

URBAN FORESTRY SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES

Date:	3-20-2023
Time:	4:30 – 6:18 pm
Place:	Virtual Zoom Meeting
Attending:	UFS: Vice Chair Jim Buck, Steve Stevens, Keith Warren Staff: John Heili Council: Councilor Morales PC liaison: Phil Wich Guests: Janet Unruh, Thea Hayes, Charlotte Becker, Anthony Mecum
Absent	Councilor Dina DiNucci

1. Agenda Item #1 - Meeting Minutes for Feb. 2023	
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None.
Decisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved.
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved minutes will be posted on the UFS website by staff.

2. Agenda Item #2 - Significant Trees List and Delist Requests and Significant Tree Survey	
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UFS Members discussed the request to list a Japanese Weeping Flowering Cherry tree located at 1635 NE Cochran Drive. Jim Buck shared his observations and picture of the tree from a site visit. The members generally agreed this would be a unique tree for the list and to pursue the next steps. UFS Members discussed the request to delist one tree at 301 NE 202nd Avenue that is part of a significant grove located along NE 202nd Avenue in consideration of an arborist report provided with a tree removal permit indicating significant red ring rot disease and resulting hazard due to tree height and location to targets. Phil Wich provided expert insight into the characteristics of the disease and expected outcomes. The UFS members noted that in the future these delisting reviews would benefit from input from a City staff arborist. UFS Members discussed the possibility of conducting a Significant Tree survey later this year in Summer or Fall when the UFS will potentially have more members to assist with this effort. The last survey occurred in 2015 and is prescribed to occur on a 4-year cycle.
Decisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See action items. The UFS members voted unanimously to delist the one tree at 301 NE 202nd Ave. and recommended the City seek an arborist inspection of the entire grove to determine if there is additional mitigation or removal action necessary to protect the grove.

Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff will send a formal response to the property owner notifying them of the next steps in the Significant Tree listing process. Jim Buck will coordinate his inspection of the tree with the applicant. • Staff will notify the Planner who is processing the tree removal permit that the tree has been delisted and create a record of this decision for the Significant Tree files.
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3. Agenda Item #3 – Butler Creek tree removal and planting and Telford Estates street tree planting

Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In follow-up to Jim Buck’s requests for information regarding the Bulter Creek development permit and Telford Estates development, Staff presented status updates and clarifications for both. • Staff shared that a decision with conditions was recently issued. Those conditions require significant changes to the site layout and additional information on existing tree conditions, proposed tree removal, tree protection, and tree planting such that new drawings and reports are required with the permit submittals for review and approval prior to any work commencing at the site. • Staff shared the approved street tree plan for Telford Estates and explained the planter areas where trees are not shown is due to conflicts with utilities, and proximity to crosswalks, driveways, streetlighting, etc. Street tree plans are reviewed by staff during permit review and in most cases results in a Fee in Lieu of Tree payment due to the tree planting criteria. For subdivisions, the building inspector is responsible for checking compliance with the permit plans. • There was also a discussion about trees being planted in stormwater planters within the right-of-way (ROW). Staff noted that when and where trees can be planted in these facilities is determined on a case-by-case basis depending on the soil conditions/infiltration rates for the development site which informs if stormwater treatment facilities (in this case planters) need to be lined and what fill material is required (amount of rock vs. amended soils) and if piping is required.
Decisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See action items.
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff will provide UFS with a list of approved plantings for stormwater facilities within the ROW. Further discussion is needed regarding tree species suitable for stormwater detention facilities. • Staff will monitor Butler Creek permit activity to keep UFS apprised of design changes related to trees. • Consider changes to tree code that will facilitate more trees within the ROW planters and prescribe greatest canopy tree possible.

4. Agenda Item #4 CAPA Tree Canopy Tool

Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff provided an update on the periodic maintenance updates aspect of the online Tree Canopy tool following a meeting with Gresham’s Planning, Parks and GIS staff and Metro staff. LiDAR data is confirmed to be on a 5-year cycle which includes the year for Metro to clean up the raw data and classify it. • Metro extracts a tree canopy layer from this data but may use a rule set that differs from CAPA. Tina is following up with CAPA to determine the rule set used in their model. This will be shared with Metro to determine what differences there may be and what affect this might have on the current tool display.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GIS can provide the periodic updates need for other data such as census data, parcel data, and other geographical changes within the City limits.
Decisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A.
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff will continue to monitor this item and provide future UFS updates.

5. Agenda Item #5 Arbor Day	
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main Arbor Day planting event is April 12th at Rockwood Central Park. • Another event could be additional tree planting with commemoration ceremony for the Greg Bettis tree.
Decisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A.
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jim Buck will contact Mike Wallace, DES staff to determine what trees could be planted near the Greg Bettis tree and then make a decision on whether additional trees are available and select a date for the event.

6. Agenda Item #6 Tree Code Update	
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UFS discussed ideas for how to move forward with identifying items for code improvement and then researching model codes.
Decisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UFS felt this item required multiple meetings to set their goals for the code improvement project and then discuss model codes that address these goals.
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff will include tree code discussion items for the April and May meeting agendas. • UFS members will look into model codes and create list of issues that they recommend be addressed with this code update.

7. Agenda Item #7 Community Observations & Other UFS Business	
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jim attended NWNA Tree committee meeting. Looking at areas of focus for tree canopy expansion • Consider adding useful tree-related web page links to the Tree List document or on City's tree webpage. • UFS asked for update on the City's review of green spaces and planned maintenance of green spaces. How might this impact City's tree canopy.
Decisions:	N/A
Action:	Staff will coordinate with DES and Parks personnel to attend the next meeting and report on state of City's green spaces.
Next Meeting:	April 24, 2023
Adjournment:	6:20 pm