



CITY OF OREGON CITY NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE AGENDA

Community Room, Community Development Building,
695 Warner Parrott Rd, Oregon City, OR
Wednesday, April 8, 2026 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. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Approval of Natural Resources Committee Meeting Minutes for the Following Dates: 8-10-22, 9-14-22, 10-12-22, 11-9-22, 1-11-23, 2-8-23, 3-8-23, 4-12-23, 7-12-23, 8-9-23, and 12-13-23

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. NROD property owner informational flyer update and discussion

4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- a. Election of NRC Officers

5. COMMUNICATIONS

6. 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

Meeting Minutes - Draft Natural Resources Committee

Monday, August 10, 2022

6:00 PM

Commission Chambers

1. Convene Regular Meeting and Roll Call

Chair Broshot called the meeting to order at 6:09 PM.

Present: 3 - Chair Nancy Broshot, Committee Member Samantha Wolf, and Committee Member Devon Pilney

Absent: 2 - Committee Member Chris Weaver and Committee Member Brian Kvistler,

Staffers: 3 – Planning Manager Pete Walter, Assistant Planner Molly Gaughran, and Assistant Planner Jude Thaddaeus

Jude Thaddaeus and Molly Gaughran, new Assistant Planners, introduced themselves.

2. Interviews for Natural Resources Committee

The Committee interviewed Emily Lisborg, asking her the reasons she wanted to serve on the NRC, her background in natural resources, previous experience on an advisory committee, projects the NRC should pursue, and time commitment. Ms. Lisborg asked about any recommended reading to prepare for serving on the NRC.

There was discussion regarding the updated Street Tree List going to the City Commission on August 17 for approval and the updated Street Tree code going to the Commission in September.

3. Public Comment

None

4. Communications

Committee Member Wolf gave a background on the Emerald Ash Borer and their destruction of native ash trees. Because it was an invasive pest, the wood had to be carefully quarantined. They needed to anticipate what they would do when the Borer came to the City, especially since it was already in Forest Grove. Infestation was not

easily recognizable. She explained the first signs of infestation and recommended training to identify the insect and what to do after it was identified. She thought it would be helpful to have an inventory of ash trees in the City to know how many trees they would need to manage or protect and possibly replant. They also needed processes in place for how to deal with infestation.

It was suggested to add information about this to the City's website and newsletter and put a flyer in utility bills.

5. Future Agenda Items

There was discussion regarding future agenda items including Thimble Creek heritage tree designations, native plant list update and officially adopting the County's list, tree removal code and canopy coverage discussion, fall planting for Friends of Trees, invasive species list, tree inventory, hiring an urban forester, Emerald Ash Borer update from staff, Planning 101, Type III land use applications coming to the NRC, Arbor Day planning, and coordination with PRAC.

Committee Member Wolf discussed the Partners in Community Forestry Conference on November 15-16 in Seattle.

6. Adjournment

Chair Broshot adjourned the meeting at 7:11 PM.



City of Oregon City

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft Natural Resources Committee

Monday, September 14, 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: 4 - Chair Nancy Broshot, Committee Member Samantha Wolf, Committee Member Emily Lisborg, and Committee Member Brian Kvistler

Absent: 2 - Committee Member Chris Weaver and Committee Member Devon Pilney

Staffers: 1 – Planning Manager Pete Walter

2. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented.

3. Public Comment

None

4. New Business/Discussion Items

412 Logus Street Heritage Tree Failure and Removal – Pete Walter, Planning Manager, said over the weekend a portion of this tree had fallen into the alleyway and caused damage. The tree had been in decline since the ice storm in 2021. The remaining portion of the tree posed an imminent hazard and the owner was requesting to remove it. The tree was on private property. He shared pictures of the tree and discussed the criteria for removal.

There was consensus that there was no way to save the tree and that it should be removed.

Mayor's Monarch Pledge – Mr. Walter said the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee wrote a letter of support for partnership with the National Wildlife Federation to enhance habitat for the monarch butterfly. He explained the action items included with the pledge. He asked for ideas on how to support the public

outreach effort and improve monarch butterfly habitat. He provided the presentation staff made to the City Commission about the program.

There was discussion regarding resources from Planning to support outreach including a webpage and City's newsletter, plants to support the caterpillars and butterflies, changing mowing schedules, minimizing use of pesticides, encouraging the City and neighborhoods to plant certain plants, involving the schools, integrating changes into master plans, native plant sale at Arbor Day, and demonstration garden at City Hall.

There was support for additional action items including amending the weeding, mowing, and pesticide practices, diversifying the list of plantings in the zoning code and stormwater standards, and looking into the Bee City USA program and better integrated pest management.

Street Tree Code Update – Mr. Walter said Assistant Planner Thaddaeus was going to work on the Street Tree Code after getting formal direction from the City Commission. They would be developing a survey and public outreach. They would also get feedback from City Committees and property owners would be notified. The City Commission would have a work session and survey on the topic and the legislative process would include public hearings. He had the suggested changes to the code from the NRC. He thought a topic to consider was scalable caliper sizes based on tree species from a cost and availability standpoint.

It was recommended to lower the caliper size and prioritize native evergreen species.

There was discussion regarding the definition of a tree, what was allowed in planter strips and how 3 foot planters would not be replanted, Sooty Bark Disease in Maples, root barrier policy, stormwater swales and plantings allowed, and cost benefit of hiring an urban forester to be on staff.

