



CITY OF OREGON CITY NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE AGENDA

Community Room, Community Development Building,
695 Warner Parrott Rd, Oregon City, OR
Wednesday, August 13, 2025 at 6:30 PM

Ways to participate in this public meeting:

- Attend in person, location listed above. Please see the public comment guidelines below.
- Attend the livestream of the meeting on the City's YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/CityofOregonCity>

- Register to provide electronic testimony (email ocplanning@orc.org by 3:00 PM on the day of the meeting to register)
 - Email ocplanning@orc.org (deadline to submit written testimony via email is 3:00 PM on the day of the meeting)
-
-

1. CONVENE MEETING AND ROLL CALL

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Please see the public comment guidelines below.

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Heritage Tree Nominations
- b. NRC 2025-2027 Work Plan Adoption
- c. City Commission Goals for 2025-2027 - Tree Canopy Assessment / Bee City USA / Tree City USA

4. COMMUNICATIONS

5. ADJOURNMENT

PUBLIC COMMENT GUIDELINES

Complete a Comment Card prior to the meeting and submit it to the clerk. When the Chair calls your name, proceed to the speaker table, and state your name and city of residence. Each speaker is given 3 minutes to speak. As a general practice, the committee does not engage in discussion with those making comments. Complaints shall be addressed at the department level prior to addressing the committee.

ADA NOTICE

The location is ADA accessible. Hearing devices may be requested from the City Recorder prior to the meeting. Individuals requiring other assistance must make their request known 48 hours preceding the meeting by contacting the City Recorder's Office at 503-657-0891.

Agenda Posted at City Hall, Pioneer Community Center, Library, City Website.

Video Streaming & Broadcasts: The meeting is streamed live on the [Oregon City's website](#) and available on demand following the meeting. The meeting can be viewed on Willamette Falls Television channel 28 for Oregon City area residents as a rebroadcast. Please contact WFMC at 503-650-0275 for a programming schedule.



CITY OF OREGON CITY

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

Staff Report

To: Natural Resources Committee **Agenda Date:** August 13, 2025
From: Pete Walter, Planning Manager

SUBJECT:

Heritage Tree Nominations

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff asks that the NRC consider approval of the heritage tree nominations for 335 Warner Milne Road (Oregon White Oak) and 1216 Jackson St (American Elm).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Two heritage tree nominations were received from Nominator Betsy Edholm. The first nomination is an American Elm tree growing in the front yard at 1216 Jackson Street. The second is an Oregon White Oak tree growing in the right-of-way abutting the Oregon City Church of Christ at 335 Warner Milne Road.

American Elm tree at 1216 Division St

The American Elm (*Ulmus americana*) tree has the following dimensions (field measurements estimated / taken by staff): DBH: 47", Height: 60', Canopy Spread: 85'. The owner has signed the nomination form. This tree is in good condition. The tree appears to meet the applicable heritage, site and condition criteria.

Oregon White Oak tree at 335 Warner Milne Rd

The Oregon White Oak (*Quercus garryana*) has the following dimensions (based on 2024 measurements from Teragan and Assoc. Arborists: DBH: 37", Height: 50' , Canopy Spread: 45'. In March 2025, the City Commission considered and denied the proposed removal of this street tree which would have had to be removed in order to accommodate a city-funded sidewalk project along Warner Milne Rd. Within this nomination, the church leadership are signing as the abutting owners consenting to the nomination. This tree is in good condition, although a portion of the canopy appears to be damaged. The tree appears to meet the applicable heritage, site and condition criteria.

If the NRC votes to recommend approval of the nominations to the City Commission, staff will forward the nominations for approval by the Commission on consent at the next available City Commission meeting. Owners of heritage trees growing on private property are required to record a restrictive covenant protecting the tree.

The criteria are as follows:

A.

Heritage criteria (at least one heritage criterion must be met):

The tree or stand of trees is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of Oregon City's history; 1.

The tree or stand of trees is associated with the life of a person or group of historic significance to Oregon City; 2.

The tree or stand of trees represents a significant and distinguishable presence within Oregon City; or 3.

The tree or stand of trees has age, size, or species significance (horticultural or ecological), which contributes to Oregon City's heritage status. 4.

Site and condition criteria (all criteria must be satisfied): B.

The tree species is not listed as invasive on any regionally accepted plant list; 1.

If the proposed heritage tree or stand is located on private property or on public property owned by a public agency other than the city of Oregon City, the property owner or, if the tree or stand of trees is located on a public right-of-way, the abutting private property owner consents to the designation and agrees to sign a protective covenant. 2.

BACKGROUND:

NEXT STEPS:

OPTIONS:



HERITAGE TREE OR STAND NOMINATION FORM

OCMC 12.32.010 - Purpose.

The purpose of this chapter is to recognize, foster appreciation and provide for voluntary protection of certain trees, because their age, species, natural resource value, ecological or horticultural value, or historical association, are of special importance to the city. These trees may grow on private or public property.

Site Address: 1216 Jackson Street, Oregon City, OR 97045

Clackamas County Map and Tax Lot(s): APN 2-2E-32BB-06300

Nominator(s):

Nominator(s) Signature(s):

Nominator(s) Name(s) Printed: Nicholas & Alexandra Kocher, Betsy Jordan Edholm,

Address: 1216 Jackson St, Oregon City, OR 97045, 158 Warner Milne Rd, #1011, Oregon City, OR 97045

Phone: 513-259-0632, 916-201-8724 Email: Kocher1216@gmail.com, jedholm13@yahoo.com Date: May 2, 2025

Property Owner(s):

Property Owner(s) Signature(s):

Property Owner(s) Name Printed: Nicholas & Alexandra Kocher

Mailing Address: 1216 Jackson St, Oregon City, OR 97045

Phone: 513-259-0632 Email: Kocher1216@gmail.com Date: May 2, 2025

Ownership:

- Private Property
- Public Tree in the Right-of-Way (Abutting owner is responsible and must consent to nomination)
- City Property City Park County-Owned Metro
- Other _____

OWNER CONSENT AND UNDERSTANDING. Signature below indicates that the owner has read and understands the requirements for heritage tree designation and protection as described in section **OCMC 12.32**, consents to the nomination, and agrees to subject the property to a restrictive covenant or other legal document to assure protection and replacement of the heritage tree or trees in the event of removal.

Owner Signature(s)

Please proceed to page 2.

• 3 photos submitted via email to Pete Walter on 5-14-25



TREE SPECIES, SIZE AND CONDITION

*DBH = Diameter at Breast Height, which is the diameter of the trunk measured 4.5' above the ground. To learn how to properly measure or estimate DBH, please visit:

Tree	Species	DBH* (inches)	Height (ft)	Canopy Spread (ft)
1.	American Elm Tree (Ulmus Americana)	CBH 45"	95'	85'
2.	estimated tree age 170 years old, growth factor 4			
3.	radius of tree 149"			
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				

TREE CONDITION. Although optional, it is strongly recommended that the nomination include an assessment of the tree's health and any potentially hazardous conditions that may be present.

Tree	Condition
1.	excellent, please see attached owner testimony
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	

(Attach Additional Sheets If Needed)

Please proceed to page 3.



CRITERIA FOR DESIGNATION

Please include a detailed explanation why the nominated tree or stand is consistent with the Criteria for Designation in OCMC 12.32.070. Attach additional sheets as needed.

A. Heritage criteria (at least one heritage criterion must be met).

1. The tree or stand of trees is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of Oregon City's history;
2. The tree or stand of trees is associated with the life of a person or group of historic significance to Oregon City;
3. The tree or stand of trees represents a significant and distinguishable presence within Oregon City; or
- ④ 4. The tree or stand of trees has age, size, or species significance (horticultural or ecological), which contributes to Oregon City's heritage status.

B. Site and Condition Criteria (all criteria must be satisfied)

1. The tree species is not listed as invasive on any regionally accepted plant list;
2. If the proposed heritage tree or stand is located on private property or on public property owned by a public agency other than the city of Oregon City, the property owner or, if the tree or stand of trees is located on a public right-of-way, the abutting private property owner consents to the designation and agrees to sign a protective covenant.

SITE PLAN / MAP. Please clearly identify the location of the tree or grove on a site plan or map and attach.

PHOTOGRAPHS. Please provide current photos of the tree or trees. These may be emailed to the Planning Division at _____ . Please include "heritage tree photos" in subject line.

ocplanning@orc-city.org

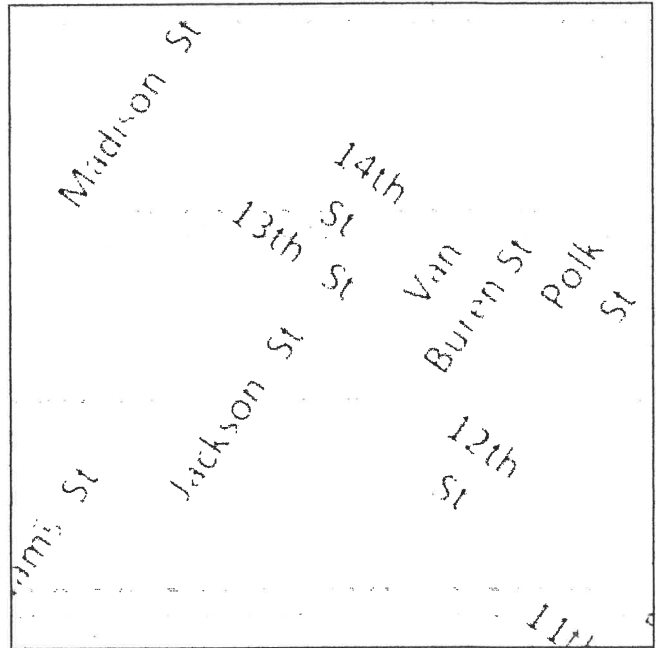
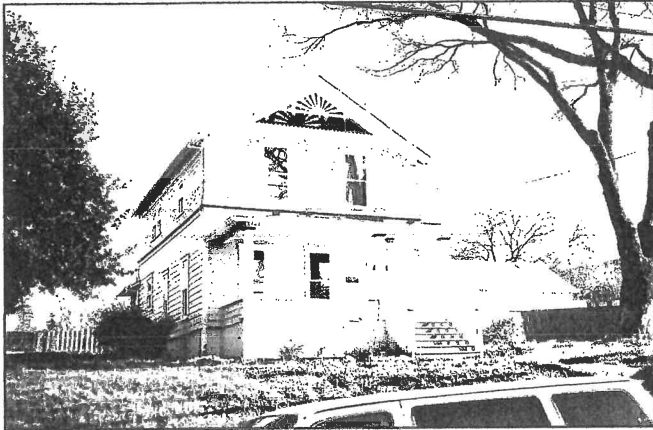
STAFF COMMENTS:

