



HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Agenda

Tuesday, April 2, 2013

2:00 pm

Madison Avenue Meeting Room

500 SW Madison

Discussion/**Possible Action**

I. Heritage Tree Program
(Attachment)

Information

II. Other Business

Next Scheduled Meeting

Tuesday, April 16, 2013 at 2:00 pm

Madison Avenue Meeting Room, 500 SW Madison Ave

Agenda

None at this time.

MEMORANDUM

To: Human Services Committee,
From: Karen Emery, Director 
Jude Geist, Park Operations Supervisor
Date: March 25, 2013
Subject: Heritage Tree Program



Issue

Per Municipal Code, 1.16.320 (5) (c), the Civic Beautification and Urban Forestry Commission was to assist in the development of a voluntary Heritage Tree Program (HTP) on public and private lands.

Background

The City Council adopted the Urban Forestry Management Plan (UFMP) in October, 2009. The plan provides a 20-year strategic framework to focus and enhance the City's Urban Forestry program to meet a range of policy, educational, sustainability and management goals. It offers a series of prioritized actions based on extensive stakeholder and community outreach, a number of which, along with the 5-year implementation plan, relate to code / policy revisions and an education outreach campaign.

The priorities in the UFMP for the first five years are:

- long-term tree care, which includes exploring solutions to street/sidewalk infrastructure damage caused by trees;
- performing routine pruning to reduce the blockage of street signs and obstructions to viewing traffic at intersections;
- an aggressive maintenance program for newly planted trees including structural pruning to prevent future hazards;
- City code and policy revisions to remove obstacles to proper tree care;
- GIS research to help establish a City-wide tree canopy goal and to quantify the benefits provided by community trees in the form of energy savings, air quality improvements, storm water control, and carbon sequestration;
- Additionally a near term action is recommended on the development of a heritage/ landmark/ notable tree program and the policy framework to support it.

Discussion

The following information describes the planning process utilized for the HTP.

In FY 12-13, The Citizens Advisory Commission on Civic Beautification and Urban Forestry (CBUF) identified the HTP as a priority project. The scope of this project is

focused on the following: Prepare a proposal to develop and promote a voluntary, non regulatory, nomination based HTP. In December 2012, with the guidance of CBUF, staff assembled a Stakeholder Committee of diverse community representatives to best identify goals for the program and to advise staff on the types of issues that should be evaluated as part of the HTP. This committee had staff representation from City, Benton County and Oregon State University; citizen representation included local historic preservationists, tree enthusiasts, volunteers from City and County Boards and Commissions. In a collaborative effort this group assisted staff in the development of an HTP.

The Stakeholder Committee held 3 meetings: January 28, 2009, February 20, 2013 and March 7, 2013. The Gazette Times were used to announce public meetings. Meeting notices were sent to an email list of interested parties. At each meeting, there was opportunity for visitor comment at the beginning and end of the agenda. Citizen comments were taken into consideration in the development of the program.

During this process Benton County and Oregon State University expressed interest in participating in this program and are discussing with their advisory boards and staff.

CBUF reviewed the draft HTP at their March 14, 2013 meeting, had representation on the Stakeholder Committee and moved that the plan be reviewed by the Human Services Committee.

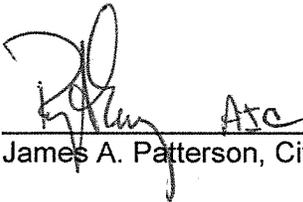
The Parks, Natural Areas and Recreation Board (PNARB) endorsed the proposed Program at their March 21, 2013 meeting and moved that the HTP be forwarded to the Human Services Committee.

Upon adoption, staff will assemble a Heritage Tree Review Committee and begin promotion of the nomination process.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Human Services Committee recommend to City Council to adopt the Heritage Tree Program.

Review and Concur:



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James A. Patterson', is written over a horizontal line. To the right of the signature, the initials 'ATC' are written.

James A. Patterson, City Manager

Attachments: Heritage Tree Program Document
Heritage Tree Nomination Form

Heritage Tree Program

PURPOSE:

To encourage citizens to enjoy, protect and maintain our link to the past by recognizing significant trees that contribute to the distinct and unique character of our community.