Emerald Ash Borer Update – Mr. Walter said staff added a policy that no ash trees would be planted in new parks or as tree replacements. They were also monitoring for and training staff on what to look for as well as attending meetings on the issue. Information and resources were also on the City's website. A flyer would go into the utility bills as well.

There was discussion regarding information to include on the website and prevention and mitigation plan to slow the spread.

5. Communications

Mr. Walter spoke about heritage tree designations from 2020 and 2022 that still needed plaques and covenants recorded.

There was discussion regarding how the forms and checklist were confusing and that there were new nominations for heritage tree designation.

Mr. Walter gave an update on the Friends of Trees neighborhood planting. The contract was good through 2023 and they would be able to renew for another three years. The next event was November 12 and they needed more tree planters. They

would also be doing a pruning workshop early next year.

There was discussion regarding the status of previous tree plantings.

5. Future Agenda Items

There was discussion regarding future agenda items including Arbor Day preparation, Monarch butterfly program, street tree code, City forester position, Bee City USA program, and planting trees on the empty field on Linn Avenue.

The Committee discussed the Arbor Day event, which would be a dedication and plaque for the City's Hiroshima peace tree at the End of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center.

6. Adjournment

Chair Broshot adjourned the meeting at 8:04 PM.



City of Oregon City

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft Natural Resources Committee

Monday, October 12, 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 Samantha Wolf, Committee Member Emily Lisborg, Committee Member Chris Weaver, and Committee Member Brian Kvistler

Absent: 1 - Committee Member Devon Pilney

Staffers: 1 – Planning Manager Pete Walter

2. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented.

3. Public Comment

None

4. New Business/Discussion Items

Heritage Tree Nomination for 801 JQ Adams Street – Chair Broshot said this was a beautiful old White Oak tree near where she lived. It was huge and over 200 years old.

Pete Walter, Planning Manager, said it was in excellent condition and had been trimmed recently and dead branches were removed. It provided good canopy spread. He showed pictures of the tree from the application. The property had historic landmark status and the new house had also been through Historic Review Board review. However, the HRB did not look at the landscaping. The tree was on the property line and the new sidewalk curved around the tree. The house was for sale, and the current owner was worried a new owner might cut it down. He explained that a signed restricted covenant would be needed when the application was sent to the City Commission so it could be recorded after the Commission's

approval.

It was noted a nearby flowering plum and ivy would need to be removed.

Mr. Walter reviewed the heritage tree criteria. He thought the tree met all the relevant criteria and he recommended approval.

There was consensus to recommend approval to the City Commission.

Street Tree Code Update – Mr. Walter said Assistant Planner Thaddaeus was working on the minor code amendment. The amendment would add an exception to the current code for planter strips three feet wide. There would be public outreach in the fall of 2022, legislative hearings in the winter of 2023, and City Commission adoption in the spring of 2023. He explained how the amendment would be advertised. He then reviewed the web page with information about the amendment and general information about street trees.

Chair Broshot said the McLoughlin Neighborhood Association should be notified as well.

There was discussion regarding the reasons native trees were not on the street tree list and adding a link on the website to Tree City USA.

Mr. Walter said the City would launch their new website in 2023 and was looking for photos.

5. Communications

Mr. Walter announced the Friends of Trees neighborhood planting at Rivercrest Park on November 12. He then discussed Arbor Day preparations including a dedication ceremony for the Oregon City Peace Tree, an Oregon City Clean Up activity, and tree plantings at parks.

Committee Member Wolf shared who should be invited to the Peace Tree ceremony and process to get the required plaque. She noted the tree needed some maintenance before the ceremony.

Committee Member Lisborg suggested putting a short fence around the tree that people could put ribbons on and hang the plaque on. Committee Member Wolf said Gladstone would be happy to have City representatives come to see their peace tree program. Mr. Walter suggested they go to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee with these recommendations.

Mr. Walter said the City was going to fund an ash borer flyer to be put in the utility bills. He shared information about the borer that was on the City's website. It was suggested to add winter tree identification information to the website.

Mr. Walter said the Clackamas County Courthouse was moving and to accommodate the new building, they had to take out a significant number of existing parking spots and trees not only for the new building but also to relocate a major water trunk main and sewer main. They would also replace a stormwater line to Mud Creek. Staff was calculating how many mitigation and replacement trees were needed. At this stage it was a Type I, staff approved application. A page would be

added to the City's website about the project.

Committee Member Wolf recommended postponing work until the dry season due to the runoff which would impact the storm facility and potentially flood.

Mr. Walter asked if a Committee Member wanted to lead the Bee City USA endeavor. Committee Member Lisborg volunteered. She suggested Sharon Selvaggio with Xerces Society give a talk about this program at the next NRC meeting.

Mr. Walter discussed a possible City Forester/Arborist position. Chair Broshot thought they needed to do a cost benefit analysis. Committee Member Wolf suggested inviting the Urban and Community Forestry Manager in Portland as well as John Lewis, Public Works Director, to discuss the position.

6. Future Agenda Items

There was discussion regarding future agenda items including the NRC Work Plan, adding maintenance obligations of property owners to the Heritage Tree Code, public information about Box Elder bugs, and hazard tree assessment process.

Committee Member Lisborg reported on the ivy pull at Singer Creek by the Greater Oregon City Watershed Council and the Elyville Neighborhood Association planting of native wildflowers in the rights-of-way.

7. Adjournment

Chair Broshot adjourned the meeting at 7:46 PM.