My wife and I live at 1216 Jackson Street, the William T. Whitlock Residence, with our beautiful *Ulmus americana*, generally known as the American elm. If you've driven by our house then you've seen that is our most prominent feature. It's a gorgeous titan that dominates and shades the surrounding structures at various points of the day. The Elm has a prominent canopy that can be seen from 205 as you pass over the bridge. Our Elm has had its ups and downs, the 2020 fires were a real welcome event to Oregon. At that time, the house did not have A/C or ceiling fans, therefore all we could rely on was the cool and comfortable environment that comes with a sufficient tree canopy. Then the 2021 ice storm took a toll on the canopy and our power box. We had it trimmed for weight reduction a few months after in April, however it was misidentified by the company who would not listen to us that it was an Elm and we were worried that springtime trimming could lead to disease.

Since that storm the tree has been impeccable and that is seconded by the multiple squirrel families that utilize its branches for nesting. Around our house are impervious surfaces contributing to a greater urban heat island effect experience. Summers are continuing to get hotter and residents should be entitled to live under full canopies. This tree is an integral part of the community.

This Elm provides more than an environmental value, it is a sense of place and belonging for me and my family. It is truly just as important to our property as our house is, as it can bring such

character to the whole neighborhood. Trees decrease air pollution, reduce stormwater runoff and energy usage, and increase property values. We are incredibly grateful for the Heritage Tree Foundation taking the time to nominate our tree. We hope it brings pride to any homeowner at the 1216 Jackson residence in the future and continues to help grow the amount of Heritage trees in Oregon City.



Address Information

Site Address: 1216 JACKSON ST
 OREGON CITY, OR 97045
 In City? Y
 In UGB? Y
 Complex:

The following information was derived from the taxlot database and may not necessarily apply to the specific address location

Taxlot Description

APN: 2-2E-32BB-06300, **LOT 7**
 Alt ID: 00585977
 Taxpayer: Please contact the City of Oregon City
 Address: for taxpayer information
 Parcel Area (GIS - acres): 0.17
 Parcel Area (GIS - sq. ft.): 7,455
 Twn/Rng/Sec: 2S 2E 32
 Tax Map Reference: 22E32BB (03_2s2e32bb)
 Year Built: 1900

Taxlot Values

Import Date: 03/11/2025
 Land Value (Mkt): \$175,102
 Building Value (Mkt): \$340,820
 Total Value (Mkt): \$515,922
 Note: the values about are Market, NOT Assessed values.
 Assessed Value: \$226,092
 Exempt Amount: \$0

Taxlot Overlay Information

In Willamette Greenway? N
 In Geologic Hazard? N
 In High Water Table Area? N
 In Nat. Res. Ovl. Dist. (NROD)? N
 In 1996/FEMA 100 Yr. Floodplain? N
 In FEMA Floodway? N
 In SDC Discount Area? N
 In Thayer Pond Fee Area? N
 In Bvrck. Rd Access Plan Area? N
 In Barlow Trail Corridor? N
 In Enterprise Zone? N
 In Vertical Housing Dev. Zone? N
 In Opportunity Zone? Y

Taxlot Planning Designations

Zoning: R-6
 Comprehensive Plan: LR
 Subdivision: (2) OREGON CITY
 PUD (if known):
 Partition Plat: N/A
 Neighborhood Assn: MCLOUGHLIN
 Urban Renewal District: N/A
 Concept Plan: N/A
 Historic District: MCD (McLoughlin Conservation District)
 Historic Designation: MCD (Designated Landmark In McLoughlin Conservation District)

The City of Oregon City makes no representations, express or implied, as to the accuracy, completeness and timeliness of the information displayed. This map is not suitable for legal, engineering, surveying or navigation purposes. Notification of any errors is appreciated.

Report generated 4/20/2025 9:34:19 AM

City of Oregon City
 PO Box 3040
 625 Center St
 Oregon City, OR 97045
 (503) 657-0891
 www.oregocity.org



American Elm (*Ulmus americana*)

The American elm (*Ulmus americana*), also commonly known as white elm, water elm or common elm, is a large deciduous tree grown across U.S. Department of Agriculture plant hardiness zones 2 through 9. This North American native was widely used as a shade and street tree, but it experienced a massive decline as the result of Dutch elm disease. Where the disease is not a serious risk, American elm is well-adapted to thrive in urban conditions.

Native Range and Habitat

The native range of the American elm extends from Florida to Newfoundland west to North Dakota and Texas. *American elm is generally found in wetlands or other moist sites. It can tolerate infrequent, short flooding and is utilized in riparian buffers as well as reclamation projects for its fast growth rate.*

Growth Habit and Bark

A young American elm grows quickly, eventually reaching a height of 80 to 100 feet with a width between 60 and 120 feet. It features a vase-shaped, symmetrical crown with spreading branches. Multiple cultivars offer a range of available canopy sizes and some variation in form.

The bark of the American elm is dark grayish-brown with broad ridges and diamond-shaped fissures. Old leaf scars on the elm's bark appear to have a "cat-face" appearance. With that said, its imperative for our raptor birds for habitat and protection from harassment, not to mention the air quality and water its diverts and filters.

Foliage

The leaves on an American elm measure 3 to 5 inches long and 1 to 3 inches wide with coarse, doubly serrated margins. Each leaf has approximately 15 pairs of veins. The two sides of the leaf's base are noticeably uneven. The upper surface of the leaf is green and usually smooth while the leaf undersides are paler and downy. American elm leaves turn an unremarkable yellow in fall.

Flowers, Fruits, Nutrition and strength

The flowers of American elm are small and inconspicuous, appearing in drooping clusters in early spring. The fruits are also inconspicuous while on the tree, but can create a mess on sidewalks and other hard surfaces under the tree where they collect. The seed pods are light-green, wafer-like and notched samaras that eventually turn tan.

The Bark and seed of elm were considered to be an important source of food in Europe during the famine at the beginning of the 19th century. The seeds were expensive due to the high content of proteins and dietary fibers.

Elm is also an important source of food for various birds such as ruffed grouse, prairie chicken, bobwhite and mammals such as squirrels and possum. The wood of elm is resistant to splitting, which is why Native Americans used this feature of elm for the production of ropes and canoes.

MBH growth rate 4



SPE
LI
2







HERITAGE TREE OR STAND NOMINATION FORM

OCMC 12.32.010 - Purpose.

The purpose of this chapter is to recognize, foster appreciation and provide for voluntary protection of certain trees, because their age, species, natural resource value, ecological or horticultural value, or historical association, are of special importance to the city. These trees may grow on private or public property.

Site Address: 335 Warner Milne Rd, Oregon City, OR 97045

Clackamas County Map and Tax Lot(s): APN #: 3-2E-05CA-02700

Nominator(s):

Nominator(s) Signature(s): *Ronald K. Murphy* *Steve D. Patton* *John J. R.* *B. J. E.* →

Nominator(s) Name(s) Printed: Oregon City Church of Christ and Betsy Jordana Edholm

Address: 335 Warner Milne Rd, Oregon City, OR 97045; 158 Warner Milne Rd, #1011, Oregon City, OR 97045

Phone: 503-656-8656; 916-201-8724 Email: churchofchristoc@gmail.com; jedholm13@yahoo.com Date: June 21, 2025

Property Owner(s):

Property Owner(s) Signature(s): _____

Property Owner(s) Name Printed: City of Oregon City

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: 503-496-1568 Email: pwalter@orc.org Date: _____

Ownership:

- Private Property
- Public Tree in the Right-of-Way (Abutting owner is responsible and must consent to nomination)
- City Property City Park County-Owned Metro
- Other _____

OWNER CONSENT AND UNDERSTANDING. Signature below indicates that the owner has read and understands the requirements for heritage tree designation and protection as described in section OCMC 12.32, consents to the nomination, and agrees to subject the property to a restrictive covenant or other legal document to assure protection and replacement of the heritage tree or trees in the event of removal.

Owner Signature(s)

Please proceed to page 2.



TREE SPECIES, SIZE AND CONDITION

*DBH = Diameter at Breast Height, which is the diameter of the trunk measured 4.5' above the ground. To learn how to properly measure or estimate DBH, please visit:

<https://www.wikihow.com/Measure-the-Diameter-of-a-Tree>

Tree	Species	DBH* (inches)	Height (ft)	Canopy Spread (ft)
1.	Oregon White Oak, Quercus alba	70"	75'	40'
2.	estimated age,give or take 10%, 352 years			
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				

TREE CONDITION. Although optional, it is strongly recommended that the nomination include an assessment of the tree's health and any potentially hazardous conditions that may be present.

Tree	Condition
1.	good
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	

(ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NEEDED)

Please proceed to page 3.

