



City of Oregon City

625 Center Street
Oregon City, OR 97045
503-657-0891

Meeting Minutes Natural Resources Committee

Monday, February 9, 2022

6:00 PM

Commission Chambers

1. Convene Regular Meeting and Roll Call

Chair Broshot called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Present: 5 - Chair Nancy Broshot, Committee Member Chris Weaver, Committee Member Samantha Wolf, Committee Member Brian Kvistler, and Committee Member Devon Pilney

Staffers: 3 – Planning Manager Teresa Montalvo, Right of Way and Construction Manager Dante Posadas, Community Development Director Aquila Hurd-Ravich

2. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented.

3. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Nancy Broshot was elected as Chair and Samantha Wolf was elected as Vice Chair for 2022.

4. Public Comment

None.

5. Presentation: OC2040 Comprehensive Plan Update – Draft Goals and Policies

Teresa Montalvo presented the update on the Comprehensive Plan goals and policies. She discussed what a Comprehensive Plan was, process for the vision, goals, policies, and action items, project schedule, outreach and engagement, community-wide vision and focus on four themes, Comprehensive Plan Forum, Comprehensive Plan document production, and next steps.

There was discussion regarding adding a more direct statement about mitigation for

climate change and being more proactive, adding a fourth goal about climate change to the theme Protected Environment, and reducing the carbon footprint of the City.

6. Discussion Items: Street Tree List and Standard Drawing

Dante Posadas, Right of Way and Construction Manager, discussed the revised standard drawing for street tree planting. These included a 24 inch deep commercially engineered root barrier instead of 18 inch, the root barrier would be placed 20 feet along any impervious surface, tree installation would be a hand tamped pedestal, the root trunk collar would be placed one inch above finished grade, and 2-4 inches of unsettled bark mulch would be placed next to the trunk. They were still considering the recommendation for root barrier to be placed at the back of the curb to allow roots room to grow. They were also still working on the tree grate detail for curb tight sidewalks.

There was discussion about the need for root barrier on both sides of the tree and instead of a standard, view it case by case to see if it was appropriate on the curb side. Mr. Posadas said removing the root barrier from the curb was going to be an option the Public Works Department would not support. They were willing to move it to back of curb for a five foot footprint for the planter area. He explained the installation process.

Mr. Posadas gave an update on the Urban Forester position. A job description had been put together and it would go to the City Commission to review.

Committee Member Wolf suggested staff meet with an Urban Forester to further talk about the position.

Committee Member Wolf led a discussion on the street tree options for 2.5 to 3 foot planter strips. This was not an optimal size planting strip and the Committee agreed the code should be changed to say replanting a tree in these small planters was optional, but if they did want a tree, to pick from the list or put one on private property.

Aquilla Hurd-Ravich, Community Development Director, said the City Commission wanted the NRC to identify the minimum width of a planter strip sufficient for planting. If 2.5 to 3 feet was not sufficient, that would be a recommendation to the City Commission. The NRC was also asked to look at the street tree list with attention to species that would not cause damage to the adjacent sidewalk.

There was consensus that if a tree in these small planter strips was removed, a replacement tree would not be required. Homeowners would have the option to plant one of the trees on the street tree list or on private property if there was room.

Committee Member Wolf reviewed the rest of the street tree list. There was consensus to add a note to the City explaining why they put some species on hiatus.

There was discussion regarding when to revisit the hiatus trees and doing a City-wide tree inventory. There was consensus to revisit the hiatus list in ten years or after a tree inventory was done.

The NRC unanimously recommended the street tree list be forwarded to the City Commission with a cover letter explaining how they decided on the species and the

reasons for the hiatus.

7. Communications

Chair Broshot discussed the Heritage Tree Hero nomination.

Committee Member Wolf said Arbor Month was coming up in April and they needed a proclamation as a requirement of Tree City USA.

There was discussion regarding the Arbor Month proclamation and events.

9. Future Agenda Items

There was discussion regarding future agenda items.

10. Adjournment

Chair Broshot adjourned the meeting at 8:12 PM.