City of Oregon City

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft Natural Resources Committee

Monday, November 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 Samantha Wolf, Committee Member Emily Lisborg, Committee Member Devon Pilney, and Committee Member Brian Kvistler

Absent: 1 - Committee Member Chris Weaver

Staffers: 3 – Planning Manager Pete Walter, Assistant Planner Jude Thaddaeus, and Public Works Director John Lewis

2. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented.

3. Presentation – Xerces Society

Sharon Selvaggio and Laura Rost, Xerces Society, gave a presentation on the Bee City USA program. They introduced the Xerces Society and discussed plant reproduction, drivers of pollinator declines, Bee City USA and Bee Campus USA commitments and affiliates, enhancing bee habitat, direct benefits to affiliates, promo and outreach kits, greater benefits of being a Bee City, the City application process, forming a Bee City Committee, examples of projects, reducing pesticide use, outreach and education, public acknowledgement, annual report and renewal fee, free resources, and upcoming webinars. They explained how pollinators were essential for wildlife and connection with nature, Bee City commitments, what IPM was and how it reduced pest incidence, complaints, and pesticide use, and what was involved in a well-executed IPM program.

There was discussion regarding how long term costs were less for installing pollinator habitats than maintaining turf lawn, recommendation to use native pollinating plants rather than non-native plants, assistance with the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) document, and definition of pests.

4. Public Comment

None

4. New Business/Discussion Items

2022-23 Street Tree Minor Code Amendment – Jude Thaddaeus, Assistant Planner, gave a presentation on the amendments which would remove replanting requirements for planting strips three feet wide or less, remove fees-in-lieu of replanting for planting strips three feet wide or less, specify replacement tree caliper size requirements for diseased or hazardous trees removed from planting strips wider than three feet, and allow property owners with strips three feet wide or less to replant appropriate trees from the newly adopted Street Tree Species List. Replanting in front yards within 10 feet of the right-of-way with a dedication covenant would also remain available. The impacts were a streamlined tree permit process with eliminated replanting costs in these cases, reduced future risk of mobility hazards, and reduced future risk of infrastructure damage. He discussed the anticipated timeline, public comments, and project webpage on the City's website.

There was discussion regarding public misconceptions about the three foot planter strips and suitable replanting options, how replanting was not required but allowed, importance of watering the trees especially in the smaller planter strips, encouraging people if they didn't plant a tree to put in a pollinator garden, resources for finding native plants, and public comments on the webpage.

5. Communications

Committee Member Wolf participated in the last Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee meeting and suggested support of a joint Arbor Day/Peace Tree Dedication event. She encouraged everyone to look at what Gladstone did for their Peace Tree.

Mr. Walter said they were going to form an organizational committee to plan the event. Committee Member Lisborg noted they already had a plaque for the Peace Tree.

Chair Broshot said regarding the heritage tree they had discussed at the last meeting, the house had been sold and the people who bought it did so because of the tree. She thought they would be favorable to preserving it. Mr. Walter said they were going to have the new owners fill out a new heritage tree application.

Committee Member Lisborg was working on scheduling a pollinator talk. Friends of Trees was doing a planting this Saturday at Rivercrest Park.

Mr. Walter said Mr. Lewis would return to the January meeting to discuss the City Arborist position. The December NRC meeting would be canceled. He suggested discussing the Work Plan at the January meeting as well. He noted staff had updated the City's website to include a page on the Emerald Ash Borer. The flyer on the borer would go in the utility bills in January/February 2023. The Committee looked at pictures and discussed how to identify Ash trees in winter.

There was discussion regarding presenting Bee City USA to other City committees and to include economic benefit of the program and specific sites for pollinator gardens and volunteers to maintain them in the presentation.

There was consensus for staff to draft a proposal for the Bee City USA representatives to make a presentation to the CIC.

6. Future Agenda Items

Future agenda items were discussed above.

7. Adjournment

Chair Broshot adjourned the meeting at 8:06 PM.



City of Oregon City

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft Natural Resources Committee

Monday, January 11, 2023

6:30 PM

Commission Chambers

1. Convene Regular Meeting and Roll Call

Chair Broshot called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Present: 3 - Chair Nancy Broshot, Committee Member Samantha Wolf, and Committee Member Emily Lisborg

Absent: 1 - Committee Member Brian Kvistler

Staffers: 2 – Planning Manager Pete Walter and Public Works Director John Lewis

2. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented.

3. Public Comment

None

4. New Business/Discussion Items

Urban Forester/City Arborist Discussion – John Lewis, Public Works Director, spoke about the need for an Urban Forester, what the City of Eugene did, and the position duties. He would be making the request for this position in the next budget cycle. He suggested the NRC write a letter to the Budget Committee advocating for the position.

There was discussion regarding reaching out to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee for support as well, salary range for the position, and making sure the expectations for the position were feasible.

There was consensus to send a letter to the City Commission in March for their Commission Retreat and to mention the letter when the NRC presented their 2022 annual report.

Election of NRC Officers – Mr. Walter said Committee Members Weaver and Pliney’s terms had expired. Nancy Broshot was nominated as Chair, Samantha Wolf as Vice Chair, and Brian Kvistler as Secretary for 2023.

5. Approval of Minutes

The Committee approved the May 9, June 13, August 8, September 12, and October 10, 2012; January 9, February 13, and November 13, 2013; December 9, 2015; January 13, 2016; April 12, 2017; and July 10 and September 11, 2019 meeting minutes.