Oregon City GIS Map



- Legend**
- Street Names
 - Taxlots
 - Unimproved ROW
 - City Limits
 - UGB
 - Basemap

Notes

Overview Map



City of Oregon City
 PO Box 3040
 625 Center St
 Oregon City
 OR 97045
 (503) 657-0891
www.orcity.org

0 50 100 Feet



1: 600



The City of Oregon City makes no representations, express or implied, as to the accuracy, completeness and timeliness of the information displayed. This map is not suitable for legal, engineering, surveying or navigation purposes. Notification of any errors is appreciated.

Map created 5/14/2025

Heritage Tree Criteria #4

Oregon White Oak

335 Warner Milne Rd, Oregon City, Oregon

The Oregon White Oak tree located on Warner Milne Rd. in Oregon City is approximately 350 years old and 75' tall and this species must undertake serious conservation efforts if we want to continue to enjoy the aesthetic and ecological benefits this species and its ecosystem provide.

This tree is also an ancient tree as they earn this name at 100 years plus. This tree is as significant as our historic structures. We need a tree policy that encourages and supports landowners to keep their trees and a city plan to work with them to preserve our tree canopy especially with our significant old and healthy native trees.

The City of Oregon City CAN show landowners we care about these trees and our relationship building with them for the benefit of our tree canopy.



Oregon City

Parcel Search

- Fill out either box below, or
- Click on the parcel on the map

Parcel Number (e.g. 3-2E-05C -00201)

Address (e.g. 625 Center St)

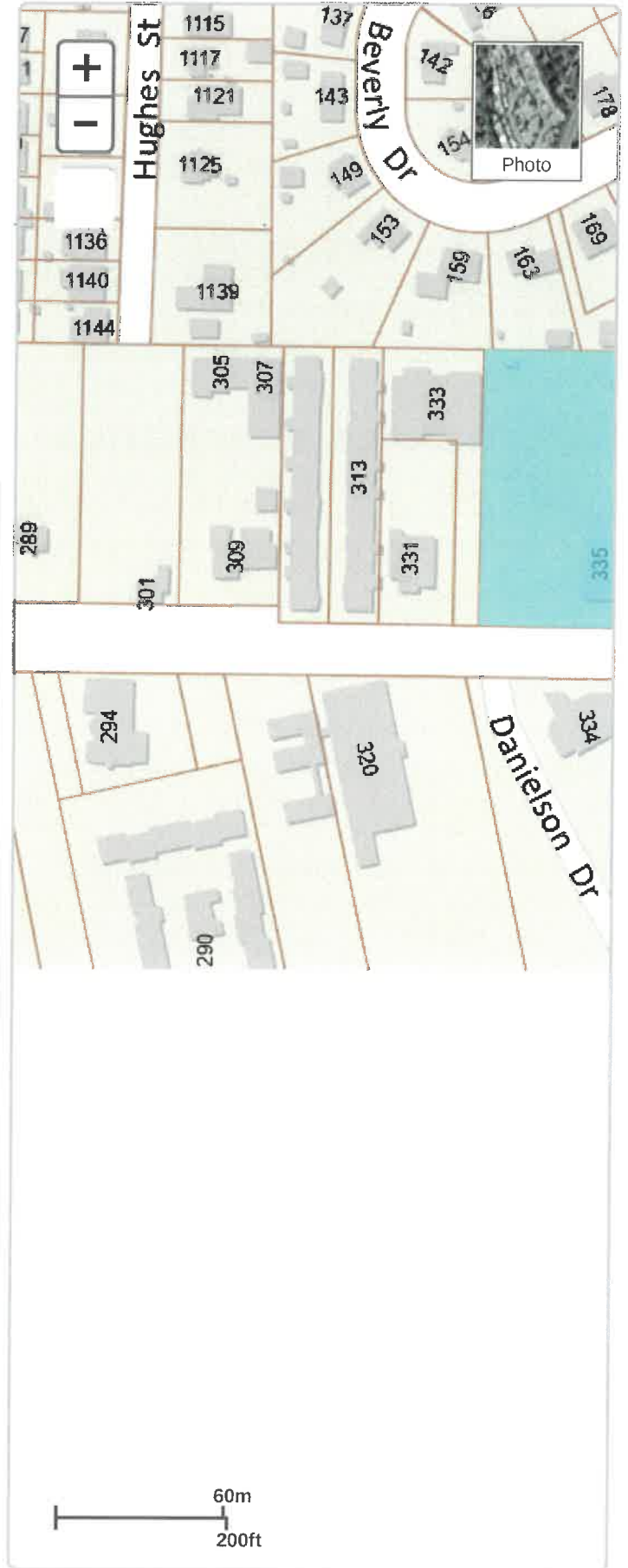
335 Warner Milne Rd Oregon C

[PDF Version](#)

Results

Taxlot Information

Parcel Number (APN)	3-2E-05CA-02700
Primary Situs Address	349 WARNER MILNE RD
City	OREGON CITY
County	CLACKAMAS
Zip	97045
Section	T3S R2E S05
Latitude	45.337054
Longitude	-122.593221
Approx. Elevation (ft)	1
R Number (Alt ID)	00847383
Approx. Size (acres)	1.83467484
USGS Quad Name	Oregon City





Oregon City

Limits?	
Urban Growth Boundary (UGB)	Inside

Assessment and Value Information	
Taxmap	3S2E05CA
Land Value (Mkt)	\$165,983
Building Value (Mkt)	\$106,120
Exempt Amount	\$0
Assessed Value	\$146,583
Year Built (if known)	
Sale Date	
Sale Price	Unavailable
Document Date	
Document Number	
State General Property Code	201
County Tax Code	062002

Land Use and Planning	
Zoning	MUC-1
Comprehensive Plan	MUC
Subdivision	GRAND VIEW ACRES



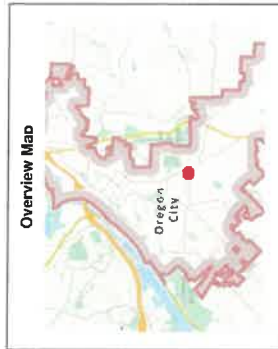
Oregon City GIS Map



Legend

- Street Names
- Contours (10 ft)
 - 50 foot
 - 10 foot
- Taxlots
- Unimproved ROW
- Development Projects (point)
 - PRV
 - Pump Station
 - Reservoir
- Development Projects (line)
 - Pipe
 - Pump Station
- Capacity Projects
- Pipe Replacement Projects
- Operations Projects
- Operations (City/CRW) Projects
- Water Service Meters (City Owned)

Notes



City of Oregon City
 PO Box 3040
 625 Center St
 Oregon City
 OR 97045
 (503) 657-0891
 www.orcity.org



The City of Oregon City makes no representations, express or implied, as to the accuracy, completeness, and timeliness of the information displayed. This map is not suitable for legal, engineering, surveying or navigation purposes. Notification of any errors is appreciated.

Map created 5/14/2025

Oregon white oak

SHARE    ([//www.addthis.com/bookmark.php?v=300&pubid=ra-534d64876fa5a7b6](http://www.addthis.com/bookmark.php?v=300&pubid=ra-534d64876fa5a7b6))

PDF (/articles/oregon_white_oak/pdf/)

Oregon white oak, *Quercus garryana*, grows along the Pacific Coast from southern California north through the interior valleys of western Oregon and the Puget Sound Lowland to southwest British Columbia, where it is called Garry oak. It also grows in the Columbia River (/articles/columbia_river/) Gorge, in eastern Oregon, and along the Columbia River to the east slopes of the Cascade Mountains in Washington.

David Douglas (/articles/douglas_david/#.WXkeaf8rLL8) named the tree in honor of Nicholas Garry, secretary and later deputy governor of the Hudson's Bay Company (/articles/hudson_s_bay_company/), who was helpful to Douglas when he was in western North America in 1826 looking for native plants suitable for horticultural introduction in Great Britain. The specimen on which Douglas based the name is from a tree "on the plains near Fort Vancouver (/articles/fort_vancouver/)," the Hudson's Bay Company post along the Columbia River.

The Oregon white oak is one of two species of native deciduous oaks in Oregon. The other, California black oak, *Q. kelloggii*, grows from southern California to as far north as Lane County. It grows in moister sites than white oak, which requires drier conditions where competition with other species, such as conifers, is somewhat reduced.

Oregon white oak varies in stature, from low shrubby Brewer's oak, *Q. garryana* var. *breweriana*; to tall, slender, crowded trees, known as forest-form oaks; to occasional isolated specimens with short, wide trunks and broad, sweeping limbs, known as savanna-form oaks. On prime sites, trees might reach three to four feet in diameter and be more than sixty feet tall.

The largest known tree, found in California, is eight feet in diameter and 120 feet tall. One 27-inch diameter trunk was 251 years old; larger trees may exceed 400 years. Establishing the age of trees is sometimes difficult because older trees are often hollow, with annual rings in the trees' center missing.

When David Douglas first came across the oaks, they were part of the vast woodland savannas of the Puget Sound Lowland and the Willamette Valley (/articles/willamette_valley/). He was among the first to record how Native Americans burned the savannas to keep the area open for hunting and to enhance the growth of edible herbaceous plants, such as camas, and the collection of wasp nests whose larvae people roasted and ate.

Regular, light burns kept down competition from encroaching conifers and their own seedlings, resulted in widely scattered old savanna-form oaks. When European settlers arrived in the region, the fires were no longer set, allowing young trees to form forest-like thickets of tall spindly trees. Other factors include the disappearance of acorn-eating grizzly bears. The introduction of the alien wild turkey in the 1970s will likely have the same effect on oak recruitment.

