning and Sustainability Commission <psc@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Title 11 Sunset

Hello, my name is Arthur Bradford, and I was one of the leaders of the Eastmoreland sequoia protests in 2015 which spurred on the changes to the Title 11 tree protections. As president of our non-profit, "Save The Giants", I continue to run the small park we created for those trees, produce community events there, and maintain an email list of roughly 5,000 supporters, all of whom feel passionately about the importance of maintaining large mature trees in Portland's urban canopy.

It has come to our attention that the Title 11 tree code protections are due to "sunset" at the end of this year. We understand that this sunset provision was put in place to give an opportunity to assess the effectiveness of the changes. It's abundantly clear, however, that these changes were very much in demand and in fact didn't actually go far enough in protecting large trees. Letting them disappear, as the developer lobby advocates, would be an outrage an insult to those of us who worked hard to get something done to this broken code.

Please do not let these protections disappear. Rather, work to strengthen them by setting the protected tree size to 30" as opposed to the rarely attainable 36". Further, offer protections to 2/3 of the trees on the lot in question rather than just 1/3. Such protections will not prevent responsible development in this city. They would only negatively affect those who wish to turn a quick profit as the expense of our communities long-term welfare. You need only to examine the deep pockets of those who oppose such common sense regulations to confirm such suspicions.

Voters in Portland care deeply about trees. Large mature trees benefit everyone, not just well-off citizens. There are few issues which so evenly unite Portlanders as a love for trees. Perhaps the only group which see large trees as a nuisance, the developer lobby, happens to have an outsized influence on city decision making, otherwise this issue wouldn't even be in question.

Our group will work tirelessly to publicize those who support strengthening tree protections in this city, and equally hard to expose those who don't. The vast majority of this city wishes to keep the large trees standing over us for generations. As city officials, we expect you to honor this overwhelming desire by passing legislation which reflects these values.

Please don't let title 11 sunset. Please strengthen this meager code. While the developer lobby may not like their minority opinion going unrewarded, your voters will appreciate and reciprocate your integrity come election time.

Thank you for working hard for our city,

Arthur Bradford
President, "Save The Giants"
3666 SE Martins Street
Portland, OR 97202