6. Communications

Mr. Walter reviewed the removal of an imminent hazard tree adjacent to 1506 Monroe Street. He explained the assessment of the tree, which had been high risk due to a 74-degree lean combined with compromised soil stability after heavy rain and the potential to strike several targets. He then shared pictures of the tree, which had already been removed.

The Committee appreciated that a professional assessment had been done and agreed it was sensible for the tree to be removed. They suggested using this form for any tree removal claiming a hazard motivation.

Mr. Walter gave an update on the flyer for the emerald ash borer, more public education in the e-newsletter about invasives, a recent heritage tree that had split and was removed, and how there was no emergency clause in the code to remove a covenant on a property for a tree that was damaged due to a natural event. Staff was not requiring mitigation for the tree.

The Committee agreed with staff’s direction. There was discussion regarding adding an emergency clause to the code and including maintenance requirements for heritage trees as well as setting aside funds to help with maintenance.

7. Future Agenda Items

Future agenda items were discussed including the Committee’s Work Plan, reapplying for Tree City USA, and Arbor Day grants. There was discussion regarding Arbor Day events.

Committee Member Lisborg gave an update on the presentation by Xerxes to the CIC in March and environmental and wildlife event on March 11 at the Pioneer Community Center. Mr. Walter said the recommendation for pollinator plantings in street tree strips would be going to the City Commission next week and there was an upcoming pruning workshop at Chapin Park.

8. Adjournment

Chair Broshot adjourned the meeting at 7:48 PM.



City of Oregon City

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft Natural Resources Committee

Commission Chambers

Monday, February 8, 2023

6:00 PM

1. Convene Regular Meeting and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

Present: 3 - Committee Member Samantha Wolf, Committee Member Brian Kvistler, and Committee Member Emily Lisborg

Absent: 1 - Chair Nancy Broshot

Staffers: 1 – Planning Manager Pete Walter

2. Work Session: Update of the NRC Workplan for Biennium 2023-2025

Pete Walter, Planning Manager, reviewed the current NRC Workplan and the Committee discussed which items to keep, remove, or modify. He first discussed the NRC's responsibilities and activities that went along with those responsibilities.

There was consensus to keep all of the current activities listed on the Workplan with the following additions: under the tree inventory, they would add a priority for an inventory of Ash trees due to the imminent threat of the ash borer, under support a process and media for naming and interpretation of local features, they would add educational signage for animals and plants and add putting in pollinator gardens in planter strips less than three feet where street trees were not required, a new activity was to add support efforts to attain Bee City USA status, for strengthen and encourage participation in the Heritage Tree Program, they would add dedication events or recognition of heritage trees at an Arbor Day event and fundraising options for Heritage Tree maintenance, a new activity to add was support for the Climate Action Plan adoption of a more comprehensive tree protection ordinance, the City-wide Water Resource and Wetland inventory activity would be changed to "fund an update to the 1999 water resource and wetland inventory," the activity of "support a local levy for parks" would be changed to "support local funding options for parks," and a new activity was to receive and consider public comments or requests for policy and code amendments.

There was discussion regarding stormwater credits for Heritage Trees, preserving

trees and the tree canopy and amending the tree code for private development to prioritize preservation of trees to the extent the law allowed, update from the Oregon City Watershed Council on the coho salmon habitat improvement project, the invasive/noxious species lists should refer to the County's list as it was constantly changing, newly annexed property in the NROD, and status on the parks levy.

Staff would consolidate the suggestions and bring this back to the next meeting for action.

Regular Meeting

3. Public Comment

None

4. Adoption of the Agenda

The Stormwater Facilities Maintenance agenda item was postponed to the next meeting. The agenda was adopted as amended.

5. New Business/Discussion Items

Heritage Tree Nomination for an Oregon White Oak adjacent to 506 S. High Street – Mr. Walter described the nomination and how it met the criteria.

It was noted the tree had been trimmed around the utility lines. Mr. Walter said since this was a street tree, they did not record covenants on public right-of-way trees.

There was consensus to recommend approval to the City Commission.

Stormwater Facilities Maintenance – This item was postponed.

6. Approval of Minutes

None.

7. Communications

Mr. Walter said the City Commission tabled the street tree code amendments so they could consider the pollinator gardens idea. They also suggested the NRC revisit the fee in lieu of planting for street trees to make sure the cost was high enough. One Commissioner did not support the covenant idea for designating street trees on private property due to the cost of recording the covenant. The Commission also wanted consistent references for certified arborists in the code and to clarify the priority was for replanting trees onsite before looking at other options.

There was discussion regarding using industry standards and proper definition for the different types of arborists and what a hazard tree was. There was also discussion regarding adding the Tree of Heaven to the invasive species list and if an informational flyer should be sent out.

These changes would be brought back to the next meeting.

8. Future Agenda Items

Future agenda items were discussed including street tree code amendments, Workplan, minutes, City Forester/Arborist position, Arbor Day event planning, Peace Tree event, and having an NRC table at the Spring Resource Fair.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 PM.



City of Oregon City

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft Natural Resources Committee

Monday, March 8, 2023

6:00 PM

Commission Chambers

1. Convene Regular Meeting and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

Present: 4 - Chair Nancy Broshot, Committee Member Samantha Wolf, Committee Member Brian Kvistler, and Committee Member Emily Lisborg

Staffers: 1 – Planning Manager Pete Walter

2. Work Session: Update of the NRC Workplan (Continued from Feb. 8)

Committee Member Wolf announced the details of the Urban and Community Forestry Conference.

There was discussion about changing the wording of the qualifications for new committee members so more people would apply.