The acorns are an important food source for many native animal species: birds such as western scrub jays, *Aphelocoma californica*, Steller's jays, *Cyanocitta stelleri*, acorn woodpeckers, *Melanerpes formicivorus*, and Lewis woodpeckers, *Melanerpes lewis*, and mammals such as black-tail deer, *Odocoileus hemionus columbianus*, and western gray squirrels, *Sciurus griseus*. Older trees, with hollow trunks and limbs, provide good nesting sites for wildlife.

Oregon white oak is host to six different gall-forming insect parasites and a mistletoe, *Phoradendron villosum*, often sought after as a winter solstice and Christmas decoration. Speckled galls are round, thin-walled, hollow ping-pong-ball-sized structures on leaves that make a delightful popping sound when stepped on; and the tannin-laden tissues of the large, dark, oval- or kidney-shaped bullet galls on twigs and branches can be used to make ink.

In the fall, after leaves have fallen, the trees take on a ghostly gray appearance when their lichen epiphytes are visible. Oregon white oaks in the Willamette Valley have over one hundred lichen species that grow on trunks, branches, and twigs.

Native Americans used the acorns as a staple food source, eaten raw, or roasted, dried, cooked as a mush, soup, or bread, usually after treating acorns to remove the bitter tannins, a labor-intensive process. In the past, the oak was logged for its hard, strong, and close-grained wood, for use in ship-building, furniture, cabinetwork, and interior finishing. White oak also was used as durable fence posts because of the heartwood's rot resistance and its splitability, as demonstrated by a hundred-year-old fencepost near Eugene. Sadly, it also makes excellent firewood.

Because of these factors plus land clearing for agriculture, urban development, fire protection, and similar modern activities, Oregon white oak habitat, specifically the savannas, has been lost throughout much of its range. Oregon must undertake serious conservation and restoration efforts if it wants to continue to enjoy the aesthetic and ecological benefits this species and its ecosystem provide.

Author - Frank A. Lang

Ancient Trees earn their name at 100 years plus, That's when they truly get their badges of Honor, They come in the form or Hollow and Cracks with signs of Fungus.

A Hollow or Hole in a tree is NOT mean the tree is dyeing.

A **tree hollow** or **tree hole** is a semi-enclosed cavity which has naturally formed in the trunk or branch of a tree. They are found mainly in old trees, whether living or not. Hollows form in many species of trees, and are a prominent feature of natural forests and woodlands, and act as a resource or habitat for a number of vertebrate and invertebrate animals.^[1]

Hollows may form as the result of physiological stress from natural forces causing the excavating and exposure of the heartwood. Forces including wind, fire, heat, lightning, rain, attack from insects (such as ants or beetles), bacteria, or fungi. Also, trees may self-prune, dropping lower branches as they reach maturity, exposing the area where the branch was attached. Many animals further develop the hollows using instruments such as their beak, teeth or claws.^{[1][2]}

Mushrooms growing from the base of the tree or under its canopy may be a sign of root decay. Remember to be thorough in your evaluation; the absence of fungus does not necessarily mean a tree is healthy. When any trees have had construction activities – such as addition or removal of soil, heavy equipment movement or digging, trenching – anywhere under the spread of branches, homeowners also should be suspicious. These activities can cause root decay or death, and it can lead to the structural instability of the tree.

The most recognizable sign is a hollow part in the tree, but even **a large hole does not mean that a tree is going to be hazardous** or that has to be filled. Filling of hollow trees, a process called "cavity filling," used to be practiced by arborists for many years. Recent research discovered that **cavity filling is not needed to support or improve the health of hollow trees.**



CITY OF OREGON CITY

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

Staff Report

To: Natural Resources Committee

Agenda Date: August 13, 2025

From:

SUBJECT:

NRC 2025-2027 Work Plan Adoption

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

NRC made revisions to the work plan for the 2025-2027 biennium.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

NRC made revisions to the work plan for the 2025-2027 biennium at the May meeting. Specific suggestions and details on the implementation of these work plan items are welcome.

Major work plan items that Planning staff has begun are seeking DLCD grant funding for a public tree canopy assessment for city parks. This will be a coordinated effort between planning and parks department staff.

Also, the Parks Department has agreed to lead the City's application to the Bee City USA program through the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation.

One suggestion was that city planning and GIS staff determine a way to notify new homeowners who have purchased homes within and abutting the Natural Resource Overlay District regarding the city's adopted regulations and ways to enhance the quality of these important water quality and habitat area through more proactive measures.

Clean and redline versions of the 2025-2027 Work Plan are attached.

BACKGROUND:

Review and adopt the revised work plan for 2025-2027.

NEXT STEPS:

N/A. Staff and committee time and resources to implement all of the items on the work plan have not been determined at this time.

OPTIONS:

Oregon City Natural Resources Committee
~~2023-2025-2027~~ Work Plan

NRC Responsibility #1:

Promote Community Involvement in Natural Resources Conservation

1. Support a public tree inventory with volunteer participation for city properties, parks, street trees, school properties and other public lands.
2. Communicate regularly with Neighborhood Associations, Citizen Involvement Committee and the business community to promote programs such as the heritage tree program and arbor day.
- ~~3.~~ Improve awareness through the city website, brochures, QR code signage, and social media for awareness and interpretation of ~~local natural and geological features, trails, stormwater facilities, watersheds and sites~~ the Natural Resources Overlay District (NROD). Support city efforts to inform new property owners within the NROD of the purpose of the overlay district and ways to enhance habitat and water resources.
- ~~3-4.~~ Coordinate with city efforts to enhance tourism. This would emphasize local knowledge and provide interpretative signs for people to learn about things like birding, swift migrations, heritage trees, etc. We can use laminated signs that lead to the Oregon City website. Give people an easy way to learn.
- ~~4.~~ Continue to strengthen and encourage participation in the Heritage Tree Program through brochures, informational signs for trees, \$\$\$ for incentives, site visits, further outreach and social media.
- ~~5.~~ Work with property owners to voluntarily seek heritage tree designation within the Thimble Creek Concept Plan area.
- ~~6-5.~~ Support city partnerships with Home Owner Associations (HOAs), Metro, ~~and~~ Greater Oregon City Watershed Council, Backyard Habitat, Oregon City Parks Foundation and other groups for habitat improvement projects within the Urban Growth Boundary.
- ~~7-6.~~ Support partnerships with Oregon Heritage Tree Council and Oregon Community Trees.

NRC Responsibility #2:

Initiate recommendations and review updates to the City's comprehensive plan, codes and policy as they relate to statewide Planning Goals that are integral to our mission.

1. Provide input to the City Commission on amendments to the City's tree protection and removal codes.
- ~~2.~~ Support a coordinated strategy for invasive species management, such as encouraging City participation in the Clackamas County Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program. Look at the City of Eugene Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program model as an example of a way to integrate IPM into city operations.
- ~~3-2.~~ Improve public outreach and information about invasive plants and insects.
- ~~4-3.~~ Amend city resolution nuisance and native plant lists to reference Reference regionally accepted and regularly updated plant lists from Clackamas Soil and Water District, Metro, Portland, and Willamette Native Plant List.

Commented [PW1]: See Bee City USA below for IPM.

~~5. With the Public Works department, explore feasibility of offering reduced stormwater rates in return for planting trees in the right-of-way to intercept rainfall, reduce run-off and improve stormwater quality.~~

~~6-4.~~ Support the City's application to and participation in the Bee City USA program and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) through the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation.

~~7-5.~~ Promote public awareness of ways to promote and preserve invertebrate habitat through educational events such as booths at a Spring Resource Fair, the city website, Trail News, the city Facebook page and other social media.

~~8-6.~~ Promote public awareness of the dangers of pesticide use, and cost savings associated with reduced pesticide application and reduced landscape maintenance.

NRC Responsibility #3:

Receive Notice and Comment on Land Use Applications and Projects within City Limits and the Urban Growth Boundary

1. Review and comment on Type III applications to vary from the adopted standards of the Natural Resources Overlay District, Flood Management Overlay District, and the Willamette River Greenway Overlay District.

NRC Responsibility #4: Conduct Orderly Meetings that result in Good Communications

1. Maintain and Update a list of Natural Resources Committee priorities and activities to share with Planning Commission and City Commission.

NRC Responsibility #5:

Coordinate with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC) and Planning and City Commissions on at least an annual basis that results in good communication and mutually beneficial results.

1. Strengthen coordination with PRAC and parks staff through regular interaction and attendance at PRAC meetings.
2. Support funding initiatives and grant applications for parks and open space.
3. Invite Parks staff to attend NRC meetings.

Oregon City Natural Resources Committee 2025-2027 Work Plan

NRC Responsibility #1:

Promote Community Involvement in Natural Resources Conservation

1. Support a public tree inventory with volunteer participation for city properties, parks, street trees, school properties and other public lands.
2. Communicate regularly with Neighborhood Associations, Citizen Involvement Committee and the business community to promote programs such as the heritage tree program and arbor day.
3. Improve awareness through the city website, brochures, QR code signage, and social media for awareness and interpretation of the Natural Resources Overlay District (NROD). Support city efforts to inform new property owners within the NROD of the purpose of the overlay district and ways to enhance habitat and water resources.
4. Coordinate with city efforts to enhance tourism. This would emphasize local knowledge and provide interpretative signs for people to learn about things like birding, swift migrations, heritage trees, etc. We can use laminated signs that lead to the Oregon City website. Give people an easy way to learn.
5. Support city partnerships with Home Owner Associations (HOAs), Metro, Greater Oregon City Watershed Council, Backyard Habitat, Oregon City Parks Foundation and other groups for habitat improvement projects within the Urban Growth Boundary.
6. Support partnerships with Oregon Heritage Tree Council and Oregon Community Trees.

NRC Responsibility #2:

Initiate recommendations and review updates to the City's comprehensive plan, codes and policy as they relate to statewide Planning Goals that are integral to our mission.