GOALS:

Trees are part of our collective community memory. As living resources, they contribute to a sense of place and reveal what we value. The goal of the Heritage Tree Program is to recognize and celebrate designated trees or groves of trees that have significance to our community, to inspire and foster appreciation for the contribution that these trees make to the natural beauty and legacy of our community and to protect them for future generations.

BOUNDARIES:

County wide program - with a limited number of trees considered each year. The program is administered by Corvallis Parks and Recreation Department.

SELECTION CRITERIA

SPECIMEN:

- Exceptional size, form, beauty or rarity (relative to species)
- Has horticultural value

HISTORIC:

- Recognized by virtue of age
- Associated with or contributes to a historic structure or district
- Associated with a noted person or historical event

LANDMARK:

- Recognizable landmark in the community

COLLECTION:

- Notable grove, avenue or other planting

NOMINATION:

This program is voluntary and carries no regulatory component. Any person may nominate a tree or trees as a Heritage Tree using the nomination form.

If the nominated tree is located on private property, the nomination form shall be signed by the property owner or accompanied by the property owner's written consent.

If the proposed Heritage Tree is on public property, the nomination shall be forwarded to the public agency responsible for use and/or maintenance of the property for review and recommendation prior to consideration.

- Corvallis City Property – Corvallis City Manager or Designee
- OSU Property- Oregon State University President or Designee
- Benton County Property – Chief Operating Officer or Designee

REMOVING HERITAGE TREE DESIGNATION:

If a property owner / managing agency chooses to have the Heritage Tree designation removed from a tree, written notification submitted to the Heritage Tree Review Committee is all that is required.

HERITAGE TREE REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Heritage Tree Review Committee meets annually to review nominated trees. This committee is made up of nine voting representatives including one person from each of the following:

1. City of Corvallis Urban Forester
2. Benton County
3. OSU – Facilities Landscape Manager
4. Civic Beautification Urban Forestry Commission (1 year term)
5. Corvallis Parks Natural Areas Recreation Board (1 year term)
6. Benton County Parks Natural Areas Board (1 year term)
7. ISA Certified Arborist (3 year term)
8. At Large (3 year term)
9. At Large (3 year term)

Positions 7-9 of the committee shall represent a cross-section of the community, including considering the following interests:

- Historic preservation
- Landscape architect, Landscape Contractor, Nursery industry
- Corvallis Sustainability Coalition representative
- Garden Club, Plant Society, Horticultural/ Arboriculture interests
- Student (K-12 or undergrad or both)
- Timber industry
- General community
- Cultural resources/arts

PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

Heritage Trees will be listed in a brochure and identified on the City / County website and may be featured in other educational venues and programs.

ANNUAL TIME LINE

Completed nomination forms may be submitted any time during the year.

Completed nomination forms due to Corvallis Parks & Recreation Department by December 31

Arborist inspects nominated trees

Heritage Tree Review Committee reviews nominated trees annually and selects designated Heritage Trees.

Heritage Trees will be recognized to meet the purpose and goals of the Heritage Tree Program.

During but not limited to:

1. April - Arbor Week Celebration – Recognition at City Council and County Commission Meetings
2. May - National Preservation Month



Heritage Tree Nomination Form

Please supply as much information as possible

Date _____

Person nominating the tree:

Property owner (if other than nominator)

Name _____

Name _____

Address _____

Address _____

Preferred method of contact?

Phone (day) _____ (eve) _____

Phone (day) _____ (eve) _____

E-mail _____

E-mail _____

Signature of property owner is required

Signature *Of Property Owner Or Public Administrator* _____

Title of Public Administrator _____

TREE DESCRIPTION

1) Location (*street address*) _____

2) Private Property Public Property (*park, parking strip, median, etc.*) _____

3) Single Tree Grove of trees (*give number*) _____

4) Species or variety (*scientific and or common name*) _____

5) Historical Facts _____

7) Approximate Age _____ years (*cite how you estimate age*) _____

Noteworthy Features: Check all that apply

Beauty Shade Size Species History

10) Please include a photo and narrative explaining why you feel the criteria for Heritage Trees has been met.

Thank you for your nomination!