Pete Walter, Planning Manager, said since the last meeting, the City Commission had their goal setting retreat, and they were still working out their priorities. The Climate Action Plan idea was scaled down to focus more on the tree canopy. The Community Development Director's advice was to prioritize the work plan items that the Committee could enact and keep it to three manageable items for the biennium.

Mr. Walter reviewed the responsibilities of the Committee starting with the first, promote community involvement in natural resources conservation activities. Under this responsibility was the public tree inventory for city properties, parks, street trees, school properties, and other public lands. He thought they should keep this one, as an inventory was critical in documenting canopy losses and claims to FEMA for damage by pests and it would be nice to have a program for incentivizing planting trees for discounts on stormwater rates that would feed into the City's discharge permit requirements. This idea would need some staff work to accomplish. It was suggested to break it down into a smaller tasks, like meeting with staff to explore the feasibility of stormwater program incentives and exploring where the permit provided credits. Other items discussed were more tours from staff, adding City partnerships with HOAs and other groups for Metro Enhancement Grants for habitat improvement

projects, changing bullet point 3 from a focus on naming and interpretation of local natural and geological features to creating brochures, QR codes, and putting information on the City's website about natural features, consolidating the bullets about heritage trees into one that said promote nomination of heritage trees, and removing bullet point 5 about connectivity from the Rossman landfill to the Cove/Willamette River as ODOT would not allow them to use the tunnels. Any improvements the City wanted to do, like planting trees, could be talking points when ODOT had projects in the City.

Mr. Walter reviewed 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. For update the Nuisance Plant List, the Committee thought they should adopt the Clackamas County Soil and Water Conservation list. They also suggested adopting regional lists from the City of Portland, Metro, and Xerxes Society for native plant lists with links to these on the City's website. These lists were regularly updated instead of adopting a static list. Mr. Walter noted that would require amending the current resolution. There was also discussion regarding adopting a pet friendly Integrated Pest Management program, supporting the City's application to the Bee City USA program, collaboration with the Xerxes Society to promote pollinator gardens and invertebrate habitat, Mayor's monarch proclamation, and promoting public awareness of the cost savings of the Bee City USA program by the reduced pesticide application and reduced maintenance. There was consensus to delete the bullet point for City-wide water resource and wetland inventory because it was beyond the Committee's ability to do and the City was in compliance with Goal 5 and Metro Title 3 and 13.

Mr. Walter noted the ongoing activities that didn't need to be changed for Responsibility #3, receive notice and comment on land use applications and projects within City limits and the Urban Growth Boundary activities, and for Responsibility #4, conduct orderly meetings that result in good communications. There were changes to Responsibility #5, coordinate with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee and Planning and City Commission on at least an annual basis that resulted in good communication and mutually beneficial results. The bullet point for "support a local levy for parks" would be changed to "support funding for habitat improvement projects on publicly owned lands." The bullet point for "invite Kendall Reid, Parks and Recreation Director, to meetings" would be changed to "strengthen coordination with PRAC and Parks staff through regular interaction and attendance at PRAC meetings." He thought PRAC should do the same for the NRC and maybe change PRAC's bylaws to specifically say that.

There was consensus that Xerxes Society and Bee City status best belonged under both Responsibility #1 and #2 as it promoted community involvement and informed policy.

The Work Plan would come back to the Committee in April with the changes suggested.

Regular Meeting

- 3. Public Comment - None**
- 4. Adoption of the Agenda**

Chair Broshot added application requirements for the NRC to the agenda. The agenda was adopted as amended.

5. New Business/Discussion Items

Pollinator Gardens in Public Right-of-Way Planter Strips – Mr. Walter said the City Commission was looking for direction from the NRC about policy for pollinator gardens that gave direction and educated the public about them. Staff was fine with them for narrower planter strips in taking the place of a street tree, with some concern about site lines at street intersections and people parking and stepping into plants with bees.

There was discussion regarding planting shorter pollinator plants near intersections, planting year round blooming plants, making a simplified list of species that would do well in exposed areas and height depending on how close it was to an intersection, maintenance of the gardens, planting one species in a garden to help with maintenance and better for bees to see, increasing the fee in lieu for trees, quantifying how much a tree added in value once it reached maturity and what was being lost by not planting the tree, encourage mature tree retention by placing value on how they captured stormwater, cleaned the air, and cooled the sidewalk and property, what the City had for sidewalk mobility hazards was not what an arborist would use for an assessment, and considering trees as a similar value as infrastructure assets.

NRC Application Requirements – Mr. Walter reviewed what was on the City's website for NRC qualifications and the training listed. There was consensus to add more general language about life experience or wanting to protect natural resources. They wanted to encourage people who had life experience or habitat restoration or native plants or gardening experience to apply. The goal was to change the format to be more approachable and inviting. Chair Broshot would work on the wording.

6. Approval of Minutes

Chair Broshot said someone gave a presentation at the March 11, 2020, meeting about light pollution and the impact on birds and insects. She would like them to come back again. Mr. Walter agreed the lighting code needed to be updated.

A motion was made by Chair Broshot, seconded by Committee Member Lisborg, to approve the minutes from 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 – Chair Nancy Broshot, Committee Member Samantha Wolf, Committee Member Brian Kvistler, and Committee Member Emily Lisborg

7. Communications

There was discussion regarding stormwater maintenance, Peace Tree ceremony on April 29, and Spring Resource Fair on March 11.

8. Future Agenda Items - None

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 PM.