1. Provide input to the City Commission on amendments to the City's tree protection and removal codes.
2. Improve public outreach and information about invasive plants and insects.
3. Reference regionally accepted and regularly updated plant lists from Clackamas Soil and Water District, Metro, Portland, and Willamette Native Plant List.
4. Support the City's application to and participation in the Bee City USA program and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) through the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation.
5. Promote public awareness of ways to promote and preserve invertebrate habitat through educational events such as booths at a Spring Resource Fair, the city website, Trail News, the city Facebook page and other social media.
6. Promote public awareness of the dangers of pesticide use, and cost savings associated with reduced pesticide application and reduced landscape maintenance.

NRC Responsibility #3:

Receive Notice and Comment on Land Use Applications and Projects within City Limits and the Urban Growth Boundary

1. Review and comment on Type III applications to vary from the adopted standards of the Natural Resources Overlay District, Flood Management Overlay District, and the Willamette River Greenway Overlay District.

NRC Responsibility #4: Conduct Orderly Meetings that result in Good Communications

1. Maintain and Update a list of Natural Resources Committee priorities and activities to share with Planning Commission and City Commission.

NRC Responsibility #5:

Coordinate with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC) and Planning and City Commissions on at least an annual basis that results in good communication and mutually beneficial results.

1. Strengthen coordination with PRAC and parks staff through regular interaction and attendance at PRAC meetings.
2. Support funding initiatives and grant applications for parks and open space.
3. Invite Parks staff to attend NRC meetings.



CITY OF OREGON CITY

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

Staff Report

To: Natural Resources Committee **Agenda Date:** August 13, 2025
From: Pete Walter, Planning Manager

SUBJECT:

City Commission Goals for 2025-2027 - Tree Canopy Assessment / Bee City USA / Tree City USA

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff will provide an update to the NRC on the City Commission Goals for a Tree Canopy Assessment and the Bee City USA program.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

City Commission discussed the NRC's letter regarding tree canopy goals and regulation at their 2-day goal setting retreat on February 8, 2025. To watch the discussion, visit the City's YouTube channel link at: <https://youtu.be/LqWULGypcTE?t=19997>. The discussion did not address the NRC's letter point by point but was instead a much larger discussion of how a tree canopy assessment would be related to other City Commission goals, particularly infrastructure and parks.

After the retreat, the tree canopy assessment, [Bee City USA](#), and City Arborist priorities were listed under the City Commission Goal to "Improve the City's Parks and Natural Resources", along with maintaining the City's Tree City USA status, an ongoing yearly application currently managed by the Planning Division on behalf of the city.

Priorities:

- Adopt a 5-year Parks Capital Improvement Plan that prioritizes projects and will guide budget investments, revenue options, and grant opportunities for potential funding sources for deferred maintenance throughout the parks and recreation system
- Strive to become recognized as a [Bee City USA](#) and increase high-quality habitat for pollinators, in particular native bees
- Maintain our Tree City USA designation
- Identify and apply for grant funding to complete a tree canopy assessment and determine the need and costs associated with a City Arborist
- Identify funding and grants to begin the design and construction of a replacement boat ramp and park improvements at Clackamette Park

There was some discussion of funding for the canopy assessment at the budget committee meetings: <https://youtu.be/gAzPokFRmf4?t=3809>. At this time, staff is planning to pursue

funding for this project with a Green Infrastructure grant application to the Department of Land Conservation and Development.

Parks Department will take the lead on the Bee City USA application.

BACKGROUND:

Staff is asking for NRC support for the DLCD grant application and Bee City USA applications.

NEXT STEPS:

NA. Parks and Planning staff time as needed to support the grant application process.

OPTIONS:



DLCD

Department of
Land Conservation
& Development



Community Green Infrastructure Grant

Grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$500,000 for green infrastructure projects, plans, and native plants

What is green infrastructure?

Green infrastructure is infrastructure that mimics natural systems. Some examples are urban green space, trees, rain gardens, and stormwater planter boxes.

Why green infrastructure?

Green infrastructure can provide social, environmental, and economic benefits such as:

- ✓ Flood protection
- ✓ Shade and cooler temperatures
- ✓ Better air quality
- ✓ Sense of community

Who can apply?

- ✓ Local governments
- ✓ Tribes
- ✓ Native seed banks
- ✓ Faith-based organizations
- ✓ Non-profits
- ✓ Schools
- ✓ Nurseries
- ✓ ... and many more!

What types of projects can receive funding?



Community Green Infrastructure Projects

Green infrastructure projects that benefit an environmental justice community and are created in collaboration with that community.



Native Seed Banks and Plant Nurseries

Projects supporting native seed banks and plant nurseries to produce and distribute plants native to the Pacific Northwest region.



Green Infrastructure Master Plans

Support and implementation of plans for urban forestry, storm water management, parks, and public green spaces.

Learn more about the Community Green Infrastructure Grant Program and its requirements.

Laura Buhl, Community Green Infrastructure Program Administrator
(971)-375-3552 | laura.buhl@dlcd.oregon.gov | www.oregon.gov/lcd/cgi



Call for Applications

Community Green Infrastructure Grants

Table of Contents

Overview..... 2

Program Scope and Funding..... 4

 Defining Green Infrastructure..... 4

 Funding..... 4

 Program Priorities 5

Grant Categories 8

 Community Green Infrastructure Projects & Green Infrastructure Economic Development Projects..... 8

 Native Seed Banks and Native Plant Nurseries 12

 Green Infrastructure Master Plans..... 14

Grant Fund Allocation 17

Application and Scoring 18

 Application components..... 18

 Application review and scoring 18

Additional Information for Applicants and Grantees 21

 Payments..... 21

 Monitoring and Reporting..... 21

 Reservation of Rights, Notice of Intent to Award, and Grant Agreement 22

This document contains hyperlinked text. If you are reading a printed copy, you may find a digital version with hyperlinks at <https://www.oregon.gov/lcd/CGI/Pages/default.aspx>.

Overview

What This Grant Program Funds

This grant program supports projects that bring green infrastructure into Oregon communities. This includes:

- Planting or building green infrastructure that benefits people and ecosystems
- Growing and supplying native plants and seeds
- Creating green infrastructure master plans

Green infrastructure consists of nature-based systems that increase community resilience by managing stormwater, reducing heat, restoring landscapes, and providing a wide array of other benefits. Examples of green infrastructure include trees, rain gardens, bioswales, and green roofs.

Types of Projects and Grant Amounts

There are four grant categories:

Grant Type	Amount Range
Community Green Infrastructure Projects	\$10,000 – \$300,000
Green Infrastructure Economic Development	\$10,000 – \$500,000
Native Seed Banks & Native Plant Nurseries	\$10,000 – \$200,000
Green Infrastructure Master Plans	\$10,000 – \$250,000

No match required. Funds may be used as match for other grants.

Key Dates

- **Applications Open:** August 11, 2025
- **Applications Close:** October 13, 2025, at 5 p.m.
- **Awards Announced:** January 2026

Who Can Apply

Each grant category has its own list of eligible applicants. See the “Eligible Applicants” section under the grant categories (pp. 8-16) for a complete listing. Eligible applicants include:

- Local governments and other public bodies
- Federally recognized tribes in Oregon
- Nonprofit and faith-based organizations
- Local workforce development boards
- Watershed councils
- Manufactured dwelling park nonprofit cooperatives

- Native seed banks and native plant nurseries

How to Apply

Visit the [program website](#) to:

- Download the [application template](#) (Word document)
- Register and submit your application online
- Schedule a **pre-application meeting** (required for Master Plans)

Requirements

See the “Requirements” section under each grant category for more information about the requirements for the different grants (pp. 8-16).

For this round of funding, master plans, seed banks, and nurseries must be located in a [Green Infrastructure Improvement Zone](#).

What Makes a Strong Application

Projects that:

- Plant **large, low-maintenance, drought- and storm-resistant trees**
- Use **native and pollinator-friendly plants**
- **Add new green infrastructure** in areas that don’t have it
- Plant trees near schools, affordable housing, senior housing, or manufactured dwelling parks
- Help implement a city’s plan to **increase urban tree canopy cover**
- Are **publicly accessible**, such as in public open space or along public streets

See the “Program Priorities” section for more information (p. 5).

Your project is more likely to be funded if it:

- Is in a [Green Infrastructure Improvement Zone](#);
- Supports [tribal, rural, remote, or coastal](#) communities; and
- Creates **green infrastructure jobs** in the community.

Questions?

Program Administrator

Laura Buhl
(971) 375-3552
laura.buhl@dlcd.oregon.gov

Program Support

Elliott Eastman
(971) 600-8861
elliott.eastman@dlcd.oregon.gov

Find maps and resources on the [CGI Program Website](#).

Program Scope and Funding

Defining Green Infrastructure

Community Green Infrastructure Program (CGI) grants help carry out green infrastructure projects that provide direct social, environmental, and economic benefits to communities throughout Oregon; fund the production of native seeds and plants; and create and implement green infrastructure master plans.

Green infrastructure is defined in Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) and as infrastructure that ([ORS 550.160](#)):

- Infiltrates, evapotranspires, captures, and reuses storm water to maintain or restore natural hydrology;
- Protects or restores natural landscapes;
- Uses rain gardens, porous pavements, green roofs, infiltration planters, trees, tree boxes, bioswales, or other green infrastructure strategies; or
- Harvests rain water from an artificial impervious surface for nonpotable uses, including landscape irrigation and toilet flushing;

or ([ORS 917.469](#)):

- Mimics natural systems, or enables natural systems to be less stressed through water conservation, water protection, or ecosystem restoration, at the neighborhood or site scale as part of an integrated approach in residential, municipal, or industrial developments or water infrastructure; and
- Implements community-based concepts, principles, and practices to conserve and manage resources for future generations, sequester carbon, and provide environmental and social benefits.