City of Oregon City

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft Natural Resources Committee

Monday, April 12, 2023

6:00 PM

Commission Chambers

1. Convene Regular Meeting and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

Present: 3 - Chair Nancy Broshot, Committee Member Brian Kvistler, and Committee Member Emily Lisborg

Absent: 1 - Committee Member Samantha Wolf

Staffers: 1 - Planning Manager Pete Walter

2. Adoption of the Agenda

The NRC would review the updated NRC qualifications that Chair Broshot wrote. The agenda was adopted as amended.

3. Public Comment – None.

4. Old Business

Adoption of NRC Biennial Work Plan for 2023-2025 – Pete Walter, Planning Manager, explained how he had updated the Work Plan per the NRC's discussion from the last meeting. He then reviewed the items on the plan.

Some minor word changes and additions were made to the document and some items were combined.

The Work Plan was approved unanimously.

NRC Description – Chair Broshot explained the changes she made to the description on the City's website. The Committee changed some of the wording to the "time commitment" and "how to apply" sections.

5. New Business/Discussion Items

Removal of Heritage Tree Designation for Dead Austrian Pine at Swimming Pool – Mr. Walter described the request and showed pictures. He had looked at the tree and thought the tree met the criteria for public noticing for removal. He agreed the tree was dead and given a weather event, the tree could damage nearby infrastructure or cause personal injury.

There was consensus to remove the heritage tree designation as the tree had died.

Mr. Walter said the recommendation would be taken to the City Commission. There was a replacement plan and the Committee suggested replacing the tree with the same species or a native tree.

6. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Walter said Committee Member Kvistler was nominated as secretary to do minutes for future meetings.

The January 13, 2021, minutes were approved unanimously.

7. Communications

Mr. Walter said the City Commission tentatively adopted the street tree code amendments. They also raised the fee in lieu of planting a street tree to \$500. There were several housing bills coming out of the legislature including the Climate Friendly and Equitable Communities Initiative and new parking mandates.

Chair Broshot reported on the Arbor Day event and Trillium Park Homeowners Association meeting. The Peace Tree Celebration would be on April 29.

Mr. Walter discussed hosting Oregon Community Trees in June.

Committee Member Lisborg asked what kind of fine was imposed on someone who knowingly removed trees in the Natural Resources Overlay District without a permit. Mr. Walter said they would go through the Code Enforcement process to bring them into voluntary compliance. If that did not work, they could be cited and a timeline to correct or they would get a subpoena to go to court where they would most likely be fined.

Committee Member Lisborg said the CIC unanimously voted to recommend Bee City USA to the City Commission. Staff would follow up with the next steps.

8. Future Agenda Items

No future agenda items were discussed.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:19 PM.



City of Oregon City

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft Natural Resources Committee

Monday, July 12, 2023

6:00 PM

Commission Chambers

1. Convene Regular Meeting and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM.

Present: 3 - Chair Nancy Broshot, Committee Member Brian Kvistler, and Committee Member Samantha Wolf

Absent: 1 - Committee Member Emily Lisborg

Staffers: 1 - Planning Manager Pete Walter

2. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented.

3. Public Comment

Dorothy Dahlsrud and Pam Gromer, residents of Oregon City, were in support of the heritage tree nomination.

4. Old Business

Heritage Tree Nomination for an Oregon White Oak adjacent to 1506 S. High Street – Pete Walter, Planning Manager, said the NRC had reviewed and recommended approval of this nomination in February. After that meeting, they learned the County controlled the right-of-way and there were power lines overhead that PGE managed. There was also an underground storm line. The County consented to the nomination provided they could trim the tree if necessary to maintain safe site distance and implement full removal of the tree if it was determined to be a hazard. They did not want to provide additional protection for the tree. He thought the tree was structurally sound, however it could be subject to damage from storms or the traffic corridor in the future. The tree could also be subject to harsh pruning from PGE. These were forces that jeopardized the longevity of the tree, but he thought unless it was an imminent hazard, they would have time to come back and talk to the NRC about de-designating the tree and allowing for its removal.

Ms. Dahlsrud spoke about information to put on the heritage tree sign and how to use the heritage trees as tourism. She also suggested information to add to the City's website.

Ms. Gromer gave an example of how trees could live on even if they were replaced with the same kind of tree or with offspring. She thought they could add the history of the trees on the City's website.

There was consensus to recommend the City Commission designate the tree as a Heritage Tree.

5. Communications

Mr. Walter said last night Committee Member Wolf presented the NRC Work Plan to the City Commission. Committee Member Wolf gave a recap of what she said.

There was discussion regarding nominating heritage trees on School District property.

6. Future Agenda Items

The Committee discussed future agenda items including Climate Friendly and Equitable Communities Program, Climate Action Plan, tree inventory, and update on Emerald Ash Borer impact assessment and treatment.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:04 PM.



City of Oregon City

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft Natural Resources Committee

Commission Chambers

Monday, August 9, 2023

6:00 PM

1. Convene Regular Meeting and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

Present: 3 - Committee Member Emily Lisborg, Committee Member Brian Kvistler, and Committee Member Dave Trotter

Absent: 2 - Chair Nancy Broshot and Committee Member Samantha Wolf

Staffers: 1 - Planning Manager Pete Walter

2. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented.

3. Approval of Minutes

The June 14, 2023, minutes were approved unanimously.

4. Public Comment

None.