Funding

Match: There is no match requirement. CGI grants are funded exclusively by the State of Oregon. CGI grant funds may serve as a match for other grants, although the applicant is responsible for confirming match applicability with the other grant entity.

Funding deadlines: A project must be completed no later than eighteen months after project commencement. Community Green Infrastructure and Green Infrastructure Development projects that include funding for maintenance will have up to three years beyond project completion for maintenance activities. While time extensions for project completion may be possible, they will be granted at the discretion of DLCD staff, and only if the grantee can justify the extension and demonstrate substantial progress toward completing the project.



Funding Priorities and Limitations in This Round

For this round of funding, the majority, or likely all, of the funds will go to projects that will help the CGI Program meet the required fund allocations described on page 17 of this document. Projects that are not, 1) in the Green Infrastructure Economic Development category; 2) in a Green Infrastructure Improvement Zone; and/or 3) in a tribal, rural, remote, or coastal community have a very low chance of being funded.

Applications in the **Native Seed Bank and Native Plant Nursery** category will only be accepted if the project or grantee is located in a Green Infrastructure Improvement Zone. Please contact CGI program staff if you have questions about this eligibility requirement.

Applications in the **Green Infrastructure Master Plan** category will only be accepted if the plan is for an area that is entirely in a Green Infrastructure Improvement Zone. Because of the complexity of determining if a proposed plan is in this zone, applicants are required to have a pre-application meeting with CGI staff. Contact information for CGI staff is available on page 3 of this document and on the [program website](#).

The [Green Infrastructure Improvement Zone map](#) is available online.

Program Priorities

The most competitive proposals will address one or more of the following priorities.

- **Large, low-maintenance, storm- and drought-resistant tree plantings.**
 - This priority guides applicants to choose trees that will be large at maturity, not when planted. Tree size at planting will vary based on factors such as cost, availability, transportation requirements, and optimal size for survivability.
 - Example: To protect residents from extreme heat and generally improve livability, a manufactured dwelling park nonprofit cooperative plants drought-resistant shade trees that will be large at maturity.
- **Plantings that include native plants or pollinator-friendly species.**
 - Example 1: A non-profit organization plants native shade trees and a pollinator garden at an affordable housing development.
 - Example 2: A city replaces a portion of asphalt in a city parking lot with a bioswale planted with native pollinator-friendly species.
- **Tree plantings at or near school campuses, affordable housing, senior housing, manufactured dwelling parks, recreational vehicle parks, or public rights of way.**

- Example: A school converts an asphalt play area into a tree grove and develops a supportive curriculum to educate students on the benefits and importance of green infrastructure.
- **Strengthen communities and fight displacement.**
 - Selected resources for fighting displacement:
 - [Greening in Place: Protecting Communities from Displacement](#) (Toolkit by the Audubon Center at Debs Park, Public Counsel, and Southeast Asian Community Alliance)
 - [Sharing in the Benefits of a Greening City: a Policy Toolkit in Pursuit of Economic, Environmental, and Racial Justice](#) (University of Minnesota)
 - [Greening without Gentrification](#) (UCLA, University of Utah)
 - Example: A city adopts a parks and open space plan that includes anti-displacement strategies.
- **Develop innovative solutions for using urban woody biomass.**
 - Example: A juvenile corrections program uses wood from city trees that were removed (but are not infected with invasive pests) to teach woodworking skills to youth.
- **Projects carried out by a city that has adopted a plan to increase urban tree canopy cover and that will fully or partially implement the plan.**
 - Example 1: A city hires a consultant to amend its development code as directed by its Urban Forestry Master Plan. (Grant category: Green Infrastructure Master Plan – implementation)
 - Example 2: A city carries out a street tree planting in a priority neighborhood identified in its Community Forestry Plan as needing more tree canopy. (Grant category: Community Green Infrastructure Project)
- **Projects carried out by a city that has entered into a long-term (i.e., more than one season) agreement with an Oregon nursery to supply trees needed to increase urban tree canopy.**
 - This program priority applies to applications by cities and by nurseries that have such agreements and where the project helps fulfill the agreement. For example, a city planting trees or a nursery growing tree stock for city tree-planting projects.
 - “Oregon nursery” is defined in ORS 197.469(11) and on page 11 of this document.
- **Use a community’s cultural practices to educate, and conserve and manage resources for, future generations.**
 - Example: A non-profit community center creates a First Foods garden to cultivate traditional foods of the original people of the area.

- **Projects that create new green infrastructure.**
 - Projects that add green infrastructure where there currently is none meet this priority; for example, planting street trees where there are none, removing impermeable paving and replacing with vegetation or permeable paving, or installing a green roof.
 - Projects that *significantly expand* the volume of green infrastructure where it already exists also meet this priority; for example, planting large trees in a currently open lawn to increase urban tree canopy. The lawn is green infrastructure, but the trees qualify as a significant expansion of green infrastructure.
 - Projects that take place in areas where there is already green infrastructure and that primarily seek to improve its quality do **not** meet this priority; for example, invasive species removal or other habitat enhancements in existing natural areas that do not expand the volume or quantity of green infrastructure.
- **Projects that directly benefit the public by being broadly accessible because they are on public property that is open to the public.**
 - Example 1: Street tree plantings in the public right of way.
 - Example 2: Trees and raingardens planted on a public school campus.

Grant Categories

Community Green Infrastructure Projects & Green Infrastructure Economic Development Projects

This category provides funds for offsetting the cost of planning and developing Community Green Infrastructure Projects or Green Infrastructure Economic Development Projects. These projects must develop, construct, or plant green infrastructure as defined by this program (see p. 4). Community Green Infrastructure Projects provide social, environmental, and economic benefits to a particular community and are developed using a collaborative process that defines those benefits. Green Infrastructure Economic Development Projects are green infrastructure projects that employ members of a community that benefits from the project in the development, construction, planting, or maintenance of the project.

- Example 1 (Community Green Infrastructure Project): A city engages area residents in a project to depave unused right-of-way in a low-income neighborhood, replacing asphalt with shade trees and bioswales.
- Example 2 (Community Green Infrastructure Project): A school plants large shade trees in key locations on its campus to provide views of nature to students and reduce the urban heat island effect.
- Example 3 (Green Infrastructure Economic Development Project): A tribe hires people who are part of a green workforce training program to plant yard trees to increase tree canopy for tribal members living on trust land.

Eligible Applicants

- Public body as defined in ORS [174.109-174.117](#)
- Local workforce development board as defined in ORS [660.300\(4\)](#)
- Manufactured dwelling park nonprofit cooperative as defined in ORS [62.803\(4\)](#)
- Indian tribe federally recognized in Oregon
- Watershed council as defined in ORS [541.890\(14\)](#)
- Nonprofit organization (registered with the Oregon Secretary of State)
- Faith-based organization

An applicant for a Community Green Infrastructure Project or a Green Infrastructure Economic Development Project may partner with a state agency, a private business with a business site in Oregon, or an owner of rental property in Oregon. However, grants will be awarded and released only to an applicant on the above list of eligible applicants.

Requirements

- The application must be drafted in consultation with the government of the city, county, or tribal reservation or trust land in which the project will be located, and with the electric and water utilities in whose service territory the project will be located.

- Documentation: A completed [Consultation Form](#).
- The project must be completely located in Oregon.
 - Documentation: Map of project location and address (or description if no address is available) of the parcel or land where the project will occur.
- The project must provide social, environmental, and/or economic benefits to an environmental justice community.
 - “Environmental justice community” is defined in [ORS 182.535\(4\)](#). It includes:
 - Communities of color;
 - Communities experiencing lower incomes;
 - Communities experiencing health inequities;
 - Tribal communities;
 - Rural communities;
 - Remote communities;
 - Coastal communities;
 - Communities with limited infrastructure; and
 - Other communities traditionally underrepresented in public processes and adversely harmed by environmental and health hazards, including seniors, youth, and persons with disabilities.
 - Documentation: Identify the environmental justice community (or communities) that will benefit and provide a narrative describing the social, environmental, or economic benefits they will receive from the project.
- The project has been or will be developed in coordination with an environmental justice community that will benefit from the completion of the project. All project decisions involving the expenditure of grant funds must comply with all federal and state laws and regulations prohibiting unlawful discrimination.
 - This requirement does not apply to projects developed by tribes.
 - Documentation:
 - A narrative describing how the project was (or will be) developed with the environmental justice community benefiting from the project; and
 - Letter(s) of support from the environmental justice community. Letters of support from community-based organizations representing environmental justice communities will benefit an application.
- The project has a plan for the maintenance of the project for at least three years or has requested technical assistance for maintenance planning.
 - Documentation: Maintenance plan for the project.
 - If the grant request includes technical assistance for maintenance planning, then a maintenance plan is not required.

Additional Requirements for Green Infrastructure Economic Development Projects

- The project must employ members of a community that benefits from the green infrastructure project in the development, construction, planting, or maintenance of the project. “Employ” means that members of the benefiting community are monetarily compensated for their work. The community members employed on the project may be from any community (not just environmental justice communities) that benefits from the completed project. Projects that create new employment opportunities may be prioritized during the grant review process. All employment decisions involving the project must comply with all federal and state laws and regulations prohibiting unlawful discrimination.
 - Documentation:
 - Narrative explanation defining the benefiting community and describing how the community will benefit from the completed project.
 - Description of project staffing, including positions, the recruiting and hiring process, and how qualifying employees are members of the benefiting community.
 - Letter(s) of support from any partner organizations.

Required goals for Community Green Infrastructure Projects and Green Infrastructure Economic Development Projects

In addition to the requirements detailed in the preceding section, Community Green Infrastructure Projects and Green Infrastructure Development Projects must achieve certain goals during the project execution. These goals are not optional and must be achieved to the maximum extent possible as provided in [ORS 197.470\(9\)](#):

- Minimize the vehicle miles traveled associated with all plant and tree stocks used in the project.
 - Guidance: Applicants should demonstrate that they will acquire plant and tree stock from the closest location possible, based on the needs of the project. Applicants should research nurseries to identify which nurseries are able to supply plants or trees for the project, and the distance to those nurseries. Applicants are not required to place an order prior to a grant award. The selection of a nursery may change after an award, depending on plant and tree availability.
- Include partnerships with nurseries operated by an Indian tribe, an entity wholly owned by an Indian tribe, or an enrolled member of an Indian tribe, and operated on the tribe’s reservation or trust land.
 - Guidance: Applicants may, but are not required to, contact tribes prior to applying. After grants are awarded, DLCD will inform all the federally recognized tribes about the grant awards to provide them with an opportunity to partner with the applicants. Applicants may also arrange partnerships individually.

- Use native plant stock that is grown from native seed banks or native seed recovery and planting efforts.
 - Guidance: This priority is not applicable if applicants show that the plants and trees most appropriate for the project are not native, or if stock grown from native seed banks or recovery efforts is not available.
- Use climate-adaptive plant stock that is regionally native, drought and disease tolerant, and noninvasive.
 - Guidance: If applicants show that the plants and trees that are most appropriate for the project are not regionally native, then that element of this requirement is not applicable. All plant stock (including non-native plants) should be drought tolerant, disease tolerant, and noninvasive.
- If the project occurs on a school campus, incorporate a curriculum or demonstration component to connect students to the project and provide education about:
 - Green infrastructure;
 - Careers in green infrastructure; and
 - Cultural practices to educate, and conserve and manage resources for, future generations.

Geographic Guidance

The Community Green Infrastructure Program is intended to provide direct benefits to a community of people. It is not intended for wilderness areas or purely natural conservation projects. Therefore, Community Green Infrastructure Projects and Green Infrastructure Economic Development Projects should be in areas within city limits, urban growth boundaries, urban unincorporated communities, rural unincorporated communities, or on tribal reservations or trust lands. If a project is proposed outside of any of these areas, the applicant must show how the project provides *direct* social, environmental, and economic benefits to a community of people in Oregon.

Eligible and Ineligible Costs for Community Green Infrastructure and Green Infrastructure Economic Development Projects

Eligible

Eligible costs are those necessary for completing the work described in the grant agreement and are incurred during the funding period. Costs must be documented, reasonable, and consistent with the project scope.

- Salaries and benefits of people working directly on the project
- Labor and services, including consultants or contractors for project work
- Travel to project site or to pick up plants
- Supplies directly for the project, such as plant stock, soil, tools, stakes, mulch, and fertilizer

- Equipment rental
- Permitting fees
- Maintenance planning
- Maintenance detailed in the three-year maintenance plan
- Indirect costs (e.g., overhead, administrative expenses): an applicant's federally approved indirect rate or, if none, 15 percent of project budget
- Costs directly associated with an equitable community engagement, such as: food, childcare, stipends or incentives, translation and interpretation, and publicity materials
- Education (including programming, curriculum development and materials, and signage) and staff training directly related to the project: limit 5 percent of project budget, 10 percent for projects on school campuses

Ineligible

- Research
- Feasibility studies
- Conference attendance
- Equipment purchase
 - Equipment is an article of nonexpendable, tangible personal property having a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more per unit.
- Land and easement acquisition
- Impermeable hardscape
- Synthetic grass
- Lighting
- Buildings, except that the green infrastructure elements of buildings (e.g., green roofs, rainwater catchment systems) are eligible
- Alcohol
- Cannabis
- Entertainment

Native Seed Banks and Native Plant Nurseries

This category provides funds for developing and supporting native seed banks and native plant nurseries to increase production of native plants that may be used in future green infrastructure projects. This category may not fund green infrastructure projects.

- Example: A native plant nursery hires a crew to collect seeds to propagate native plants.

Eligible Applicants

The eligible applicants for this grant category are native seed banks and native plant nurseries that meet the following definitions:

- Native seed bank
 - “Native seed bank” is defined in [ORS 197.469\(10\)](#) as a store of seeds from native plants that helps to preserve genetic diversity in those plant species to increase plant yield and health, including disease resistance and drought tolerance; hold seeds and plants for the restorative health of a community; or support the replanting of post-fire successional plants.
- Native plant nursery: an Oregon nursery that specializes in plants native to Oregon.
 - “Oregon nursery” is defined in [ORS 197.469\(11\)](#) as a person that holds a license required by [ORS 571.055](#) issued by the State Department of Agriculture; or a nursery operated by an Indian tribe, an entity wholly owned by an Indian tribe, or an enrolled member of an Indian tribe and operated on the tribe’s reservation or trust land.

All nurseries listed in the application must be Oregon nurseries. An Oregon nursery may not apply on behalf of nurseries that do not meet the definition of Oregon nursery.

For this funding round, all Native Seed Bank and Native Plant Nursery proposals must be for entities or projects in Green Infrastructure Improvement Zones. A [map of zones](#) is available online.

Requirements

There are no specific requirements for applications for native seed banks and native plant nurseries. Proposals will be evaluated on their potential for furthering overall program priorities and the likelihood of success. Successful applications will be those that strongly promote the program priorities through the types of seeds collected and plants produced, and through partnerships with cities.

Eligible and Ineligible Costs for Native Seed Banks and Native Plant Nurseries

Eligible

Eligible costs are those necessary for completing the work described in the grant agreement and are incurred during the funding period. Costs must be documented, reasonable, and consistent with the project scope.

- Salaries and benefits of people working directly on the project
- Labor and services, including consultants or contractors for project work

- Travel to acquire supplies or collect seeds
- Supplies directly for the project, such as plant stock, soil, tools, stakes, mulch, fertilizer, irrigation
- Equipment rental
- Permitting fees
- Indirect costs (e.g., overhead, administrative expenses): an applicant's federally approved indirect rate or, if none, 15 percent of project budget
- Constructing greenhouses or hoop houses
- Land rental
- Training

Ineligible

- Research
- Feasibility studies
- Conference attendance
- Equipment purchase
 - Equipment is an article of nonexpendable, tangible personal property having a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more per unit.
- Land and easement acquisition
- Education, including programming, curriculum development and materials, and signage
- Alcohol
- Cannabis
- Entertainment

Green Infrastructure Master Plans

This category provides funds for new, or amending existing, green infrastructure master plans, and for implementing green infrastructure elements of existing master plans. Green infrastructure master plans are long-term plans that create, protect, or enhance green infrastructure, such as urban forestry plans, storm water management plans, and plans to establish parks or other public green spaces. A successful application will involve plans that are substantially oriented toward green infrastructure or amend existing plans to introduce green infrastructure elements.

If a project to implement a master plan would otherwise qualify as a Community Green Infrastructure Project, then applicants should apply in that category.

- Example 1: A city revises its stormwater master plan to add green infrastructure stormwater management strategies.

- Example 2: A tribal government conducts a tree inventory and adopts an urban forestry master plan for its reservation.
- Example 3: A city has a street tree master plan that directs the city to amend its street standards to support street trees. The grant funds the work necessary to amend the street standards.

Eligible Applicants

The eligible applicants for this grant category are:

- Public body as defined in ORS [174.109-174.117](#)
- Indian tribe federally recognized in Oregon

For this funding round, all Green Infrastructure Master Plan proposals must be for plans entirely in Green Infrastructure Improvement Zones. A [map of zones](#) is available online. Applicants in this category are required to have a pre-application meeting with Community Green Infrastructure Program staff to screen for eligibility.

Requirements

A green infrastructure master plan must be a long-term plan that involves the creation, protection, or enhancement of green infrastructure.

Eligible and Ineligible Costs for Green Infrastructure Master Plans

Eligible

Eligible costs are those necessary for completing the work described in the grant agreement and are incurred during the funding period. Costs must be documented, reasonable, and consistent with the project scope.

- Salaries and benefits of people working directly on the project
- Hiring of consultants or contractors for project work
- Indirect costs (e.g., overhead, administrative expenses): an applicant’s federally approved indirect rate or, if none, 15 percent.
- Costs directly associated with an equitable community engagement, such as: food, childcare, stipends or incentives, translation and interpretation, and publicity materials

Ineligible

- Research
- Feasibility studies
- Training

- Education
- Conference attendance
- Alcohol
- Cannabis
- Entertainment

Grant Fund Allocation

[ORS 197.471](#) requires the Community Green Infrastructure Program to award grants to satisfy three separate allocations, listed below. Some proposed projects may count toward one or more allocation and could therefore be more likely to be selected. Proposed projects that do not fit within any of the allocations are still eligible but may be less likely to be selected. *Note that for this funding round, the Native Seed Banks and Native Plant Nurseries category and the Green Infrastructure Master Plans category must be in Green Infrastructure Improvement Zones.*

- **Planning or developing Green Infrastructure Economic Development Projects: ≥ 30%**

- **Entities or projects located in Green Infrastructure Improvement Zones: ≥ 40%**
 - The Oregon Department of Forestry has designated [Green Infrastructure Improvement Zones](#) as required by [ORS 526.520](#).

- **Entities or projects in tribal, rural, remote, or coastal communities: ≥ 30%**
 - *Rural and Remote communities:* Communities outside of Oregon’s metropolitan and micropolitan regions.
 - *Coastal communities:* Coastal communities are those that are in [Oregon’s coastal zone](#), as defined by the [Oregon Coastal Management Program](#). The Oregon coastal zone includes the state’s coastal watersheds and extends seaward three nautical miles and inland to the crest of the coast range, with a few exceptions:
 - Along the Umpqua River, where it extends upstream to Scottsburg;
 - Along the Rogue River, where it extends upstream to Agness; and
 - In the Columbia River Basin, where it extends upstream to the downstream end of Puget Island.
 - *Tribal communities:* Communities on the reservation or trust land of a federally recognized tribe in Oregon.
 - A [map of coastal, rural, and remote](#) areas is available online.

Application and Scoring

Application components

In addition to the documentation required for the specific grant category, applications must include the following components:

- a. Project title
- b. Project description:
 - Clear, measurable goals and specific objectives of the project
 - Project methodology: a detailed plan of action, including how the project will be implemented and the strategies to be used
 - How the project meets Community Green Infrastructure Program priorities
- c. Organization information:
 - History and Background: Information about the applicant organization, its mission, and its accomplishments
 - Staff Qualifications: Resumes or bios of key personnel involved in the project
- d. Timeline: A schedule with the start and end dates, phases of the project (including maintenance period, if applicable), and key milestones
- e. Budget:
 - Detailed Budget: A breakdown of all costs associated with the project, including personnel, materials, travel, and other expenses
 - Budget Justification: Explanation of how the budgeted funds will be used and why they are necessary
- f. Long-term sustainability plan: Explanation of how the project will continue after the grant period ends, including future funding sources or strategies
- g. Letters of support from partners, organizations, and community members

Application review and scoring

Applications will be reviewed and scored by a panel of reviewers convened by the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD). DLCD will conduct an initial eligibility screening and eligible applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria.

Criteria applicable to all projects

Criterion 1: The proposal achieves program priorities (50 points total, 5 points for each priority)

Applicants should demonstrate how the proposal achieves program priorities directly; or in the case of projects involving native plant nurseries, native seed banks, and green infrastructure master planning, will support future achievement of program priorities.

- Large, low-maintenance, storm- and drought-resistant tree plantings
- Plantings that include native plants or pollinator-friendly species
- Tree plantings at or near school campuses, affordable housing, senior housing, manufactured dwelling parks, recreational vehicle parks, or public rights of way
- Strengthen communities and fight displacement
- Develop innovative solutions for using urban woody biomass
- Projects carried out by a city that has adopted a plan to increase urban tree canopy cover and that will fully or partially implement the plan.
- Projects carried out by a city that has entered into a long-term (i.e., more than one season) agreement with an Oregon nursery to supply trees needed to increase urban tree canopy.
- Use a community's cultural practices to educate, and conserve and manage resources for, future generations
- Projects that create new green infrastructure.
- Projects that directly benefit the public by being broadly accessible because they are on public property that is open to the public.

Criterion 2: The project plan is clear, achievable, and sustainable (25 points)

- The application must describe and demonstrate a clear approach to achieving the desired outcomes and long-term success of those outcomes.

Criterion 3: The project budget is realistic and reasonable (25 points)

- How the funds will be spent is clearly demonstrated.
- The budget is commensurate with the project work and outcomes.

Criterion 4: Applicant experience and track record (15 points)

- The applicant and project team have experience successfully developing or implementing similar projects.

Criteria specific to Community Green Infrastructure Projects and Economic Development Projects

Criterion 5: The project provides direct social, environmental, and economic benefits to an Oregon community through green infrastructure. (25 points)

Criterion 6: Requirements specific to Community Green Infrastructure Projects and Green Infrastructure Economic Development Projects (combination of points and Y/N)

CGI staff will conduct an eligibility review to ensure the application meets each requirement. Then during the review panel evaluation, the requirements will be scored.

- The application was drafted in consultation with the government of the city, county, or tribal

reservation or trust land in which the project will be located, and with the electric and water utilities in whose service territory the project will be located. (Y/N)

- The project is completely located in Oregon. (Y/N)
- The project provides social, environmental, and/or economic benefits to an environmental justice community. (15 points)
- The project has been, or will be, developed in coordination with an environmental justice community that will benefit from the completion of the project. (15 points)
 - Tribes are exempted from this requirement. The scoring will be adjusted to take this exemption into account.
- The project has a plan for the maintenance of the project for at least three years or has requested technical assistance for maintenance planning. (15 points)
- The project employs members of a community that benefits from the community green infrastructure project in the development, construction, planting, or maintenance of the project. All employment decisions involving the project must comply with all federal and state discrimination laws and regulations. [This requirement is only for Green Infrastructure Economic Development Projects.] (Y/N)

Criterion 7: Community Green Infrastructure Projects and Green Infrastructure Economic Development Project Required Goals

Applicants must meet each of the following goals to the maximum extent possible. Some goals are not applicable to all projects. If a goal is not applicable, the applicant must explain why. The grant review committee must find that the applicant has achieved each applicable element or, if an element hasn't been achieved, then it must be addressed and achieved through the grant agreement.

- Minimize the vehicle miles traveled associated with all plant and tree stocks used in the project.
- Include partnerships with nurseries operated by an Indian tribe, an entity wholly owned by an Indian tribe, or an enrolled member of an Indian tribe, and operated on the tribe's reservation or trust land.
- Use native plant stock that is grown from native seed banks or native seed recovery and planting efforts.
- Use climate-adaptive plant stock that is regionally native, drought and disease tolerant, and noninvasive.
- For projects on school campuses, incorporate a curriculum or demonstration component to connect students to the project and provide education about:
 - Green infrastructure;
 - Careers in green infrastructure; and
 - Cultural practices to educate, and conserve and manage resources for, future generations.

Additional Information for Applicants and Grantees

Payments

Most funds will be disbursed on a reimbursement basis as stipulated in the grant agreement.

Advance payments for grant recipients may be allowed by request and on a case-by-case basis to ensure the recipient has the necessary funds to initiate and carry out project activities. However, to manage risks and ensure accountability, there may be additional requirements, such as documentation of need, risk assessment, past performance review, additional monitoring, and audits.

Monitoring and Reporting

As outlined in the grant agreements, DLCD will monitor awarded projects through site visits, update meetings, and regular reporting by the grant recipient on the progress of the work. The details (deadlines, frequency, etc.) of the monitoring and reporting will be stipulated in the grant agreements.

Quarterly Progress Reports

Grant recipients will be required to submit quarterly reports to ensure transparency, accountability, and ongoing communication about the progress of the funded project. These reports enable the grantor to monitor progress, ensure proper use of funds, and provide support where needed. Failure to submit timely and accurate reports may affect future funding and the continuation of the grant. The quarterly reports must include the following elements:

- **Summary:** A brief overview of the project's progress, major achievements, and any significant changes or challenges encountered during the quarter.
- **Progress on Objectives:** Detailed updates on the progress toward each project objective, specific activities completed, milestones achieved, and any deviations from the planned timeline and objectives.
- **Financial Report:** Detailed accounting of grant funds expended during the quarter, a breakdown of expenditures by category (e.g., personnel, materials, travel), and an explanation of any variances between the budgeted and actual expenditures.
- **Challenges and Solutions:** Description of any challenges or obstacles encountered and steps taken to overcome these challenges.
- **Upcoming Activities:** Outline of planned activities and objectives for the next quarter, as well as adjustments to the timeline or project plan, if necessary.

Closeout Report

At the end of the grant period, grant recipients will be required to submit a closeout report. This final report ensures accountability and provides a comprehensive overview of the project's outcomes and financials. The closeout report must include:

- Project Summary: A concise overview of the project, including objectives, activities, and outcomes.
- Final Outcomes and Impact: Detailed description of the project's achievements and its impact.
- Photos of project during all phases (pre-project, planting, final outcome, etc.), if applicable.
- Evaluation of how well the project met its original goals and objectives.
- Financial Report: Comprehensive accounting of all grant funds received and expended.
- Final budget reconciliation, including explanations for any variances.
- Sustainability Plan: Explanation of how the project's results will be sustained beyond the grant period.
- Lessons Learned: Insights gained, challenges faced, and strategies used to overcome them.
- Compliance and Certification: Confirmation that all grant terms and conditions were met.

Reservation of Rights, Notice of Intent to Award, and Grant Agreement

DLCD reserves all rights regarding this grant opportunity, including, but not limited to, the right to:

- Amend or cancel this grant opportunity without liability if DLCD decides to do so.
- When appropriate, DLCD will issue revisions, substitutions, or clarifications as addenda to this grant opportunity. Changes and modifications to the grant opportunity shall be recognized only if in the form of written addenda issued by DLCD and posted on the website: <https://www.oregon.gov/lcd/CGI/Pages/default.aspx>.
- Set a maximum award amount per recipient organization and set a maximum amount per client.
- Waive any minor informality or non-conformance with the provisions or procedures of this grant opportunity.
- Seek clarification of any application.
- Negotiate the requirements described in this grant opportunity.
- Reject any application upon a finding by DLCD that accepting the application may impair the integrity of the solicitation process or that rejecting the application is in the best interest of DLCD as determined by DLCD in its sole discretion.
- Verify any information or endorsements included in the application or letters of support to ensure accuracy.

After review and scoring, DLCD will issue a Notice of Intent to Award that will include the amount of the conditional award to each award recipient.

- DLCD reserves the right to approve funding awards for less than the amount requested

by an applicant.

- DLCD also reserves the right to adjust the amount of funding and negotiate modifications to the applicant's proposed project and budget prior to the execution of a grant agreement and related legal documents for the award.
- Approval of an application will be conditional and subject to further review and execution of a grant agreement.
- Grant agreements may also be subject to review and approval by the Oregon Department of Justice.
- Applicants will not receive award funds until documents required in the Notice of Intent to Award and any follow-up documents have been submitted and are deemed satisfactory by DLCD and a grant agreement is executed.
- Pre-award costs are not eligible for grant funding unless expressly authorized by DLCD, in its sole discretion.
- DLCD also reserves the right to amend any grant agreement that is issued as a result of this grant opportunity.