5. Old Business

Street Tree Inventory Project – Pete Walter, Planning Manager, said the NRC had suggested this project for some time. Staff was in favor of moving forward with a limited street tree inventory, focusing primarily on Ash trees as a pilot. The Oregon Department of Forestry needed City support and guidance so the City could use their software. He explained what the software could provide and how the data would be collected. He also discussed the data that was currently on the City's GIS system and how it could be uploaded to the Department of Forestry's software as a starting point and then they could fill in the blanks. To find out where the Ash trees were, staff would have to comb through old subdivision records. Some of the tree plans were not accurate, however, and he did not know how long it would take to

collect the data as staff's time was limited.

There was discussion regarding recruiting volunteers for the work, the training that would be needed, NRC members' experience in this type of effort, and reasons for focusing on Ash trees first.

Staff would draft a scope of work and project area and bring it back to the next meeting.

6. Communications

Mr. Walter reviewed current construction projects in the City and announced the Heritage Tree on South End Road was approved by the City Commission.

Committee Member Lisborg reported on invasive species that had been removed at Singer Creek Park. She asked for an update on the Bee City USA process.

Mr. Walter thought she could send an email to the City Recorder stating the NRC and CIC publicly supported the City applying to be a Bee City USA and ask if it could go on a City Commission agenda.

The Committee confirmed that the NRC supported the City's application for Bee City USA. It was noted there was no cost to taxpayers to be part of the program.

7. Future Agenda Items

The Committee discussed future agenda items including revisiting the street tree inventory scope of work and update on Bee City USA.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 PM.



City of Oregon City

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft Natural Resources Committee

Monday, December 13, 2023

6:00 PM

Commission Chambers

1. Convene Regular Meeting and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

Present: 2 - Chair Nancy Broshot and Committee Member Samantha Wolf

Absent: 3 - Committee Member Emily Lisborg, Committee Member Brian Kvistler, and Committee Member Dave Trotter

Staffers: 1 - Planning Manager Pete Walter

2. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented.

3. Public Comment

None.

4. Approval of Minutes

There was not a quorum present to approve the minutes.

5. New Business/Discussion Items

Street Tree Removal and Sidewalk Mobility – This item was postponed.

6. Communications

Committee Member Wolf discussed an urban and community forestry award from Oregon Community Trees that was accepting nominations. The Oregon Heritage Tree Committee was also seeking nominations for their tree hero award and lifetime achievement award.

Mr. Walter said the City's Tree City USA application was due on the 15th and he was

ready to submit it. This would be the City's twelfth year in the program. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the amendment to the Oregon City Transportation System Plan for the Oregon City Loop Trail. The Friends of Trees planting in December went well. They also held pruning workshops. The Climate Friendly and Equitable Communities project was in process and some statewide rules still needed to be adopted, including changes to parking requirements.

There was discussion regarding applying in March for IRA funding for urban forestry projects such as the tree inventory.

7. Future Agenda Items

The same agenda items would be brought back to the January meeting.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:22 PM.



CITY OF OREGON CITY

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

Staff Report

To: Natural Resources Committee **Agenda Date:** April 8, 2026
From: Pete Walter, Planning Manager

SUBJECT:

NROD property owner informational flyer update and discussion

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

We will discuss the draft content of the informational flyer to be sent to property owners within the NROD.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Committee member William Foster has been diligently working with staff on the content for a easy-to-read information flyer for property owners who's property falls within the Natural Resource Overlay District.

As of December 2005, there were approximately 2000 properties flagged as falling partially or fully within the adopted NROD boundaries and approximately 30 property transactions. These numbers do not reflect any NROD development approvals or verifications that have been processed in the NROD, only taxlots in the adopted overlay.

The format of the flyer / brochure has not been decided yet. As for the content, there are some items that require staff and committee discussion on language that will clarify the code requirements.

Staff has provided some initial suggestions for revisions. See attached draft.

For example, the difference between a "permit" and an "exemption". In essence, the NROD regulates various activities. Some of these activities are exempt and are processed as a Type I exemption (a type of permit that is very easy to obtain), some require a Type II land use approval, and some require a Type III, discretionary review by the Planning Commission.

BACKGROUND:

Please review the attached draft content and provide feedback. Committee comments should be directed toward the brochure content and what it communicates, not to the language and administration of the code language in OCMC 17.49.

NEXT STEPS:

Staff time and printing and mailing costs.

OPTIONS:

Dear NROD Property Owner,

You are receiving this ~~letter~~ [informational flyer](#) because your property lies within ~~the~~ a Natural Resource Overlay District (NROD) boundary. It is not a notice of violation and does not introduce new rules. Our goal is to explain what the NROD is and how its requirements may apply to common projects such as landscaping, tree removal, or building improvements.

What is the Natural Resource Overlay District?

The NROD is a series of designated areas across Oregon City where you'll find streams, wetlands, floodplains, and wildlife habitat. The NROD code, adopted in 2009, protects these natural areas by limiting activities that could harm water quality, wildlife habitat, or slope stability. As the city grows, it is increasingly important to protect our natural heritage so that future generations will continue to enjoy and benefit from it.

To that end, [land activities](#) within the NROD ~~are is~~ subject to extra rules. These rules apply to both new development and common homeowner projects like installing a fence, building a shed, removing trees, or changing landscaping. They apply to City-owned property and rights-of-way as well as private property.

You'll see that many NROD rules emphasize using native plants. Native plants are adapted to our soils and climate, support a wide range of local wildlife, and help conserve water and protect soil, thus preserving the landscapes and ecosystems that have been here for generations. Removing invasive vegetation is just as important. Invasive plants often spread aggressively, crowd out natives, and disrupt the local food webs that sustain our wildlife. Common invasive plants include English and Portuguese laurel, ivy, holly, Himalayan blackberry, butterfly bush, and periwinkle (vinca).

You can find the official NROD map, as well as a comprehensive list of native and invasive plants, via the links at the end of this brochure. The map will show exactly where the NROD boundary falls on your property. In some cases, the NROD may cover only a portion of a lot, but the rules still apply to any work done within that boundary.

How do NROD rules apply?

The NROD rules apply to both construction projects and changes to landscaping or vegetation. In short, any project that might disturb the ground, remove trees, or change landscaping within the NROD should be checked against the rules before it begins.

New development: New homes, major additions, or subdivisions must meet NROD standards. These projects are reviewed by City staff through the normal permit process.

Existing homes: Adding new structures, paved areas, and fences within an NROD boundary generally requires City review. Basic upkeep that doesn't enlarge what's already there (for example, repairing an existing fence, or resurfacing a driveway without expanding it) is usually exempt.

Landscaping and vegetation: Use native plants for any new landscaping, except in cases where non-native plants are part of a planting plan approved by the City. Do not remove existing native vegetation, add lawn or turf, or plant invasive species within an NROD boundary. If invasive plants are present on your property, you are encouraged to remove them using hand tools and replant with natives. See the links at the end of this brochure for information and resources about native plants and landscaping.

Tree removal: Do not remove or significantly prune trees in the NROD without checking first. Tree removal generally requires City permission. The City determines whether a tree is dead, diseased, or hazardous under the rules. If removal is approved, native replacement is typically required, and the new tree must be kept healthy for at least two years.

What requires review?

Most ~~projects activities~~ within an NROD boundary need City review ~~or exemption unless they're clearly exempt~~ (see "What is allowed outright?"). The review process ensures that work is done in a way that aligns with NROD goals.

Type I Review (most common for homeowners): This level covers smaller projects such as a shed or patio, a short driveway/walkway expansion, a fence, or tree/vegetation removal that isn't exempt. City staff will check that impacts are minimized and will typically require native landscaping in the work area.

Type II Review (for larger projects or greater impacts): For projects such as new homes or major additions, work near a stream edge, or removing large areas of vegetation, this level may require more detailed site plans and steps to offset impacts.

[Let's list and describe the forms that a person might need to submit. e.g. the Type I Exemption form — in what cases is this form necessary?]

Before you start: If your project adds new structures, paved areas, or fences, or changes landscaping beyond basic upkeep, speak with Planning first. Application forms and contact information are available via the link provided at the bottom of this brochure.

What is allowed outright (aka Exempt)?

Some ~~activities work~~ can proceed without an NROD permit if it is specifically listed as exempt in the code. Most exempt activities still require approval from the Planning Division to confirm that they are actually exempt and do not require a higher level of development review. Common examples include:

- Planting native species and removing invasive plants using hand-held tools.
- Routine maintenance and repairs that keep the existing size, height, footprint, and/or paved area unchanged.
- Small, temporary ground disturbance may be exempt if it disturbs no more than 100 sq ft, occurs outside the stream channel and its immediate banks, and the area is promptly

restored to pre-construction conditions. When the disturbed area is covered mostly with invasive plants, replace them with native plants.

- Simple, low-impact fences and narrow pedestrian paths may be exempt when they meet the City's dimensional and siting standards and avoid sensitive areas.
- Site investigation work (e.g., surveys and soil borings) is typically exempt when any disturbed ground is restored.

If you are unsure whether your project is exempt, speak with Planning first.

Find resources and the full NROD Municipal Code at orcite.org/nrod or by scanning this code:

[QR CODE GOES HERE]

Thank you for helping protect Oregon City's natural heritage.



CITY OF OREGON CITY

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

Staff Report

To: Natural Resources Committee **Agenda Date:** April 8, 2026
From: Kelly Hart, Community Development Director

SUBJECT:

Election of NRC Officers

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Officers: The Officers shall consist of a Chair, a Vice-Chair and a Secretary, who shall be selected by the membership and serve at the pleasure of the membership for one-year terms.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Per NRC Bylaws - Article V: Officers and Staffing

Officers: The Officers shall consist of a Chair, a Vice-Chair and a Secretary, who shall be selected by the membership and serve at the pleasure of the membership for one-year terms. Nominations and elections of new officers shall be taken from the floor at the Committee's first meeting of each calendar year. Officers may be re-elected. In the event that an Officer is unable to complete the specified term, a special election shall be held for the completion of the term.

1. Chair: The Chair shall have general supervisory and directional powers over the Committee. The Chair shall preside at Committee meetings and develop agendas with the staff liaison. The Chair shall be the designated spokesperson for the Committee unless this responsibility is delegated to another party. The Chair shall be an ex-officio member of all subcommittees.
2. Vice-Chair: In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair shall have general supervisory and directional powers over the Committee, preside at Committee meetings, develop Committee agendas with the staff liaison, and generally conduct all business delegated to the Chair.
3. Secretary: The Secretary shall review transcribed minutes for each of the regular meetings and worksessions. The Secretary shall provide staff with the signed minutes for staff's retention of the public record. Additionally, the Secretary shall provide staff with an electronic version of the minutes for posting on the City's web site.

Staff: The City of Oregon City will provide staff support to the Committee for meeting notification, word processing, copying and information gathering to the extent the City budget permits.

BACKGROUND:

Elect a Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary.

NEXT STEPS:

OPTIONS: