



**CITY OF FOREST GROVE
COMMUNITY FORESTRY COMMISSION
COMMUNITY AUDITORIUM CONFERENCE ROOM, 1915 MAIN STREET
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2016 - 5:30 P.M.**

Councilor Thompson

Jen Warren, Chair
Bruce Countryman
Mark Nakajima

David Hunter, Vice Chair
Lance Schamberger
Dale Wiley, Secretary

All public meetings are open to the public and all persons are permitted to attend any meetings except as otherwise provided by ORS 192:

→ Citizen Communications – Anyone wishing to speak on an issue not on the agenda should sign in for Citizen Communications prior to the meeting. The presiding officer will call the individual or group by the name given on the sign in form. Each person must state his or her name and give an address for the record.

All public meetings are handicap accessible. Assistive Listening Devices (ALD) or qualified sign language interpreters are available for persons with impaired hearing or speech. For any special accommodations, please contact the City Recorder, at (503) 992-3235, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

AGENDA

Call to Order and Approval of Meeting Minutes: January 20, 2016

Citizen Communication: Anyone wishing to speak on an item not on the agenda may be heard at this time. In the interest of time, please limit comments to three minutes or less.

Old Business

(1) Urban Forest Management Plan

New Business

(1) Arbor Day 2016 Celebration

Member and Liaison Updates

Announce Next Meeting and Adjourn

Next Meeting: March 16, 2016



**COMMUNITY FORESTRY COMMISSION
CITY AUDITORIUM
MAIN STREET, FOREST GROVE, OR
January 20, 2016**

Meeting called to order at 5:30:00. President Jen Warren in Chair.

Members Present – Jen Warren, Dale Wiley, David Hunter
Bruce Countryman, Mark Nakajima.

Members Absent – Lance Schamberger

Staff Present: Dan Riordan – Steve Huffman

Council Liaison: Ron Thompson

Meeting Minutes Approval: December minutes were approved.

Citizen Communication: None

OLD BUSINESS

URBAN FORESTRY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Bruce presented and reviewed some minor changes to the Urban Forestry Management Plan and some formatting and housekeeping type items. Discussions on hazard tree assessment on private property that may impact public rights of way, and how to handle these and potential conflicts. Bruce says the document is ready to go, with the minor formatting changes and to present it to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

The CFC members congratulated and thanked Bruce for a job very well done on the plan.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Officers

The Annual election of officers was held. In what can only be described as a complete set up as is becoming customary, Chairperson Jen Warren no more than said the words "Election of Officers" than Bruce Countryman immediately moved to retain the same slate of officers, and it was quickly seconded by Mark Nakajima. This was clearly a forgone conclusion put forth by Bruce and Mark, and no doubt this plan was laid in the back nail aisle at Ace Hardware, likely in the early afternoon of the meeting date. We will be requesting the store video to confirm. There was a brief dissent discussion and the motion was passed with the slate of Officers accepting their pre-determined fate. It should be pointed out however, that despite their quickness in the motion and seconding, Bruce and Mark neglected to move for closing nominations, and this simple parliamentary procedure error may result in them being placed in nomination next year.

Boards and Commissions meeting is January 21st at 5:30 pm at the Forest Grove Senior Center.

NEW MEMBER UPDATE

2 outside the City and 1 inside the City. Council interviewed the subjects and is expected to make a selection at the next Council meeting.

Member Reports

David updated on the hazard risk assessment he did that was included with the agenda items. He reported that the subject property had been partitioned and that changed the scope of the project. With the changes responsibility falls back upon the property owners for any hazard assessment.

Staff Updates-

Liasion Updates – Ron Thompson - Brief update on the CFC member selection process.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be February 17, 2016 at the Community Auditorium meeting room at 5:30 pm

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

David moved and Mark seconded to adjourn the meeting. Unanimous affirmative vote adjourned the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 6:35:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dale Wiley
CFC Secretary



Community Forest Management Plan

◆
January 2016
◆



Dates covered by plan:

2016 – 2021

Prepared by:

Forest Grove Community Forestry Commission:

Bruce Countryman, Project Lead

Jen Warren, Chair

David Hunter, Vice Chair

Dale Wiley, Secretary

Mark Nakajima

Lance Schamberger

Ron Thompson, City Council Liaison

Dan Riordan, Senior Planner

Steve Huffman, Parks Crew Chief

Plan approved:

Date

Approved by:

Forest Grove City Council:

Pete Truax, Mayor

Tom Johnston, President

Richard Kidd

Victoria Lowe

Ron Thompson

Elena Uhing

Malynda Wenzl

Acknowledgements:

Urban Forest Management Toolkit

Executive summary

This document provides an overall framework for managing Forest Grove’s urban and natural forest resources (this plan does not include the Forest Grove City watershed). It is based on the condition of the forest in 2014 and an analysis of trends that have shaped Forest Grove’s urban forest to date and will continue to influence it in the future. The major portions of this document are described below.

Tree resource assessment

This section discusses current condition, issues and trends that are likely to impact Forest Grove’s tree resources over at least the next 25 to 50 years. Topics include:

- Canopy cover
- Street trees
- Facility trees
- Parking lot trees
- Park trees
- Register/Heritage trees
- Open space trees
- Hazard trees

Community values

This section presents the summary of stakeholder attitudes and perceptions about the urban forest and its management.

Current management practices

This section presents the summary of current City management practices. Topics include:

- Activities of departments that affect trees
- Regulatory measures
- Tree management
- Ordinances and policies

Strategic plan

Topics include:

- Issues, trends, and needs
- Goals
- Objectives
- Actions

Appendix

This section presents several of the inventories and technical guides. Topics include:

- 2011 street tree inventory
- 2014 vegetation assessment and recommendations for City parks
- Tree planting standards
- City list of recommended street trees for planting
- Register of Historic and Significant (Heritage) trees list
- Tree related ordinances (Forest Grove Development Code Article 5 and Municipal Code Chapter 9)
- Chronological public involvement record
- Public survey questions and responses
- Other management plans
- Implementation and monitoring plan

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Mission & Vision

Mission statement

The mission of the Forest Grove CFC is to work with the community and government to increase awareness about the importance and values of urban trees. To this end the City Council authorized the CFC to:

1. Maintain the Forest Grove Significant Tree Register (Tree Register) by:
 - a. Recommending to the City Council the designation of properties with significant trees that meet the criteria for designation.
 - b. Recommending removal of trees from the Register
2. Ensure that significant trees are protected and pruned appropriately
3. Review activities proposed by the City and other agencies that may seriously affect Register trees and advise on such matters
4. Perform other activities relating to community trees, including but not limited to:
 - a. Providing public education on the history and importance of the Register trees;
 - b. Providing advice to the City Council and other City boards on protection of trees in the community
 - c. Providing technical information on community tree issues
 - d. Making recommendations to the City Council for community forestry related programs
 - e. Periodically reviewing and making recommendations for updating the Significant Tree Register
 - f. Recommending to the City Council the acceptance of grant funds and donations towards the protection and planting of trees in the community

Vision statement

The Forest Grove Community Forestry Commission (CFC) believes that a healthy and expanding community forest is essential to our community's quality of life and to our environmental and economic wellbeing.

Vision for the Forest Grove Urban Forest in 2020

The health of this urban forest, a mosaic of the planted landscape and the remnant native forest, is a reflection of the city's health, well-being and livability. These trees and other plants are a vital part of the city character, giving it a special sense of place. Forest Grove continues to be recognized as a Tree City USA for the 25th consecutive year in 2015.

The urban forest canopy is cohesive, not fragmented, because development includes trees as part of the total vision for sustainable development. The air and water are cleaner because the trees and other plants remove pollution from the air and reduce runoff. Fish and wildlife have healthy habitats. Open spaces and urban stream corridors define a sense of space in our

communities while providing a quiet respite from hectic urban life. Tree-lined streets offer shade and protect us from inclement weather. Shoppers frequent shaded business districts where trees help save energy, reduce noise and soften the hard edges of structures and paved areas.

Coordinated management of the urban forest occurs because city agencies, businesses, civic organizations and residents have formed partnerships to make a place for trees in the city. Residents recognize trees as a vital, functioning part of the city's infrastructure and ecosystem and provide adequate, stable funding to maintain and enhance the urban forest.

We have achieved a healthy, sustained urban forest, carefully managed and cared for, which contributes to the economic and environmental well-being of the city.

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Why we need a plan

Trees provide a variety of important benefits in the urban environment. These benefits include removing carbon from the atmosphere, reducing energy use, improving air quality, moderating storm water flows, protecting water quality, improving economic sustainability, supporting physical and mental health of residents, and providing habitat for wildlife.

The community's trees need to be managed in order to maintain this stream of benefits which are critical to the community's economic well-being and overall quality of life. Unlike most other urban infrastructure, the value of the urban forest generally increases over time. Benefits provided by the urban forest may take years to develop to desired levels, but tree resources can be adversely impacted over short time periods by a lack of timely management or poor management choices. An urban forest management plan helps a community protect the investment it has made in its community forest and provides a blueprint for enhancing and improving that asset to maximize the benefits provided while minimizing costs required to maintain the resource.

Whether for good or ill, the community's trees are being managed in some fashion whether a plan is in place or not. Without a vision and plan for the management of the urban forest as a whole, however, it is unlikely to thrive and provide the benefits that the community desires.

Many benefits provided by trees are listed below:

Benefits provided by trees

- Removing carbon from the atmosphere;
- Producing oxygen;
- Reducing energy use;
- Improving air quality;
- Moderating storm water flows;
- Protecting water quality;
- Improving economic sustainability;
- Increasing property values;
- Supporting physical and mental health of residents; and
- Providing habitat for wildlife

The City's street tree inventory completed in 2011 provided a glimpse into the benefits to the community as a result of our urban forest. For example street trees in Forest Grove remove nearly 8 million pounds of air pollutants per year.

Scope of the plan

This intent of this plan is to provide a strategic framework for managing the urban forest within Forest Grove. Other site specific plans may be developed that address the management of the urban forest in areas such as college campuses, office parks, historical sites, botanical gardens, recreation areas, or other large properties that contain significant amounts of tree canopy. These site specific plans would fit within the strategic framework of the urban forest management plan.

The following types of trees are included in this urban forest management plan:

- Street trees
- Facility trees
- Parking lot trees
- Park trees
- Register/Heritage trees
- Open space trees
- Hazard trees

Planning horizon

Efforts should be made to update the management plan every 5 years, or sooner if the need exists and resources are available.

Relationship to other planning documents

Cities and counties, as well as other public districts, typically have multiple layers of planning documents. This plan will incorporate elements from the following documents (this list will be expanded as necessary):

- Parks and recreation master plan
- Urban renewal plans
- Community sustainability element of the comprehensive plan
- Design and landscaping guidelines and development standards (Public Works Specifications)
- Ordinances, including the local tree ordinance
 - Forest Grove Development Code Article 5
 - Tree Protection
 - Forest Grove Development Code Article 8
 - Landscaping, Screening and Buffering (Parking Lot Trees)
 - Municipal Code Chapter 5
 - Trees and Plants
 - Municipal Code Chapter 9
 - Boards and Commissions (Community Forestry Commission)
 - Street Trees

The Urban Forest

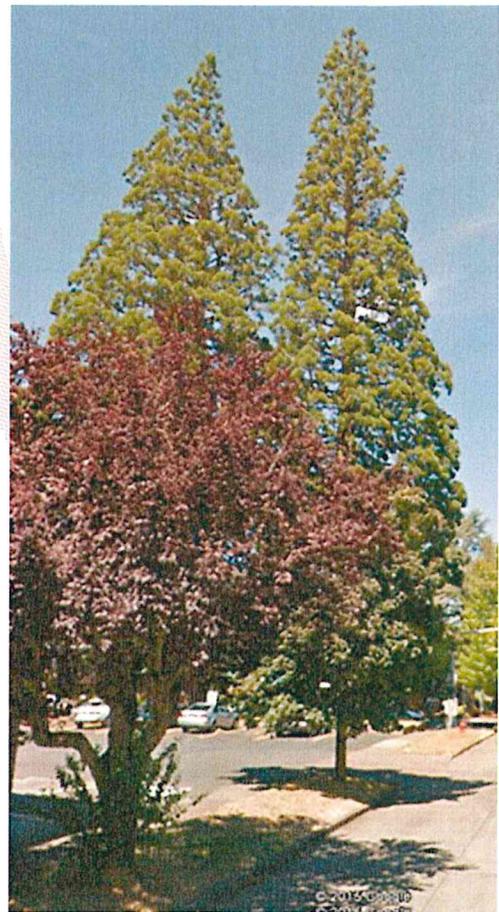
Historical context

Native Vegetation

At the time of European settlement, heavy forests covered most of the region. Stands of Douglas-fir, western hemlock, and western redcedar dominated the landscape. Deciduous bigleaf maple and red alder were intermixed. Wetlands and flood plains along the river supported Oregon ash, willows, and black cottonwood. Oregon white oak and Pacific madrone grew in drier uplands. Understory upland vegetation included vine maple, western hazel, oceanspray, snowberry, thimbleberry, Oregon grape, salal, red huckleberry, ferns and forbs. Wetland species included elderberry, Douglas spirea, dogwood, sedges and rushes.

Much of this forest was cleared for farming beginning in the mid 1800's. The earliest european settlers came to the Tualatin Valley of Oregon as farmers and missionaries in the 1840s. The Native Americans in the region were of various bands of the Tualatin Branch of the Kalapuya Indian Group. Several Native American villages were located along the banks of Gales Creek just south of present day Forest Grove (From Forest Grove Comprehensive Plan (1980) p. IV-1.).

In 1859 the name "Forest Grove" was officially recognized for the area around what is now Pacific University. The name probably referred to the grove of oak trees on and around the University grounds. Several of these trees exist today. According to historical accounts many of the large sequoia trees in Washington County were planted from seed by John R. Porter circa 1870. This includes the sequoia trees located on the Pacific University campus and elsewhere in Forest Grove.



Sequoias at 19th Avenue and Elm Street

Environmental context

Rainfall

Average annual precipitation is 45.12 inches (Source: Western Regional Climate Center).

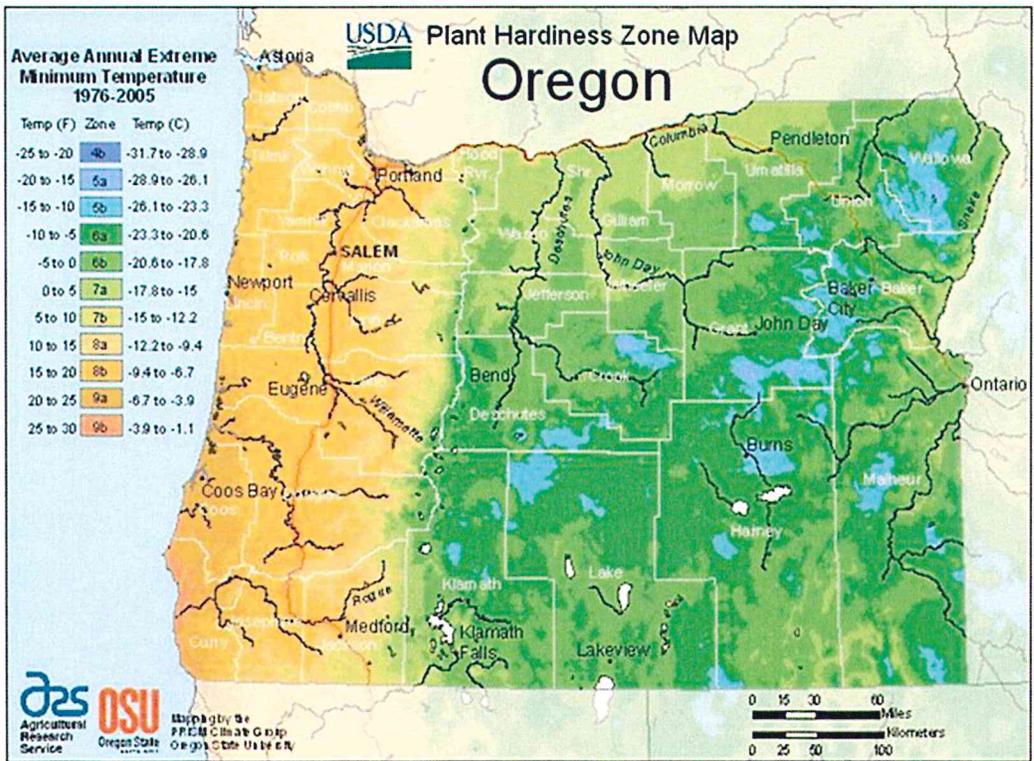
Northwest Oregon, including Forest Grove, is susceptible to strong winter storms that are carried along the Jet Stream over the Pacific Ocean. Heavy rain events are not uncommon during the fall, winter and spring months. Such events pose potential risk to the urban forest especially mature Oregon white oak trees.

Temperature

Average Max: 63.6/Average Low: 41.6, Average Range 32.1 to 82.6 (Source: Western Regional Climate Center). Northwest Oregon, east of the Coast Range and west of the Cascades, typically experiences moderate temperatures during spring, fall and winter. Summers are characterized by warm to hot days and cool evenings. The summer months are typically dry which can cause considerable stress on certain trees especially non-native varieties.

Climate Zone

USDA Tree hardiness zone 8. USDA developed tree hardiness zones to guide plant selection with an eye toward those which are most likely to survive at a given location. The zones are based on the average annual minimum winter temperature. As the map below indicates, Washington County is located within tree hardiness zone 8.



The Arbor Day Foundation provides information on tree species suitable for the various tree hardiness zones. Popular trees suitable for zone 8 identified by the Arbor Day Foundation include:

- Eastern white pine
- Sugar maple
- Red maple
- Yoshino cherry
- Saucer magnolia
- Dogwood
- Northern red oak
- Black walnut

Soil conditions

Soils in this area are dominated by clays, silts, and loams partially as a result of historic flood events (Lake Missoula 15-20,000 years ago). Soil types found throughout the City have potential shrink-swell and low shear strength problems. Soil is an important factor contributing the growth of tree especially within urban or suburban environments. Research shows that soil compaction is a significant contributor to overall tree health.

Tree resource assessment

Canopy cover

Background

Tree canopy cover refers to the proportion of land area covered by tree crowns, as viewed from the air. Canopy cover is tied to many of the benefits provided by the urban forest.

Existing condition

The tree canopy cover in Forest Grove is estimated to be approximately 23.2 %. (*Source: Portland State University, Regional Urban Forestry Assessment and Evaluation for the Portland-Vancouver Metro Area, Revised June 2010*). This figure is estimated to have increased 2-5% in the past 20 years as former farmland has been developed into new housing areas and trees have been planted.

The organization American Forests recommends tree canopy coverage for urban and suburban areas. American Forests recommends 40% as the goal for urban areas overall and 50% for suburban residential areas in the Pacific Northwest. The City of Vancouver, Washington has set a canopy goal of 28% and the City of Tigard, Oregon has a goal of 32% canopy coverage by 2027.

The Community Forestry Commission recommends the following canopy coverage goals:

Goals/desired condition

- 30% canopy cover by 2025
- 40% canopy cover by 2035

Achieving these goals requires concentrated effort and a clear strategy. This plan provides a framework for setting our community on a path for realizing a viable and sustainable urban forest worthy of a city named Forest Grove.

Street trees

Background

Trees along streets are one of the most visible portions of the urban forest. Due to their location, street trees provide specific benefits not provided by other trees. Benefits include traffic calming and extending the life of roadway pavement. Streets shaded by trees contribute to "sense of place," which can also contribute to increased community pride and property values.



Street trees are often located in very constrained locations. Pavement and utility lines may limit growing space. Other management issues that may be important for street trees include:

- Trees are commonly subject to damage by vehicles and street construction activities.
- Conflicts with utilities, hardscape (especially sidewalks, curbs, and gutters) and other built infrastructure are common.
- Branch, trunk, and root failures commonly have a high potential to cause property damage and/or injury.
- Tree canopies typically need to be maintained for street and sidewalk clearance, visibility issues for motorists, and to minimize risk of branch failures.
- Falling leaves, seeds, and fruits may create hazards on sidewalks and contribute to storm drain clogging.
- Street trees may generate high numbers of service requests and complaints.



Because of these issues, species selection is often a primary consideration. The species used may be specified in a master planting plan or on an approved species list. The palette of potential street tree species may be limited, which can sometimes lead to low species diversity. Low species diversity can pose a risk to the urban forest if one or more common species develop serious problems.

Existing condition

The City of Forest Grove Community Development Department manages the street tree planting program within newly developed areas. Historically, street tree planting was left to home builders. Many trees, however, did not fare well due to improper tree selection and planting in less-than-desirable locations. To address this problem, the City now selects trees with input from homeowners and manages tree planting to ensure proper placement. The street tree planting program is funded through an assessment at time of building permit issuance. The Street Tree Fund contained in the City budget is the collection of these assessments.

A street tree inventory was completed for Forest Grove in 2011 (see appendix). Findings include:

- Over 150 different tree species were found in Forest Grove
- The three most abundant trees are Japanese maple, Japanese flowering cherry, and Norway maple
- Deciduous trees are the dominant tree type, comprising 69% of all street trees
- Greater than half (59%) of the trees are less than 12 inches in diameter
- Street trees comprise approximately 350 acres (10% of the total land area in the City)
- The total replacement value for the street trees is estimate to be \$148 million
- White oak, Douglas-fir, and Sequoia had a higher proportion of observations in the poor to fair condition class than the average for the average of all species surveyed.

Opportunities include

- Identification of unoccupied areas as potential future planting sites
- Include an assessment element of whether the inventoried tree is in an appropriate location (based on potential tree size, crown characteristics, overhead utility location, etc.) in future inventories
- Expand the sample size
- Intensive tree survey along heavy traffic corridors (19th Avenue, Pacific Avenue, B Street, Thatcher Road) to develop long-range management plan to replace aging trees in poor condition
- Identification of street trees causing problems for pedestrians or motorists

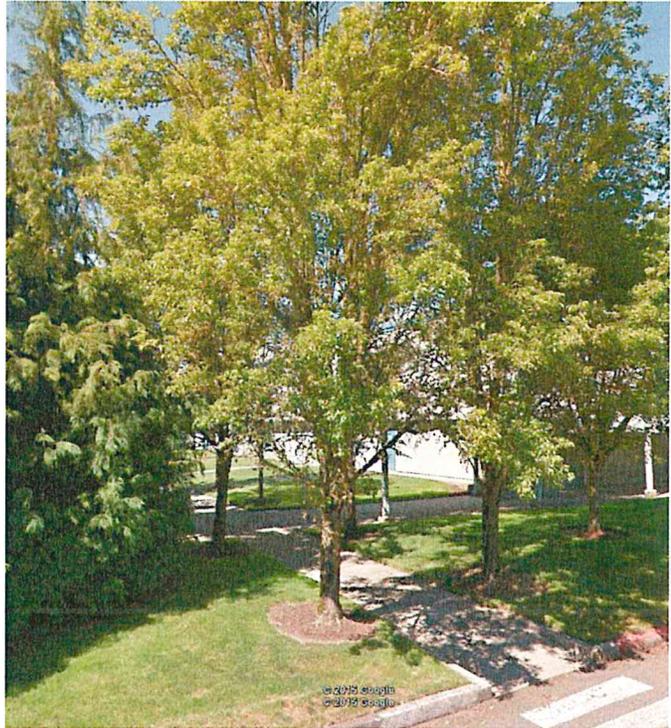
Goals/desired condition

- Mixed age/size classes and species composition
- Retain tree species representing character of Forest Grove (White oak, Douglas-fir, bigleaf maple, sequoia)
- Resistant to insect, disease, environmental damage
- Minimal impact to adjacent utilities (including storm sewer)
- Safe environment for pedestrians, motorists, and home owners
- Efficient to maintain
- Non-invasive species suitable for Forest Grove's climate

Facility trees

Background

Many urban trees fall into the "facility tree" category. These are privately owned and maintained trees around buildings and other built facilities that are not adjacent to streets. Most trees in sites such as office parks or campuses are facility trees. Shade provided by trees near buildings can greatly reduce summer cooling costs. Facility trees also modify the visual impact of structures.



Most facility trees grow where soil volume is restricted by hardscape. They commonly occur in landscape beds near structures. These landscape beds can vary widely in size. Facility trees may also occur in small planters or cutouts in sidewalks or plazas.

Some potential management issues:

- Soil near buildings may be unfavorable due to severe compaction and alkaline residues from concrete, stucco, etc.
- Planting beds may have inadequate drainage or irrigation.
- Competition from other landscape plants may be excessive.
- Reflected heat or excessive shading from structures may affect tree growth and health.
- Pruning may be needed to maintain clearance from buildings and over walkways.
- Potential for root damage to foundations and walkways needs to be considered.
- Underground utility maintenance may damage tree roots.

Existing condition

Notable facility trees include the Oregon white oaks, and Douglas-firs on the Pacific University campus. The university has a draft vegetation management plan for the campus (55 acres) and has recently expanded non-irrigated areas near white oaks to improve tree health.

Goals/desired condition:

- Mixed age classes and species composition
- Resistant to insect, disease, environmental damage
- Minimal impact to adjacent buildings and utilities
- Safe environment for pedestrians, motorists, and home owners
- Efficient to maintain

Parking lot trees

Background

Parking lots can occupy large patches of the urban landscape. Trees in parking plots can help mitigate some of their undesirable characteristics:

- Tree shade helps cool pavement. This helps reduce the urban heat island effect that is associated with paved areas.
- Tree shade cools parked cars. Hydrocarbon vapors emitted by hot cars contribute to photochemical smog formation.
- Trees intercept and channel rainfall, reducing runoff and water pollution associated with runoff from paved surfaces.
- Trees screen and soften the visual blight that parking lots pose



Forest Grove High School Nichols Lane Frontage

Parking lots are typically poor areas for growing trees. Trees are often grown in small cutouts with compacted soils, poor irrigation, and inadequate drainage. Trees may be subject to heat damage from hot pavement and vehicle engines. Trees are also damaged by vehicles and shopping carts. Trees are pruned to provide vehicle clearance and avoid blocking parking lot lighting. Retailers sometimes have trees pruned inappropriately to enhance visibility of signs or buildings from the street. Trees in parking lots can also have undesirable effects such as dripping sap on cars or causing additional maintenance/cleaning of the parking surface.

Existing condition

The Forest Grove development code for parking lots requires:

- At least 8% of the interior parking lot area shall be landscaped (DC 10.8.415(E)(3)).
- One tree shall be required for every 1,600 square feet of interior parking lot area. Trees shall have a minimum 2-inch caliper and 6-foot branch height at time of planting (DC 10.8.415(E)(4)).
- Interior parking area landscaping and trees must be dispersed throughout the parking area. Some trees may be grouped, but the groups must be dispersed. Required trees may be planted within 5 feet of the edges of the parking area (DC 10.8.415(E)(5)).

Forest Grove has a variety of parking lots developed over time, some have trees planted in them, and some do not. The recent remodel of Forest Grove High School included the planting of trees within the reconfigured parking lot and along Nichols Lane. The photograph above shows some of the newly planted trees.

Opportunity

Inventory parking lots to identify potential areas for planting, as well as existing plantings that may be incompatible with goals/desired conditions.

Goals/desired condition:

- Mixed age classes and species composition
- Resistant to insect, disease, environmental damage
- Minimal potential impact to vehicles
- Safe environment for pedestrians and motorists
- Efficient to maintain



Example of Well-Maintained Parking Lot Trees



Example of Improper Pruning of Parking Lot Tree

Park trees

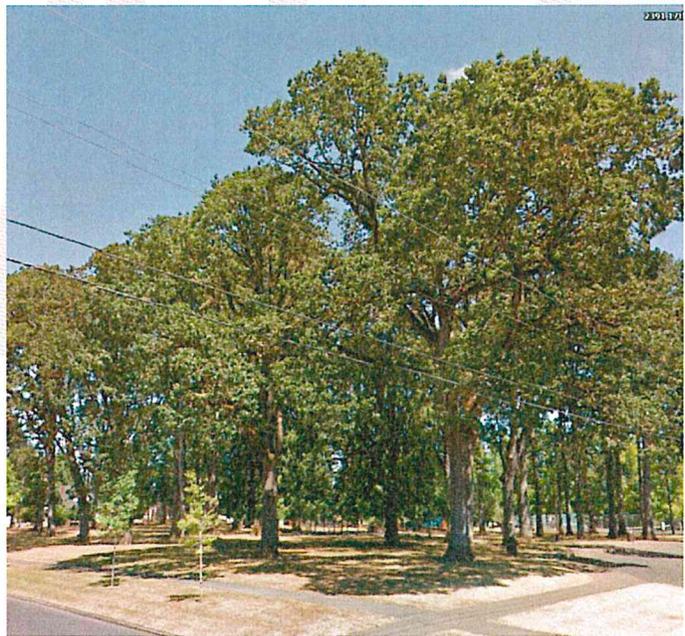
Background

Park trees include trees in public parks maintained by the City. Compared with street or facility trees, park trees may have fewer space constraints for both canopies and roots. This can allow the use of a wider range of species and larger trees overall. Tree care, however, may not receive high priority where turf or sports fields are primary uses. Other considerations:

- Trees in or near lawns need to tolerate high amounts of irrigation. Turf can also compete strongly with young trees.
- Soil compaction due to foot and equipment traffic on wet soils may impair root growth and drainage.
- Surface roots in turf may conflict with mowing equipment and may pose tripping hazards.
- Trees can be subject to damage from mowing equipment and park users. This can make it difficult to establish new trees.
- Hazard management may be a primary concern, especially in areas that are heavily used.
- Newly-developed parks often start with even-aged stands of trees. Phased tree replacement and interplanting may be needed to avoid a future replacement of the entire stand.
- Parks may include heritage trees or other old or unique trees with special maintenance needs.



Thatcher Woods



Rogers Park

Existing condition and opportunities

Forest Grove currently has over 20 park sites covering approximately 100 acres. Recent findings from the 2014 City park vegetation assessment include:

- The parks contain a wide variety of planted and native trees
- Significant tree maintenance is occurring
- Opportunities exist to plant additional trees, both to fill in unoccupied space, and to provide for future replacement of existing trees
- Some hazard abatement (dead branches) needs to occur
- May need a regular assessment schedule for overhead hazards?
- Opportunities exist to remove and replant a few smaller trees that appear to be too close to existing structures and utility wires
- Some past plantings need to be thinned to fewer trees on the site because of over crowding

Goals/desired condition:

- Safe environment for park visitors
- Mixed age classes and species composition
- Retain tree species representing character of Forest Grove (Oregon white oak, Douglas-fir, bigleaf maple, sequoia)
- Resistant to insect, disease, environmental damage
- Minimal impact to adjacent utilities
- Efficient to maintain (watering, mowing, etc.)
- Non-invasive species
- Greater coordination between the Community Forestry Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission regarding management of trees within the City's parks and open spaces.

Register trees

Background

Register/heritage trees are trees that are awarded special status due to their

1. Tree size, shape, or location;
2. Botanical significance;
3. Exceptional beauty;
4. Functional or aesthetical relationship to a natural resource.

In Forest Grove these trees are a reminder of the city's namesake and offer historic, aesthetic, environmental, and monetary value to the community. Because these are special trees by definition, they may have special needs relative to tree care activities and inspections.



Register Tree (Goff Oak)

Existing condition

The register tree program in Forest Grove was initiated in the mid-1990s. Approximately 100 trees were identified. Protection ordinances were developed for the register trees. Yearly notices of pertinent tree care information or additional services are sent to homeowners with register trees on their property. The City of Forest Grove requires a permit for activities that will impact heritage trees.

Current summary of Forest Grove's register trees:

Tree Type	Number
Oregon white oak	138
Douglas-fir	15
Giant Sequoia	19
Big leaf maple	2
Ponderosa pine	1
Umbrella tree	1
European beech	1
Western red cedar	2
Deodora cedar	2
Camperdown elm	1

Goals/desired condition

- Safe environment for home owners
- Retain tree species representing character of Forest Grove (White oak, Douglas-fir, Big leaf maple, sequoia)
- Minimal impact to adjacent utilities
- Provide for periodic health inspections
- Have adequate ordinances for protection
- Have adequate process for identification of new candidate register trees

Opportunities

- Increase public awareness of program
- Identification of potential Register tree candidates

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Open space trees

Background

Open space trees are often remnants of the native forest found along creeks or on hills. In some areas, some or all of these trees may be exotic species. Management goals and needs will depend on what types of species are present, their condition, and their location.

Tree management in open spaces is usually less intensive than in other parts of the urban forest. In some areas, open space trees may be largely unmanaged. However, these stands can and will change over time. Active management may be needed to:

- Help maintain native stands that have low levels of natural regeneration
- Suppress exotic species that may crowd out native trees in riparian areas
- Replace flammable exotic species with lower risk trees such as native oaks

Existing condition

Open space areas in Forest Grove total approximately 350 acres. Examples of open space trees include:

- Area along Gales Creek near the B Street Trail

Goals/desired condition

- Maintain native species composition
- Maintain conditions reducing threat from wildland fires

Opportunities

- Additional tree plantings along Gales Creek and the B Street Trail.

Hazard trees

Background

Forest Grove is susceptible to strong wind weather events during the winter months. Many older iconic trees in the City are vulnerable to damage. An example of this occurred in March of 2012 when one of the large Oregon white oak trees located in downtown Forest Grove succumbed to the wind. (See photo at right.) Fortunately, the tree fell in the early morning hours and did not cause injury to persons or significant property damage.



Tree Hazard

Many communities have developed programs to mitigate safety risks to persons and property. Some communities perform hazard tree risk assessments based on criteria developed by the International Society of Arboriculture. Such an assessment takes into account factors including history of tree failure, topography, soil conditions, tree foliage, vigor and possible defects, crown size, wind exposure, and conditions of roots. Based on these factors likelihood of failure is categorized. Categories include improbable, possible, probable and imminent. Potential impact and consequences are also assessed.

Existing condition

Hazard trees exist throughout Forest Grove, primarily in the older sections of town, and include the Old Town and Forest Gale Heights neighborhoods.

Goals/desired condition

- Safe environment for residents.

Opportunities

- Develop a hazard tree mitigation program and assessment methodology
- Perform hazard tree assessments

Management of the tree resource

Background

Almost all processes needed to sustain the urban forest – establishment, growth, decline, death, and degradation of trees – require some level of active management. Urban forest managers typically:

- Plan and implement tree plantings
- Maintain existing trees
- Manage hazards associated with declining trees
- Remove trees that have reached the end of their useful life span
- Recycle or dispose of green waste and wood from pruning and removals

Urban forest managers must also deal with problems related to the urban environment. These may include:

- Utility line clearance
- Damage to sidewalks and other hardscape due to tree roots
- Complaints from pedestrians and motorists about trees causing safety (visibility) issues
- Construction damage to tree roots
- Exotic species invading natural areas
- Fire hazards at the urban-wildland interface

Existing condition

Tree maintenance falls to three departments: Public works, Parks and Recreation, and Light and Power. Tree planting is the responsibility of the department undertaking the project. The Community Development Department manages the street tree planting program, issues permits for pruning or removal of protected trees including street trees, Register trees and trees on development sites.

Roles and Responsibilities (*Forest Grove City departments*):

- *Parks and Recreation Department:*
Maintain trees in City parks and on City-owned property, provide tree inspections at request of other departments, and support Community Forestry Commission
- *Community Development Department:*
Manage street tree planting program; review development proposals potentially affecting trees, issue tree pruning and removal permits, enforce tree planting regulations, support Community Forestry Commission.
- *Public Works Department:*
Address tree/sidewalk conflicts, annual fall leaf pick-up, maintenance along rights-of-way to address tree/ public way signage conflicts
- *Light and Power Department:*
Prune trees potentially affecting overhead utilities.
- No lead department/person for coordination of tree related activities between departments .

Forest Grove tree pruning standards prescribe a maximum 20% of tree canopy or 10% of critical root zone system impact. Tree topping prohibited.

Goals/desired condition

- Have adequate ordinances, plans and policies in place to manage tree resource (tree planting standards, pruning standards, protection standards during construction, tree removal permits, street tree species planting list, invasive tree species list)
- Safe environment for pedestrians, motorists, and homeowners
- Recycle (urban forest salvage) or dispose of green waste and wood from pruning and removals
- Adequate training for city and private crews doing tree maintenance work
- Adequate budgets for maintaining city trees
- Adequate coordination between city departments involved with tree related work

Opportunities

- Update tree planting standards
- Update/develop pruning standards
- Develop protection standards for underground utility, sidewalk, or other work that affects tree roots
- Determine if there is adequate coordination between departments for tree maintenance activities
- Identify areas available for additional planting of trees
- Determine adequacy of budgets for current and future maintenance/removal of trees in declining health (especially large trees)
- Surveys to locate trees causing visibility issues for motorists and pedestrians

Community desires, values, concerns

Background

The desires, attitudes, and perceptions of stakeholders and decision-makers can have a large impact on this plan. These potential issues were developed from the results of a 2015 urban forestry survey of Forest Grove residents.

Forest Grove resident concerns/issues include:

- Where to find information on proper tree care
- Cost of planting trees
- Cost of maintaining trees (includes cost of disposing of green material)
- Safety concerns for overhead trees hazards when visiting parks
- Safety concerns when living near large trees

Goals/desired condition

- Adequate information on proper tree care
- Safe environment when recreating or living (includes motorists) near trees
- Cost efficient system for recycling or dispose of green waste and wood from pruning and removals
- Adequate information about tree related ordinances

Strategic Plan

The strategic plan summarizes the issues, trends, goals, objectives, and actions under appropriate topic headings, e.g. Tree Resources, Management, and Community.

Issues and needs categories

- ***Tree needs***
Needs related to the tree resource itself and processes that maintain the urban forest.
 - *Street trees*
 - *Facility trees*
 - *Parking lot trees*
 - *Register/heritage tree program*
 - *Park and open space trees*
 - *Hazard trees*

- ***Management needs***
Needs of the urban forest program and the people involved with the short- and long-term care and maintenance of the urban forest.
- ***Community needs***
Needs related to how the public perceives and interacts with the urban forest and the urban forest management program.

Goals

The goals in this plan are the general outcomes that are sought. Goals may address some or all of the needs identified. They can also address other concerns or desires of the stakeholders.

Objectives

Objectives provide more specificity by breaking goals into the components that make up each goal. Like goals, objectives are desired outcomes, but are more specific and limited in scope.

Actions

An action is something that is done to achieve an outcome - e.g. plant trees, conduct workshops, or enforce regulations.

Tree needs

Issue 1: *Wrong tree in the wrong location rather than right tree in the right location*

Goal

Have minimal conflict between trees and utility lines, buildings, etc.

Objective

Reduce conflicts and improve tree health

Actions

- Expand future street tree surveys to include assessment of whether a tree is in an appropriate location (locates potential sites for correction).
- Review street tree planting list for possible conflicts.
- Increase public awareness about street tree program through expanded information placed on City website (requirement for tree removal permit and recommended list of street trees).
- Review list of recommendations in 2014 parks vegetation survey for specific remedial actions (tree replacement, removal).

Issue 2: *Lack of diversity in Oregon white oak size and age class (Not enough young oaks)*

Goal

Increase the abundance and survival of young white oaks as an element of the urban forest in Forest Grove.

Objective

Continuation of the Oregon white oak as an iconic tree in Forest Grove.

Actions

- Utilize 2014 parks vegetation survey to locate planting sites (open non-irrigated sites).
- Increase public awareness about the health risk to white oaks from watering in the summer.

Issue 3: *Insufficient tree canopy within the city limits*

Goal

Strive to achieve an Increase in tree canopy from 23% to 30% by 2025 and 40% by 2035

Objective

Increase public and private community benefits of trees by increasing tree canopy.

Actions

- Seek funding opportunities to increase tree planting throughout the community
- Establish partnerships between the Community Forestry Commission and other agencies and organizations interested in planting trees in Forest Grove.

Street trees

Issue 1: *Reduce possible impact of disease affecting street trees*

Goal

Increasing street tree diversity and reduce the potential impact of tree diseases

Objective

Effective management of street trees

Actions

- The Community Forestry Commission in conjunction with appropriate City staff should develop street tree management plans for new subdivisions of the City. The management plans should address recommended tree species to plant in the neighborhood.
- Educate property owners about City policies regarding adjacent property owner responsibility for maintaining street trees.
- Prepare an estimate of cost to taxpayers if the City were to undertake complete responsibility for maintaining street trees. The estimate should address staffing levels and required expenditures. The analysis should address equity in terms of not all streets have street trees.
- Utilize grants to assess, plan, and implement tree removal and planting projects as needed.
- Develop risk/age/condition based mapping (GIS) of potential neighborhood needs.

Facility trees

Issue 1: *Educate property owners about proper care of facility trees*

Goal

Promote planting of facility trees and proper facility tree care including pruning

Objective

Improve condition of facility trees throughout the community.

Actions

- Educate property owners about proper tree care and pruning techniques
- Educate property owners about the economic benefits trees provide

Parking lot trees

Issue 1: *Many existing parking lots lack trees*

Goal

Increase tree canopy coverage in existing parking lots

Objective

Bring existing parking lots into compliance with current Development Code standards

Actions

- Educate property owners about the benefits of adding trees to parking lots including increasing pavement life cycle.
- Work with property owners to select appropriate parking lot trees to reduce ongoing maintenance costs
- Work with property owners regarding proper tree pruning techniques.

Register/Heritage Tree Program

Issue 1: *Lack of protection for tree groves*

Goal

Develop tree grove protection program

Objective

Improve the Register/Heritage tree program

Actions

- Improve standards and incentives for tree grove protection
- Preserve existing tree groves
- Create new tree groves

Issue 2: *Lack of recruitment of new register trees into the program*

Goal

Improve community outreach for Register Tree Program

Objective

Encourage property owners to nominate trees to include on the Register/Heritage Tree list

Actions

- Educate community about Register Tree Program and benefits of seeking Register Tree designation

- Implement a “Register Tree of the Year” recognition program

Park and open space trees

Issue 1: *Unfulfilled opportunities for new trees plantings in parks and open spaces*

Goal

Increase tree canopy within open space areas, and insuring “right tree in the right place”.

Objective

Promote trees as an important component of the City’s open space programs.

Action

- The Community Forestry Commission should work with the Parks and Recreation Commission to ensure tree canopy is considered as an integral part of community open space programs.
- Utilize the park vegetation inventory to locate potential opportunities.

Issue 2: *Lack of park specific tree management plans*

Goal

Have plans as needed.

Objective

Develop plans as needed.

Action

- Develop a tree management plan for Thatcher Park.

Management needs

Issue 1: *Survival of planted or maintained trees*

Goal

Have greater than 90 percent survival of planted/maintained trees.

Objective

Encourage proper tree planting and care practices to increase survival rate

Actions

- Update the tree planting standards used by City contractors.
- Develop pruning standards/practices
- Develop inspection schedule for maintenance of downtown street trees (checking metal grates, etc. near street tree boles.)
- Develop/review ordinances/standards for underground utility or other work affecting tree roots.

Issue 2: *Coordination between City departments when working near trees*

Goal

Minimize duplication of efforts and ensure proper techniques to reduce harmful impacts to trees resulting from construction activities.

Objective

Ensure survival of trees near construction areas.

Actions

- Identify lead person or department for coordination on tree related issues.
- Consolidate tree planting and management efforts among City departments
- Designate a lead City staff person to coordinate urban forest management efforts.

Issue 3: *Affordability of City managed trees (maintenance cost)*

Goal

Have an urban forest that is sustainable with a minimal level of investment.

Objective

Reduce costs associated with tree care.

Action

- Review program for activities that have a low cost/benefit ratio.

Issue 4: *Funding*

Goal

Secure ongoing and dedicated funding for the urban forest management program.

Objective

Identify and utilize potential funding sources for urban forestry related programs.

Actions

- Identify possible funding mechanisms to support the urban forest management program
- Seek grant opportunities to implement urban forestry initiatives
- Seek dedicated funding through the City budget process for tree planting efforts by documenting tree related benefits to street preservation, surface water management, and environmental sustainability.

Community needs

Issue 1: *Availability of information related to proper tree care, or tree ordinances*

Goal

Have tree related information readily available through a variety of media.

Objective

Improve the availability of tree related information.

Actions

- Post Forest Grove tree removal permit/ordinance on City website
- Post tree planting and pruning information on City website. (or link to OSU Extension website)
- Post recommended street tree planting list.
- Continue CFC sponsored pruning and planting workshops
- Evaluate need for a City urban forester or arborist

Issue 2: *Affordability of tree maintenance as trees grow larger and older*

Goal

Having an affordable means of managing mature landscaping.

Objective

Mitigate property owner costs associated with retaining large, mature trees

Actions

- Evaluate possibility of expanding street tree leaf pick up to also include leaves/trimmings from other trees (especially in light of possible elimination of backyard burning).
- Increase awareness of urban tree salvagers that may offset cost of total tree removal.
- Establish grant or assistance program for low income home owners for tree maintenance activities.

Issue 3: *Effectiveness of the fall leaf pick-up program*

Goal

Assist property owners with removal of fall leaves.

Objective

Encourage the proper removal of fall leaves. Determine effectiveness of current fall leaf pick-up program.

Action

- Encourage volunteer opportunities to assist property owners with removal of fall leaves, especially elderly property owners.
- Determine effectiveness of current fall leaf pick-up program, and develop alternative strategies if necessary.

Issue 4: *Safety of public while recreating, driving, or living near areas with trees*

Goal

Enhance safety to persons and property by identifying and mitigating potential tree hazards.

Objective

Identify potential tree hazards

Actions

- Develop and maintain criteria for what constitutes a tree hazard using the Tree Risk Assessment methodology available from the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture.
- Prior to acquisition of land for parks or public places conduct a tree hazard assessment
- Develop and implement a formal emergency response system for tree hazards on City streets, City parks, and greenspaces.

- Utilize 2014 parks vegetation assessment to locate areas needing overhead hazards removed (dead or comprised branches over trails or in heavily used areas).
- Develop schedule to assess and remove hazards.
- Survey to identify potential safety issues to pedestrians, motorists, or cyclists from trees (low hanging branches blocking visibility of signs or crosswalks etc..)
- Develop a hazard tree identification and abatement program

Implementation plan

Funding is a critical component of successful implementation. The following section identifies current and potential sources of funding for sustaining the urban forest.

Urban Forest Funding Sources

Grants

Grants have been used by the Community Forestry Commission to fund inspections of trees on the Register of Significant Trees, street tree infill planting, publication of a tree of the month calendar and publication of a tour of trees brochure. Potential grant funding opportunities include:

- Forest Grove Community Enhancement Program
- Oregon Community Trees
- Alliance for Community Trees
- American Forests

Street Tree Fund

The City's Development Code requires all subdivisions and partitions to install street trees. To prevent trees from being damaged, street trees are not installed until construction is completed. As a result, each development is assessed for the cost of acquisition, installation and one year of maintenance for the street trees required for a project. The Street Tree Fund is the collection of these assessments.

Surface Water Management Fund

The Surface Water Management Fund provides resources for the City's annual fall leaf pick up program. Approximately 1,400 cubic yards of debris is removed from the street to minimize flooding.

Parks and Recreation Fund

A portion of the Parks and Recreation Fund is used to provide landscaping around City facilities and some non-park areas. In addition, this fund is used for street plantings and

trimming trees for street clearance.

Light and Power Fund

The Light and Power Department funds two journeyman tree trimmers with responsibility for tree care near overhead power lines.

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Proposed Implementation Strategy

- Develop standards and procedures for tree code enforcement
- Develop standards and procedures for tree protection related to public improvement projects and subdivision development
- Develop and maintain as part of the City's GIS and permit systems a publicly accessible inventory of protected trees
- Develop a hazard tree identification and abatement program
- Improve coordination among City departments related to the urban forestry program
- Identify and secure long term funding sources for urban forestry projects.
- Take advantage of the Community Forestry Commission area of the City's website as a way to distribute educational information about tree selection, care and permit requirements.
- Improve public outreach related to the benefits of the Register Tree program
- Develop site specific park/open space plans as needed.
- Assess effectiveness of current leaf/limb removal program.
- Develop an inventory (condition & opportunity) and mapping (GIS) of potential areas for street tree improvement projects.

Monitoring plan (to be developed further)

Monitoring is key to the success of any planning effort. Monitoring ensures desired outcomes are met or to make changes if something isn't working well.

Data will be collected as resources allow. Such resources include volunteer efforts, availability of grant resources, and how often data provided by outside organizations is updated. Whenever possible, field inventories should be conducted during the summer months

Register of Historic and Significant Trees

Inventory trees listed on the Register of Historic and Significant Trees as resources permit. The purpose of the inventory is to confirm the trees presence and identify general condition.

Street tree

Inventory street trees to determine overall health and viability of individual species. This data will be used to help guide selection of tree species used for street tree planting projects.

Park trees

Monitor the ongoing condition of trees located in the City's parks

Tree canopy

Assess tree canopy every two to five years. To minimize costs, tree canopy assessment should be based on data provided by regional, state or federal agencies.

Available tools

The City is in the process of developing an enterprise GIS system that could be used to advance the City's efforts to manage the urban forest. Integrating urban forest data with the GIS database will promote data sharing across departments and the general public. Data collection efforts should be done in a way that facilitates use of GIS.

A variety of free software tools, developed by the USDA Forest Service is available, at no charge, to anyone interested in analyzing forest resources. This tool, called I-Tree allows for assessment of tree canopy coverage using Landsat imagery. I-Tree allows for linking urban forest management activities with environmental quality and community livability. I-Tree provides a way to analyze data to demonstrate the value of the urban forest and set priorities for more efficient decision making.

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Appendices

- Appendix A: Forest Grove park 2014 vegetation assessment
- Appendix B: Technical guides and standards
- Appendix C: Assessment methods
- Appendix D: Chronological record of public involvement
- Appendix E: Public survey questions and summary of results
- Appendix F: Summary of other related planning documents
- Appendix G: Ordinances
- Appendix H: Other
- Appendix I: 2011 Forest Grove street tree inventory
- Appendix J: City list of recommended street trees for planting
- Appendix K: Register/list of historic and significant trees in Forest Grove

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Appendix A: 2014 Forest Grove parks vegetation assessment and recommendations

Park and Trail Property Addresses

B Street Trail	1910 16 th Ave
Bard Park	2921 22nd Avenue, 22 nd & Kingwood
East Entrance	Yew St between Adair and Baseline
Forest Glen Park – lower	101 Gales Creek Road, south end of Lavina
Forest Glen Park – upper	3250 Forest Gale Drive, corner of Circle Crest
Forest Glen Trail	101 Gales Creek Rd to Ridge Point Dr. Parallels Gales Creek Rd over an existing sewer easement
Hazel Sills Park	1627 Willamina Avenue
Joseph Gale Park	3014 18 th Avenue, 18th and Maple
Knox Ridge Park	2422 Strasburg Drive, corner of Strasburg Drive and Kalex Lane
Lincoln Park	2725 Main Street, Between Main and Sunset Drive North of Aquatic Center
North Entrance	Beale Rd.
Reuter Farm Green Space	480 Willamina
Rogers Park	2421 17 th Avenue, 18th and Elm
Stites Park (future)	2324 26 th Ave
Talisman Park	1210 Willamina Avenue
Thatcher Park	750 David Hill Road

B Street Trail

Size	.73 miles (16 th av to highway 47)
Location	1910 16 th Ave
Facilities (general overview)	Trailhead, paved bike and walking trail, tables, benches, pedestrian bridge over Gales Creek
Irrigated?	Yes, at trailhead
General vegetation overview	Mowed grass and planted young trees at trailhead. Planted trees along some of the trail. Natural vegetation along Gales creek portion of the trail (big leaf maple, ash, white oak, red osier dogwood, cottonwood)
Overstory trees	Young planted ash, red oak, cedar, locust at trailhead. A few planted cottonwood, Douglas-fir, willow along the trail
Understory trees	Douglas-fir, ash.

Understory shrubs	Snowberry, ribes, willow, beaked hazel
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	A variety of shrubs and trees were planted by Metro (about 2011) in the Gales Creek floodplain area east of the north portion of the trail. Species planted include: cottonwood, willow, dogwood, etc.
	Trees and grass/shrubs (ash, red oak, locust, cedar, grass, shrubs?) planted at the time of establishment of the trailhead (2010.)
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A few of the planted cedar along the fence at the trailhead are probably too close to the fence, and if so, it would be cheaper to replace them now instead of waiting until they are larger • There may be opportunities to plant additional cottonwood, willows, ash, Oregon white oak, Douglas-fir directly adjacent to the portion of the trail south of the Gales Creek bridge (will depend on how wide the right-of-way is)

Bard Park

Size	2.75 acres
Location	2921 22nd Avenue, 22 nd & Kingwood
Facilities (general overview)	Includes picnic shelter, tables play equipment, basketball court, paved trail
Irrigated?	Yes
General vegetation overview	Mowed and watered park grass with scattered mid-age planted trees
Overstory trees	Mid-age maples, Scotch pine, lodgepole/shore pine, sycamore, sequoia, and walnut
Understory trees	N/A
Understory shrubs	Mowed grass
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	No recent plantings
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue lower crown pruning/lifting for access of mowing equipment • Monitoring for removal needs of dead branches in crown

East Entrance

Size

Location	Yew St between Adair and Baseline
Facilities (general overview)	No recreational structures in park. Entry sign for City of Forest Grove (other entities listed on sign?? Didn't write this down). Doesn't appear to get much use, just drive by viewing, no parking except along road
Irrigated?	Yes
General vegetation overview	Watered and mowed area indicating entry point into Forest Grove, several different species of planted trees
Overstory trees	<p>Generally younger-mid age planted trees including, small clump of birch, several Oregon white oak (planted in an area that doesn't appear to be watered- good job!), sequoia, cedar, spruce, lodgepole pine, Douglas-fir, small ornamental Nyuzen Japan (sister city) town tree along east edge of site- very poor condition- much of the cambium rotted away</p> <p>Several areas along the north edge are too crowded and very close to the utility lines. Douglas-fir along north edge competing with a young white oak; the fir should be removed</p>
Understory trees	N/A
Understory shrubs	Watered/mowed grass, clumps of fescue in bark mulched area, dogwood, vine maple, Japanese maple
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	Plantings at establishment of area. Some general maintenance and pruning of lower branches has occurred
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Check birch for top die back (birch bore?)• Evaluate dense band of trees along south edge for thinning to reduce density• Opportunity to remove several fir that are competing with the white oak• Several trees (lodgepole pine, Douglas-fir) under the utility lines should be removed or pruned

Forest Glen Park – lower

Size	11 acres
Location	Gales Creek Road, south end of Lavina
Facilities (general overview)	Open space park with a paved and gravel trail around perimeter. Basketball court, tables, benches, and baseball field. Very little parking other than adjacent side streets.
Irrigated?	No
General vegetation overview	Mowed (infrequent) grass with a few remnant walnut trees and large white oaks along park edge.
Overstory trees	A few walnut and white oak.
Understory trees	N/A
Understory shrubs	Mowed grass
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	None
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate dead/rotten tree branches overhanging the paved trail along west edge of park

Forest Glen Park – upper

Size	
Location	3250 Forest Gale Drive, corner of Circle Crest
Facilities (general overview)	Small neighborhood park with play structure.
Irrigated?	Yes
General vegetation overview	Mowed and watered grass with a few planted trees.
Overstory trees	Mid-age big leaf maple, white oak, Douglas-fir, Ohio buckeye, flowering pears, ginko, young white oak.
Understory trees	N/A
Understory shrubs	Mowed grass
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	Trees in the slump appear to have been planted
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor slump along edge of park for movement Monitor overstory trees along edge of park for overhead

- hazard (dead/weak branches)
- Don't water the young white oak along west edge of the park

Forest Glen Trail

Size

Location	101 Gales Creek Rd to Ridge Point Dr. Parallels Gales Creek Rd over an existing sewer easement
Facilities (general overview)	Paved trail through a Steep wooded area along Gales creek road, which connects Ridge Point Drive and Lower Forest Glen Park. Also includes a low use gravel trail along a small drainage connecting Upper and Lower Forest Glen Park.
Irrigated?	No
General vegetation overview	Mixed species native trees
Overstory trees	Mature overstory of Douglas-fir, Oregon white oak, big leaf maple, Oregon ash. A few alder in the drainage bottom. Several dead trees and dead branches adjacent to, and hanging over the paved trail.
Understory trees	Bigleaf maple, cherry
Understory shrubs	Snowberry, service berry, beaked hazel, ocean spray, poison oak, black berry, ivy, Oregon grape.
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	The area along the lower portion of the drainage was planted (ponderosa pine, madrone, white oak, thimble berry, others.) in 2014 by SOLVE and Clean Water Services.
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate overstory along trail for hazard trees • Remove dead branches hanging over the trail, including several partially decayed large oak branches directly over the trail (eastern portion of the trail on the knob along the edge of Lower Forest Glen park • Continue spraying poison oak directly adjacent to trail • Blackberry spraying? • Ivy removal? • Opportunity for wood placement in drainage bottom to stop down-cutting • Opportunity to plant several white oak near the small grove of mature white oak along the eastern portion of the trail

Hazel Sills Park

Size	.5 acres
Location	1627 Willamina Avenue
Facilities (general overview)	Small neighborhood park. Play equipment.
Irrigated?	Yes
General vegetation overview	Mowed grass with a few recently planted trees
Overstory trees	Young ponderosa pine, maple, cedar
Understory trees	N/A
Understory shrubs	Mowed grass
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	Removal of existing overstory Douglas-fir, and planting of new trees
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pruning and shaping of young trees to facilitate mowing.

Joseph Gale Park

Size	3.6 acres
Location	3014 - 18 th Avenue, 18th and Maple
Facilities (general overview)	Developed park adjacent to Joseph Gale school. Includes play structures, ball fields, horseshoe pits, picnic tables, bathroom.
Irrigated?	Yes
General vegetation overview	Mowed grass with medium sized scattered trees
Overstory trees	Silver maples, sweetgum, spruce, Norway maple, lodgepole, sequoia, flowering plum, birch
Understory trees	N/A
Understory shrubs	Mowed grass
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Crown cleaning of dead branches (especially in the silver maples)

- Continued pruning of lower branches to facilitate mowing

Knox Ridge Park

Size	0.4 acres
Location	2422 Strasburg Drive, corner of Strasburg Drive and Kalex Lane
Facilities (general overview)	Small neighborhood park with play structures and picnic table
Irrigated?	Yes
General vegetation overview	Watered and mowed grass with a few young, planted trees
Overstory trees	Planted white cedar, maples, and flowering pears
Understory trees	N/A
Understory shrubs	Mowed grass
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	Tree planting
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pruning of lower branches • Evaluate cedar along edge of park for proximity to fence... looks too close to me. Evaluate for removal and re-planting of something else.

Lincoln Park

Size	18.9 acres (owned by city)
Location	2725 Main Street, Between Main and Sunset Drive North of Aquatic Center
Facilities (general overview)	Large City park with football/soccer/track field, toilet, skate board park, picnic tables and shelter structure. Paved walking trail around perimeter. Several parking lots.
Irrigated?	Yes
General vegetation overview	Scattered mid-age and mature trees with mowed and watered grass
Overstory trees	Cedar, lodgepole, scotch pine, red oak, ash, flowering pear, sycamore, basswood
Understory trees	N/A

Understory shrubs	Mowed grass
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	Tree planting
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued pruning of lower branches to facilitate mowing and walking on path Continued evaluation of overhead hazard (dead branches) Possible opportunities for plantings as the open lot (recently acquired) to the north and east gets developed

North Entrance

Size	Less than 1 acre
Location	Beale Rd.
Facilities (general overview)	Entrance sign for north entrance to Forest Grove. Several ponds, sidewalk, viewing structure, and table/bench.
Irrigated?	
General vegetation overview	Wetland vegetation surrounding the ponds
Overstory trees	Young planted willow, big leaf maple, white pine, Douglas-fir, ponderosa pine, lodgepole pine
Understory trees	N/A
Understory shrubs	Willow, dogwood
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	Tree/shrub planting
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thin vegetation near the viewing area (trail/sidewalk and shelter) to improve views of the pond Needs a sign indicating the name of the park

Reuter Farm Green Space

Size	
Location	480 Willamina
Facilities (general overview)	Several picnic tables on the back side of the hill overlooking a pond
Irrigated?	No

General vegetation overview	Mature grove of Oregon white oak with a mowed grass understory
Overstory trees	Approximately twenty large mature white oak with an open, mowed (not watered) grass understory.
Understory trees	N/A
Understory shrubs	Mowed grass
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	Removal of several overstory oaks. Trimming of lower branches that appear to have been decayed.
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue monitoring overstory oaks for overhead hazards (dead/decaying branches) • Possible opportunity to plant several white oaks along the edge of the park

Rogers Park

Size	3.6 acres
Location	2421 - 17 th Avenue, 18th and Elm
Facilities (general overview)	Heavily developed park. Includes play structures, tennis courts, picnic shelter and tables, portable toilets.
Irrigated?	Available but not used
General vegetation overview	Dominated by a grove of mature Oregon white oaks with a mowed grass understory
Overstory trees	Dominated by mature white oaks with a few Douglas-fir. Mature sweetgum trees along Elm Street. A few scattered yew, cedar, redwood, holly, Japanese maple.
Understory trees	Planted flowering plums, red oak, white oak, tulip tree
Understory shrubs	Mowed grass
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	Arbor Day tree plantings
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunities to plant a few white oaks • Monitor overhead hazards in oaks • Install interpretative sign about white oaks and why the City is not watering the park?

Stites Park (This area was not visited. Access uncertain.)

Size	9.9 acres
Location	2324 26 th Ave
Facilities (general overview)	
Irrigated?	
General vegetation overview	
Overstory trees	
Understory trees	
Understory shrubs	
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	

Talisman Park

Size	2.5 acres
Location	1210 Willamina Avenue
Facilities (general overview)	Play structure, picnic table and shelter. Paved path around the park and connecting to Gales Creek Road.
Irrigated?	Yes
General vegetation overview	Former wetland that has been filled in and planted with a variety of trees
Overstory trees	One large, open grown white oak is a focal point for this park. A variety of other tree species (oaks, maples, etc.) have been planted along the perimeter of the park. Each of the trees has a numbered post at the base that corresponds to a list of the species.
Understory trees	N/A
Understory shrubs	Mowed and watered grass.
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	Tree planting. Tree pruning workshop site
Existing maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue pruning of lower tree branches to facilitate mowing

- needs/recommendations**
- Evaluate for overhead hazards
 - Update and re-post the numbered key to the tree species in this park

Thatcher Park

Size	15.4 acres
Location	750 David Hill Road
Facilities (general overview)	Baseball/soccer fields, paved walking path, un-paved path through the forested portion of park, picnic table and shelter, toilet, dog park.
Irrigated?	Partial (ball fields)
General vegetation overview	The park includes two different areas. One is a 5-10 acres heavily forested area with a walking trail. The second area is the heavily developed park with mowed lawn, planted young trees, and developed facilities.
Overstory trees	Overstory of mature Douglas-fir (80-90 percent), with scattered big leaf maple, white oak, and cherry. The overstory appears to be fairly even aged (age??). Approximately 25-50 percent of the Douglas-fir are infected with heart rot (species??... The understory trees include big leaf maple, cherry, and holly. Shrub species include snowberry, blackberry, holly, elderberry, ivy, beaked hazel, willow, serviceberry.
Understory trees	Mowed and watered grass with planted oak), ash, Douglas-fir.
Understory shrubs	
Past vegetation work (planting, thinning, etc.)	Removal of hazard trees. Holly removal. Blackberry spraying. Removal of brush in riparian area along east side.
Existing maintenance needs/recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued evaluation of Douglas-fir heart rot and potential overhead hazards • Removal of existing dead branches hanging over the forested portion of the trail • Blackberry and ivy removal? • Opportunities to convert portions (mostly along the forest edge) to white oak through planting

Appendix B:
Technical guides and standards

DRAFT

Appendix C:
Assessment methods

DRAFT

Appendix D:

Chronological record of public involvement

DRAFT

Appendix E:

Public survey questions and summary of results

DRAFT

Appendix F:
Summary of other related planning documents

DRAFT

Appendix G:
Ordinances

DRAFT

TREE PROTECTION

10.5.100 PURPOSE

The trees of Forest Grove, a reminder of the City's namesake, offer historic, aesthetic, spiritual, social, environmental and monetary values to the community. This section of the Code establishes guidelines, a legal framework, and authority for the community forestry program. The intent of this section is to enhance the quality of life in Forest Grove by promoting good stewardship that will ensure the continued health of the community forest. The Development Code creates a protected status for trees as listed below:

- A. Street Trees: Any woody perennial plant permitted by the City to be planted in the public right-of-way. Typically a 1¼-inch or larger nursery stock tree.
- B. Natural Resource Vegetation: Trees and vegetation within sensitive lands or vegetative corridors as required by Clean Water Services Design and Construction Standards.
- C. Trees on Developable Land: Trees which have a diameter of six (6) inches or larger, or Oregon White Oaks with a diameter of three (3) inches or larger, measured at 4 ½ feet above natural grade, on land subject to or undergoing development review. Development review includes site review, design review, partition or subdivision review or building permit review.
- D. Trees on Approved Site Plan: Existing trees shown on site plans and designated for protection as part of the site plan approval.
- E. Register Trees: Trees placed on the register list (includes tree groves) as described in Section 9.800 of the Municipal Code. Register trees may include trees from any of the above categories as well as trees on private property.

Where any tree fits into more than one category, the most restrictive criteria apply.

10.5.105 DEFINITIONS

Section 10.12.210 T4 of this code includes a definitions section devoted to tree related terms.

10.5.110 CITY APPROVAL REQUIRED

- A. In no case can trees within the public right-of-way that are deemed by the City to be healthy and pose no risk of property damage or personal injury be removed or topped. In addition, unless approved by a tree permit or specifically exempted under subsection C below, it shall be unlawful within any one ~~A~~- year to modify protected trees included in Section 10.5.100 as follows:
 - 1. Remove or prune as to remove over 20% of a tree's canopy,

2. Top a tree, or
3. Disturb over 10% of the critical root zone of any protected tree or vegetation except in accordance with the provisions of this Code.

A. Permit Requirements

1. The applicant shall file an application for protected tree removal or pruning with the City. The application shall include information on the location and size of the parcel, the location, type, and size of the tree or trees proposed for removal or pruning, and the reasons for the request. Where specified by this code, a tree protection plan shall be provided in accordance with the provisions of Section 10.5.120. The application and reasons shall address appropriate criteria based on the categories in described in Section 10.5.100 (i.e., street trees, trees on developable land, etc.)
2. Where an application involves infested tree(s), the application shall contain an analysis of the tree(s) by an arborist.
3. The Director shall determine whether the request is valid under the terms of this Code within four working days of submittal of the application. If valid, the application shall be processed as a Type I permit within seven working days unless referred or appealed to the Community Forestry Commission (CFC).
4. Applications for the removal or pruning of trees pursuant to Section 10.5.125 shall be submitted as part of the land use permit application or grading permit, whichever ever is first. The application shall be reviewed and acted upon by the Community Forestry Commission prior to the issuance of any land use approval for new development or grading permit. Notice will be sent consistent with the Type II procedures with appeal to the City Council.

A. Permit Exemption. The following activities do not require a permit:

1. Imminent Danger. If an imminent danger exists to the public or any property owner or occupant, the City may issue an emergency removal permit. The removal shall be in accordance with accepted arboricultural standards and be the minimum necessary to eliminate the danger.
2. Penalty for Incorrect Danger Assessment. If it is determined that imminent danger did not exist or that the hazardous condition had existed for over sixty (60) days and the owner delayed in applying for a permit, mitigation shall be required as established in Section 10.5.150 of this Code.
3. Maintenance. Regular maintenance which does not require removal of over 20% of the tree's canopy, tree topping, or disturbance of over 10% of the root system

10.5.115 TREE PROTECTION PLAN AND PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS

A. Plan Requirements. Where required by this code, a tree protection plan shall be submitted and approved by the Director or, where specified, the Community Forestry Commission. The plan shall be prepared by an Arborist and shall include:

1. A scale drawing of the subject property;
2. Location, species, and diameter of each tree on site and within 15 feet of the site;
3. Location of the critical root zone;
4. Location of existing and proposed roads, water, sanitary and storm sewer, irrigation and other utility lines/facilities and easement;
5. Location of dry wells and soakage trenches;
6. Location of existing and proposed structures;
7. Existing topography and proposed grade change or cut and fill as a result of development;
8. Existing and proposed impervious surfaces;
9. Identification of a contact person and/or arborist who will be responsible for implementing and maintaining the approved tree protection plan;
10. Identification of a contact person and/or arborist who will be responsible for implementing and maintaining the approved tree protection plan; and
11. For Register Trees, an assessment of tree health or hazard condition, and recommendations for treatment of each applicable tree.

B. Protection Standards. The following construction practices shall apply:

1. Excavations and driveways shall not be placed within six feet of any tree or within the closest 80% of the critical root zones to the tree trunk whichever is the greater distance. During such excavation or construction this distance shall be protected and no temporary building, building material, vehicle or debris shall be kept within this area. Exceptions to this distance may be approved with a favorable report by a qualified arborist.
2. During the erection, repair, alteration, or removal of any building, structure or sign within the critical root zone of a register tree there shall be a sufficient fence to prevent injury to such tree before start and during construction. Special care shall be taken to avoid soil compaction within the critical root zone, including a

prohibition of vehicle parking or driving and the prohibition of storage of equipment, construction supplies or construction debris.

10.5.120 STREET TREES (TREES IN PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY)

A. Standards and Requirements.

1. **Street Trees Required.** All development projects fronting on a public or private street more than 100 feet in length approved after the adoption of this title shall be required to plant street trees.
2. **Street Tree Planting List.** Certain trees can severely damage utilities, streets and sidewalks or can cause personal injury. Approval of any planting list shall be subject to review by the Director.
3. **Tree Plan Required.** New street trees shall conform to an existing tree plan unless a specific exception is granted. When a tree plan does not exist, the City shall determine tree species. In selection of tree species, the City shall consider the list of prohibited trees, the available planting area, above or below ground restrictions, the need for tree diversity, and the requests of adjacent property owners.
4. **Size and Spacing of Street Trees.** The specific spacing of street trees by size of tree shall be as follows:
 - a. Small or narrow-stature trees under twenty-five (25) feet tall and less than sixteen (16) feet wide branching at maturity shall be spaced no greater than twenty (20) feet apart;
 - b. Medium-sized trees twenty-five to forty (25-40) feet tall, sixteen to thirty-five (16-35) feet wide branching at maturity shall be spaced no greater than thirty (30) feet apart;
 - c. Large trees over forty (40) feet tall and more than thirty-five (35) feet wide branching at maturity shall be spaced no greater than forty (40) feet apart.
 - d. Except for signalized intersections, trees shall not be planted closer than twenty (20) feet from a street intersection, nor closer than two (2) feet from private driveways (measured at the back edge of the sidewalk), fire hydrants or utility poles to maintain visual clearance.
 - e. No new utility pole location shall be established closer than five (5) feet to any existing street tree.
 - f. Street trees shall not be planted closer than twenty (20) feet to light standards.

- g. Where there are overhead power lines, the street tree species selected shall be of a type which, at full maturity, will not interfere with the lines.
 - h. Street trees shall not be planted within two (2) feet of any permanent hard surface paving or walkway:
 - i. Space between the tree and the hard surface may be covered by a nonpermanent hard surface such as grates, bricks on sand, paver blocks and cobblestones; and
 - ii. Sidewalk cuts in concrete for tree planting shall be at least four feet by four feet (4 X 4) to allow for air and water into the root area.
5. Pruning Requirements. Trees or shrubs within any public right-of-way, or on public and private grounds and having branches projecting into the public street or sidewalk, shall be kept pruned by the owner or owners of property adjacent to or in front of which such trees, shrubs or plants are growing and shall meet the following:
- a. At least eight (8) feet of clearance above sidewalks, thirteen (13) feet above local streets, and fifteen (15) feet above collector and arterial street roadway surfaces shall be provided.
 - b. The branches of any tree, shrub, or other vegetation shall be pruned so as to maintain the clear vision area requirements as set forth in Section 10.8.150.
 - c. Newly planted trees may remain untrimmed, provided they do not interfere with street traffic or persons using the sidewalk.
6. Cut And Fill Around Existing Trees. Existing trees may be used as street trees if no cutting or filling takes place within the drip-line of the tree.
7. Granting Of Adjustments. Adjustments to the street tree requirements may be granted by the Director by means of a Type I or II procedure, using approval criteria in Article 2 for Adjustments.
8. Street Tree Maintenance – Property Owner Responsibility
- a. The adjacent property owner shall appropriately water the tree for two (2) years following planting, unless a City irrigation system, maintenance program, or separate maintenance contract is developed which specifically removes the property owner of this responsibility.
 - b. Pruning requirements. Trees or shrubs within any public right-of-way, or on public and private grounds and having branches projecting into the public

street or sidewalk, shall be kept pruned according to city standards by the owner or owners of property adjacent to or in front of which such trees, shrubs or plants are growing.

- c. Where tree roots create hazardous sidewalk conditions, the owner is responsible for pruning the roots or modifying the sidewalk to alleviate the hazardous condition.

9. City Maintenance of Street Trees

- a. The City may perform pruning on any street tree within the rights-of-way without a permit if total pruning results in removal of less than 20% of the crown or disturbance of less than 10% of the root system. Major pruning of a series of street trees may be combined in one permit.
- b. If the owner or owners, lessees, occupants or person in charge of the property shall fail and neglect to trim such trees, shrubs or plants within ten (10) to forty-five (45) days after notice, the City shall trim such trees, shrubs or plants and shall bill the property owner for the cost of the work. Such trimming by the City shall not relieve such owner, lessee, occupant or person in charge of responsibility for violation of the code.

10. Additional Requirements

- a. It shall be unlawful to attach anything to a tree, or to the support of protection devices of a tree, except that which is used for support or protection or approved by the City.
- b. It shall be illegal to remove protective devices from around a tree, or in any way damage a street tree.
- c. The applicant shall state when products of pruning or tree removal will be used for a financial return. The commercial harvesting of tree products (e.g. harvesting and selling of spring foliage) shall not be the primary purpose for pruning or cutting street trees.
- d. If removal is allowed, the stump shall be removed to a depth of six (6) inches below the surface of the ground or finish grade of the street, whichever is of greater depth.
- e. A tree of at least two (2) -inch or larger caliper size shall be planted within one (1) year of removal of the street tree.

B. Criteria for Pruning or Removal. The permit for major pruning or removal shall be granted if any of the following criteria are met:

1. The tree is dead or diseased. This criterion shall not be used as the sole reason for removal if the cost of curing the disease is less than one-fourth of the value of the tree. Criterion 1 is to determine if major pruning or removal is appropriate, and shall not be used to require treatment of the tree.
2. The tree has become a major nuisance by virtue of damage to personal property or improvements, either public or private, on the subject site or adjacent sites, and that the maintenance required to prevent damage to such improvements or property outweigh the value of the tree to the community.
3. The tree is unsafe to the occupants of the property, an adjacent property or the general public.
4. The removal has been approved as part of a development project, pursuant to the provisions of Section 10.5.135.
5. The removal is for a public purpose, and there is no alternative without significant cost or safety problems.
6. The removal is part of a street tree improvement program, such as improving the streetscape, or improving the age and species diversity within the City.

10.5.125 TREES IN NATURAL RESOURCE AREAS

Modification of any trees within Natural Resource Areas shall comply with Clean Water Service Design and Construction Standards and, where applicable, Section 10.5.050 et. seq.

10.5.130 TREES ON DEVELOPABLE LAND, PRIOR TO AND DURING DEVELOPMENT

A. Protected Trees Prior to Development

1. A permit shall be required for the removal or major pruning for trees six (6) - inches or greater in diameter or Oregon White Oaks three (3) – inches or greater in diameter, measured 4 ½ feet above natural grade, or other Protected Trees as defined in this code. A permit may cover a tree management plan which specified cutting, pruning, and thinning on a six (6)-month to two (2)-year basis.

B. Tree Removal Criteria. The permit for removal of tree(s) on developable land shall be granted if any of the following criteria have been met:

1. The tree is dead or diseased. Criterion 1 shall not be used as the sole reason for removal if the cost of curing the disease is less than one-fourth (1/4) of the value

of the tree. Criterion 1 is to determine if major pruning or removal is appropriate, and shall not be used to require treatment of the tree.

2. Removal of the tree is necessary to accomplish a public purpose, such as the installation of public utilities or provision of public streets by a public agency. The applicant shall show evidence of alternative designs.
3. Removal of the tree is for thinning purposes following accepted arboricultural practices.

C. Review Standards during Development Review

1. Prior to the removal of any protected trees a tree permit is required. If there is a land use or other permit which may result in modification of the site the tree permit shall be reviewed concurrent with that other permit and follow the same process.
2. Permit Requirements. In conjunction with the development permit requested, the applicant shall include the location, size, and species of all trees subject to this code. Groves or trees that are to be protected do not have to be individually delineated, however, the approximate number of trees in each grove shall be indicated.
3. Protection Plan. For all trees proposed to be preserved, the applicant shall submit a protection plan consistent with the provisions of Section 10.5.120. Protected trees shall be identified on landscape plans.
4. Review Criteria. Protected Trees, as defined in Section 10.5.100 shall be preserved unless the applicant proves to the satisfaction of the reviewing body that removal is necessary as a result of:
 - a. Need to remove trees that pose a safety hazard to pedestrians, property or vehicular traffic or threaten to cause disruption of public service; or which pose a safety hazard to persons or buildings.
 - b. Need to remove diseased trees or trees weakened by age, storm, fire or other injury.
 - c. Need to observe good arboricultural practices.
 - d. Need for access to the building site or immediately around the proposed structure for construction equipment.
 - e. Need for essential grade changes to implement safety standards common to standard engineering or architectural practices.

- f. Surface water drainage and utility installations.
- g. Locations of driveways, buildings or other permanent improvements so as to avoid unreasonable economic hardship.
- h. Compliance with other ordinances or codes.
- i. Need to install solar energy equipment.

For criteria d-g above, the applicant shall provide evidence of exploring alternate designs that would increase tree protection. Removal of register trees shall also comply with the criteria in Section 10.5.145.

5. Yard Setback Adjustment

- a. The Director may authorize adjustments from the setback requirements of this Code where it can be shown that, owing to special and unusual circumstance related to a specific property, a proposed development would result in the removal of trees designated in the Register. An adjustment to the side, front, and/or rear yard setback by up to 50% may be authorized if necessary to retain designated Register trees.
- b. The Director may grant only the minimum adjustment necessary to retain the designated Register trees. In granting the adjustment, the Director may attach conditions necessary to protect the interests of the surrounding property or neighborhood.

The adjustment to setbacks to protect Register trees shall be consolidated with the land use application and reviewed under the procedures specified for Adjustments in Section 10.2.100.

10.5.135 TREES IN APPROVED DEVELOPMENTS

The following provisions apply to trees that were existing and retained as part of a development review procedure.

- A. Criteria. The permit for major pruning or removal shall be granted if any of the following criteria have been met.
 - 1. The tree is dead or diseased. Criterion 1 shall not be used as the sole reason for removal if the cost of curing the disease is less than one-fourth (1/4) of the value of the tree. Criterion 1 is to determine if major pruning or removal is appropriate, and shall not be used to require treatment of the tree.

2. The tree has lost its significance in terms of its original designation due to damage from natural or accidental causes, or if some other reason can be established that it is not longer of historic significance.
3. The tree has become a major nuisance by virtue of damage to personal property or improvements, either public or private, on the subject site or adjacent sites, and that the maintenance required to prevent damage to such improvements or property outweigh the value of the tree to the development.
4. The tree is unsafe to the occupants of the property, an adjacent property or the general public.
5. The pruning, removal or replacement of the tree results in an improved development as measured by the original review criteria. Decisions under this provision may be referred to the original review body.

10.5.140 PROTECTION OF REGISTER TREES

- A. Register Trees. Register Trees are those identified and adopted by Council ordinance, and are subject to this section in addition to any requirements set forth in this Article.
- B. When development is proposed within a significant grove or when Register trees are located within a site proposed for development, a tree protection plan pursuant to Section 10.5.110 shall be submitted for approval. If justification for removal is based upon the health of the tree, and a visual inspection by the City cannot establish that the tree is dead or seriously diseased, the applicant shall hire a certified arborist or pay a fee established by the City so that an arborist can be hired to inspect and evaluate the health of the tree.
- C. Criteria. The permit for major pruning or removal shall be granted if any of the following criteria have been met:
 1. The tree is dead or diseased. Criterion 1 shall not be used as the sole reason for removal if the cost of curing the disease is less than one-fourth (¼) of the value of the tree. Criterion 1 is to determine if major pruning or removal is appropriate, and shall not be used to require treatment of the tree.
 2. The tree has lost its significance in terms of its original designation due to damage from natural or accidental causes, or if some other reason can be established that it is no longer of historic significance.
 3. The tree is unsafe to the occupants of the property, an adjacent property or the general public.
 4. The proposed removal is part of a development project; and

- a. The removal is for a public purpose, and there is no alternative without significant cost or safety problems as determined by the CFC; or
 - b. Protecting register trees results in a density reduction of over 15%, or an increase in costs of 15%. If this is documented, the allowed tree removal shall be the minimum required to reduce the impact on density and/or costs to less than 15%.

- E. Issuance of Permit. All permits for removal shall be issued with the following conditions attached:
 - 1. Any Register tree shall be removed or pruned following professional standards. These standards shall be provided to all applicants at the time the permit is issued.
 - 2. It is the responsibility of the applicant to assure that all protected trees are removed or pruned in a manner that ensures safety to individuals and public and private property.
 - 3. Other conditions (such as one or more replacement trees) shall be attached in keeping with the purpose of this section.

- F. Relative Value. The relative significance and historic value of the tree (based on the *Manual of Tree and Landscape Appraisers*), as determined in the inventory or other study, shall be considered in evaluating the need for removal or mitigation requirement.

- G. Referral and Appeals. The Director may refer the review to the CFC. The Director may also request a recommendation from the Historic Landmarks Board if the permit request involves trees with historic significance. A decision of the Director may be appealed to the CFC. Appeals of the CFC decision shall go directly to the City Council within the time periods and procedures as set forth in Section 10.1.200 et al of this Code.

10.5.145 MITIGATION AND PENALTIES

- A. Tree Replacement. Replacement trees shall be new trees, two (2) inches in caliper size or larger, meeting City requirements for tree type, placement, installation, and watering provisions. The owner (or the adjacent property owner in the case of street trees) shall be responsible for the continued health of the new tree including regular watering. Replacement shall be completed within one (1) year of tree removal.

- B. Mitigation for Improper Tree Removal
 - 1. Removal or destruction of a tree in violation of this Code on developed single-family zoned property (and which does not meet the criteria of developable land) is punishable by replacement of the tree and a fine. The fine shall not exceed the schedule for fines set forth in the Municipal Code or the value of the tree, whichever is less.

2. In all other cases, removal or destruction of a protected tree in violation of this Code is punishable by a fine which shall not exceed the replacement value of the tree as based on the *Guide for Plant Appraisal*. In lieu of a cash payment to the City, the City may accept mitigation of said value based on the following alternatives, either singularly or in combination:
 - a. One or more trees resulting in the same or higher value of the removed tree, except that the value shall be not less than the cost of tree replacement.
 - b. One or more trees of a species acceptable to the City in which the caliper size (cumulative square inches) of the replacement trees equal the diameter measurement at 4 ½ feet above natural grade of the removed trees.
3. Mitigation shall be completed within one (1) year.
4. Where it is determined that tree removal was performed illegally, all land use permit processing for the parcel shall be suspended until mitigation is complete.
5. Partial Compliance with Criteria. If the required criteria have only been partially met, then the reviewing body can require mitigation greater than Section 10.5.150 A (Tree Replacement) but less than Section 10.5.150 B (Improper Removal).

LANDSCAPING, SCREENING & BUFFERING

10.8.400 PURPOSE

The purpose of this section is to establish standards for landscaping, buffering, and screening of land use within Forest Grove in order to enhance the aesthetic and environmental quality of the City:

- A. By requiring street trees in new developments;
- B. By using plant materials as a unifying design element;
- C. By using plant materials to define spaces and articulate the uses of specific areas; and
- D. By using trees and other landscape materials to mitigate the effects of noise and lack of privacy and provide buffering and screening.

10.8.405 APPLICABILITY

- A. Applicability. The provisions of this section shall apply to all new development and to a change of use that result in the need for increased on-site parking.
- B. When Site Development/Design Review Does Not Apply. Where the provisions of Site Development Review or Design Review do not apply, the Director shall approve, approve with conditions, or deny a landscape plan submitted under the provisions of this section by means of a Type I procedure.
- C. Landscape Plan. The applicant shall submit a landscape plan. The Director shall provide the applicant with information on the submittal requirements.

10.8.410 GENERAL PROVISIONS

- A. Obligation to Maintain. It shall be the continuing obligation of the property owner to maintain required landscaped areas in an attractive manner free of weeds and noxious vegetation. In addition, the minimum amount of required living landscape materials shall be maintained.
- B. Ground Preparation. The ground in all required landscaped areas should be properly prepared with suitable soil and fertilizer. Specifications shall be submitted with the landscape plans showing that adequate preparation of the top soil and sub-soil will be undertaken prior to planting to support the plantings over a long period of time.
- C. Installation Requirements. The installation of all landscaping shall be as follows:
 - 1. All landscaping shall be installed according to accepted planting procedures and the provisions of this article;

2. The plant materials shall be of high grade, and shall meet the size and grading standards of the American Standards for Nursery Stock;
 3. All required landscaped areas must be provided with a piped underground irrigation system unless a licensed landscape architect or certified nurseryman submits written verification that the proposed plant materials do not require irrigation.
- D. Pruning Required. All plant growth in landscaped areas of developments shall be controlled by pruning or trimming so that:
1. It will not interfere with the maintenance or repair of any public utility;
 2. It will not restrict pedestrian or vehicular access; and
 3. It will not constitute a traffic hazard because of reduced visibility.
- E. Certificate of Occupancy. Certificates of occupancy shall not be issued unless the landscaping requirements have been met or other arrangements have been made and approved by the City such as the posting of a performance bond or security equal to 125 percent of the cost of the landscaping.
- F. Care Of Landscaping Along Public Rights-Of-Way. Appropriate methods for the care and maintenance of street trees and landscaping materials shall be provided by the owner of the property abutting the rights-of-way unless otherwise required for emergency conditions and the safety of the general public.

10.8.415 GENERAL STANDARDS

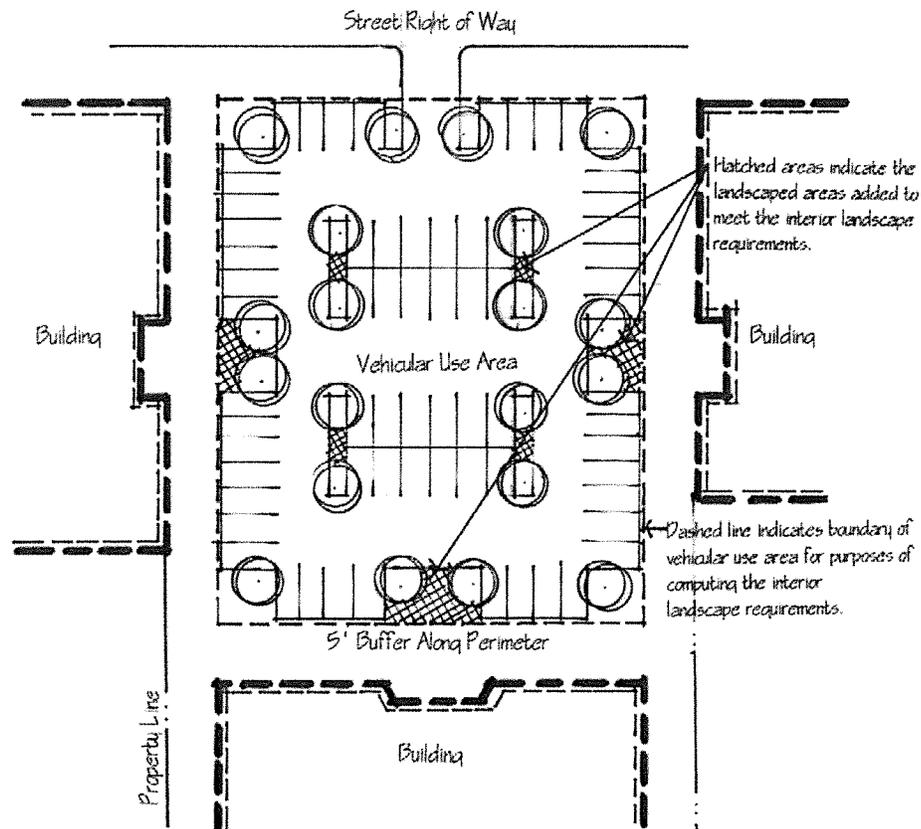
- A. Non-invasive native vegetation is encouraged to be used for all landscaping except within 100 feet of a natural resource area. In such situations, native vegetation is required.
- B. Installation of bio-swales or preservation of wetlands should be located where possible in landscaped areas.
- C. Required Landscaping Adjacent to Public Rights-Of-Way--A strip of land at least 5 feet in width located between the abutting right-of-way and the off-street parking area or vehicle use area which is exposed to an abutting right-of-way, except in required vision clearance areas.
- D. Perimeter Landscaping Relating to Abutting Properties--On the site of a building or structure or open lot use providing an off-street parking area or other vehicular use area, where such areas will not be entirely screened visually by an intervening building or structure from abutting property, a 5-foot landscaped strip shall be between the common lot line and the off-street parking area or other vehicular use area exposed to abutting property. Landscaped areas should include where possible water quality features such as bio-swales or wetlands, trees, grass, shrubs, and other plant material so as to cover the

landscape area.

- E. Parking Area Interior Landscaping--Landscaped areas shall be appropriately distributed to break up large expanses of pavement, improve the appearance and climate of the site, improve safety, and delineate pedestrian walkways and traffic lanes. Except for industrial development within industrial zones, the following interior landscaping shall be met:
1. Percentage Approach. For the purpose of this section, Interior Parking Lot Area is defined as the hard surface parking area (parking stalls and aisles). Such area does not include loading and unloading zones nor perimeter landscaping around the lot. Where perimeter landscaping intrudes into the parking lot four or more feet, that area is included in both the interior parking lot area and interior parking lot landscaping.

Figure 8-4
Parking Lot Landscaping

Interior Landscaping for Vehicular Use Areas



2. A required landscaped area shall have a minimum dimension of 6 feet and be no less than 48 square feet in area.
3. At least 8% of the Interior Parking Lot Area shall be landscaped. Landscaped

areas may include water quality features such as bio-swailes or wetlands, trees, grass, shrubs, and other plant material so as to cover the landscape area.

4. One tree shall be required for every 1600 square feet of Interior Parking Lot Area as defined in (i) above. Trees shall have a minimum 2-inch caliper and 6-foot branch height at time of planting.
5. Interior parking area landscaping and trees must be dispersed throughout the parking area. Some trees may be grouped, but the groups must be dispersed. Required trees may be planted within 5 feet of the edges of the parking area.
6. Perimeter landscaping area may not substitute for interior landscaping. However, interior landscaping may join perimeter landscaping as long as it extends 4 feet or more into the parking area from the perimeter landscape line.

10.8.420 LANDSCAPING REQUIREMENTS BY ZONE

- A. Landscaping Required In The Neighborhood Commercial Zone. All required yards (exclusive of accessways and other permitted intrusions) adjacent to a public or private street shall be landscaped.
- B. Landscaping Required In The Community Commercial Zones. A landscaped strip at least ten (10) feet in width shall be provided abutting any property line facing a street. The landscape strip shall be appropriately landscaped with ground cover, planted berm, shrubbery and/or trees.
- C. Landscaping Required In The Town Center Zones. All new commercial and residential developments in the Town Center Zones shall landscape no less than 5% of the lot area using appropriate native plant materials and/or architectural features such as benches, planters, and water fountains which are suitable and supportive of the downtown commercial environment. Jointly improved landscaped areas are encouraged to facilitate continuity of landscape design within the Town Center.
- D. 75% Coverage. At least 75% of the required landscaped area shall be planted with any suitable combination of trees, shrubs, or evergreen ground cover. The required 75% coverage shall be based on the size of the plant material within a specified time as follows:
 1. Trees – within five (5) years from the date of final inspection by the Building Official.
 2. Shrubs – within two (2) years from the date of final inspection by the building Official.
 3. Ground covers – at the time of final inspection by the Building Official.

- E. 25% Architectural Features. Landscaped areas as required by this article may include architectural features or artificial ground covers such as sculptures, benches, masonry or stone walls, fences, rock groupings, bark dust, decorative hard paving and gravel areas, interspersed with planting areas. The exposed area developed with such features shall not exceed 25 percent of the required landscaped area. Artificial plants are prohibited in any required landscaped area.

10.8.425 BUFFERING & SCREENING STANDARDS

A. General Provisions

1. It is the intent that these requirements shall provide for privacy and protection and reduce or eliminate the adverse impacts of visual or noise pollution at a development site, without unduly interfering with the view from neighboring properties or jeopardizing the safety of pedestrians and vehicles;
2. Buffering and screening is required to reduce the impacts on adjacent uses which are of a different type in accordance with the matrices in this chapter (Tables 8-2, 8-3 and 8-4). The owner of each proposed development is responsible for the installation and effective maintenance of buffering and screening.
3. In lieu of these standards, a detailed buffer area landscaping and screening plan may be submitted for the Director's approval as an alternative to the standards, provided it affords the same degree of buffering and screening as required by this code.

B. Buffering and Screening Requirements

1. A buffer consists of an area within a required setback adjacent to a property line and having a depth equal to the amount specified in the buffering and screening matrix and containing a length equal to the length of the property line of the abutting use or uses.
2. Utilities, screening, sidewalks and bikeways, and landscaping may only occupy a buffer area. No buildings, accessways or parking areas shall be allowed in a buffer area except where an accessway has been approved by the City.
3. The minimum improvements within a buffer area shall consist of combinations for landscaping and screening as specified in Tables 8-2, 8-3 and 8-4. In addition, improvements shall meet the following specifications:
 - a. At least one (1) row of trees shall be planted. They shall have a minimum caliper of two (2) inches at four (4) feet in height above grade for deciduous trees and a minimum height of five (5) feet high for evergreen trees at the time of planting. Spacing for trees shall be as follows:
 1. Small or narrow-stature trees, less than twenty-five (25) feet tall or

- less than sixteen (16) feet wide at maturity shall be spaced no further than twenty (20) feet apart;
2. Medium-sized trees between twenty-five to forty (25-40) feet tall and with sixteen to thirty-five (16-35) feet wide branching at maturity shall be spaced no greater than thirty (30) feet apart;
 3. Large trees, over forty (40) feet tall and with more than thirty-five (35) feet wide branching at maturity, shall be spaced no greater than forty (40) feet apart.
- b. In addition, at least ten (10) five-gallon shrubs or twenty (20) one-gallon shrubs shall be planted for each 1,000 square feet of required buffer area;
 - c. The remaining area shall be planted in lawn or other living ground cover.
4. Where screening is required the following standards shall apply in addition to those required for buffering:
 - a. A hedge of narrow or broad leaf evergreen shrubs shall be planted which will form a four (4)-foot continuous screen of the height specified in Table 8-3 within two (2) years of planting; or
 - b. An earthen berm planted with evergreen plant materials shall be provided which will form a continuous screen of the height specified in Table 8-3 within two (2) years; or
 - c. A fence or wall of the height specified in Table 8-3 shall be constructed to provide a continuous sight-obscuring screen.
 5. Buffering and screening provisions shall be superseded by the clear vision area requirements as set forth in Section 10.8.150.
 6. When the use to be screened is downhill from the adjoining zone or use, the prescribed heights of required fences, walls, or landscape screening shall be measured from the actual grade of the adjoining property. In this case, fences and walls may exceed the permitted six (6)-foot height at the discretion of the director as a condition of approval. When the grades are so steep so as to make the installation of walls, fences or landscaping to the required height impractical, a detailed landscape/screening plan shall be submitted for approval.
 7. Fences and Walls
 - a. Fences and walls shall be constructed of any materials commonly used in the construction of fences and walls such as wood, stone, rock or brick, or otherwise acceptable by the Director;

- b. Such fence or wall construction shall be in compliance with other City regulations;
- c. Walls shall be a minimum of six (6) inches thick; and
- d. Chain link fences with slats shall qualify for screening. However, chain link fences without slats shall require the planting of a continuous evergreen hedge to be considered screening.

C. Screening: Special Provisions

- 1. Screening and Landscaping Of Parking and Loading Areas. Screening and landscaping of parking and loading areas is required as provided in this Article..
- 2. Screening of Service Facilities. Except for one-family and two-family dwellings, any service facilities such as gas meters and air conditioners which would otherwise be visible from a public street, customer or resident parking area, any public facility or any residential area shall be screened from view by placement of a solid wood fence or masonry wall between five and eight (5-8) feet in height.
- 3. Screening of Refuse Containers. Except for one- and two-family dwellings, any refuse container or refuse collection area which would be visible from a public street, parking lot, residential or commercial area, or any public facility such as a school or park shall be screened or enclosed from view by placement of a solid wood fence, masonry wall or evergreen hedge. All refuse shall be contained within the screened area.
- 4. Screening of Swimming Pools. All swimming pools shall be enclosed as required by City of Forest Grove Building Code.

D. Buffer Matrix

- 1. The Buffer Matrices contained in Tables 8-2, 8-3 and 8-4 shall be used in calculating widths of buffering/screening and required improvements to be installed between proposed uses and abutting uses or zoning districts.
- 2. An application for an adjustment or variance to the standards required in Tables 8-2, 8-3 and 8-4 shall be processed as a Type I, II or III procedure, as regulated by Article 2 provisions for Adjustments and Variances.

**TABLE 8-2: BUFFER MATRIX
PROPOSED USE**

EXISTING/ABUTTING USE	Single Units, Detached; Manufactured Units	Attached Single Units and Multifamily, 1-5 Units; Duplexes	Attached Single Units and Multifamily, 5+ Units	Commercial Zones (NC, CC)	Town Center Zones (TCC, TCS, TCT)	Industrial Zones (LI, GI)
Detached Single Units; Manufactured Units	--	A	C	D	C	E
Attached Single Units and Multifamily, 1-5 Units, Duplexes	A	--	B	D	C	E
Attached Single Units and Multifamily, 5+ Units	A	A	--	D	C	E
Commercial Zones (NC, CC)	C	C	C	--	A	D
Town Center Zones (TCC, TCS, TCT)	C	C	C	A	--	D
Industrial Zones (LI, GI)	D	D	D	B	A	--

Note: See Table 8-2 for alternative combinations for meeting these screening requirements.

**TABLE 8-3
BUFFER COMBINATIONS FOR LANDSCAPING AND SCREENING [1]**

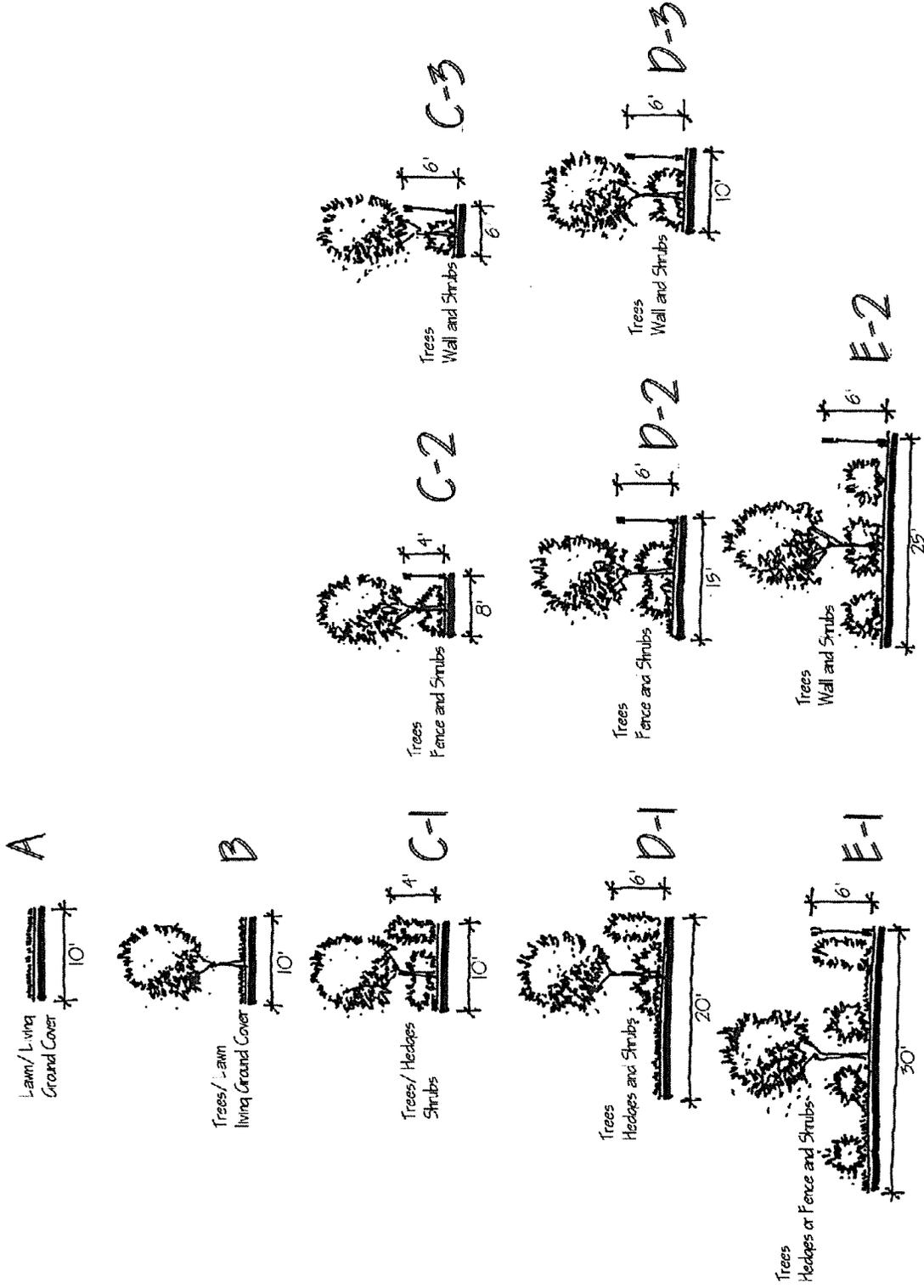
	Options	Width (feet)	Trees (per linear feet of buffer)	Shrubs or Groundcover	Screening
A	--	10	--	Lawn / living groundcover	--
B	--	10	20' min / 30' max spacing	Lawn / living groundcover	--
C	1	10	15' min / 30' max spacing	Shrubs	4' hedges
	2	8		Shrubs	5' fence
	3	6		Shrubs	6' wall
D	1	20	10' min / 20' max spacing	Shrubs	6' hedge
	2	15		Shrubs	6' fence
	3	10		Shrubs	6' wall
E	1	30	10' min / 20' max spacing	Shrubs	6' hedge or fence
	2	25		Shrubs	5' earthen berm or wall

[1] Buffers are not required between abutting uses that are not of a different type when the uses are separated by a street. Adjustments from these requirements can be obtained; see Article 2.

**Figure 8-5
Buffer Example – Between Single Family and Multi-family**



TABLE 8-4
 BUFFER COMBINATIONS FOR LANDSCAPING AND SCREENING



COMMUNITY FORESTRY COMMISSION

(Ord. 2009-04, 03/09/2009)

9.205**Membership.**

The Community Forestry Commission (CFC) shall be composed of seven members who shall be appointed by the City Council. Members shall be selected from a variety of organizations, interest groups, people with expertise in the growing, planting, and maintenance of trees, and the public at large. Three members may reside outside the corporate limits of Forest Grove.

9.210**Terms of Office.**

The term of each member of the CFC shall be three years with the terms staggered. A member may be removed by the City Council, after hearing, for misconduct or nonperformance of duty. Vacancies shall be filled by the Council for the unexpired term of the predecessor in office.

9.215**Officers.**

At the first meeting in January of each year, the members shall elect a chair, vice-chair and secretary who shall be voting members and hold office at the pleasure of the CFC.

9.220**Expenses.**

CFC member shall not receive compensation or shall not incur expenses of any kind unless such expenses or expenditures have first been approved by the City Council.

9.225**Meetings and Rules.**

A majority of the members serving on the CFC at any time shall constitute a quorum. The CFC shall conduct at least one meeting every three months or as needed. The CFC shall have the right to adopt such rules of order and procedure as they deem necessary provided that it is consistent with the laws of this State and with the City Charter and ordinance.

9.230

Powers and Duties.

The CFC is authorized to:

(1) Maintain the Forest Grove Significant Tree Register (Tree Register), by:

(a) Recommending to the City Council the designation of properties with significant trees that meet the criteria for designation. All such designated landmarks shall be included in the Significant Tree Register.

(b) Recommending to the City Council the removal of a tree from the Significant Tree Register, pursuant to Section.

(2) Ensure that significant trees are protected and pruned appropriately through the review and approval or disapproval of major pruning in accordance with the criteria in the Development Code.

(3) Review proposed activities by the City and other agencies that may seriously affect register trees and advise the Director, the Planning Commission and City Council regarding such matters.

(4) Perform other activities relating to community trees, including but not limited to:

(a) Providing public education on the history and importance of the Register Trees;

(b) Providing advice to the City Council and other City Boards on protection of trees in the community;

(c) Providing technical information of community tree issues;

(d) Making recommendations to the City Council for community forestry related programs;

(e) Maintaining criteria for inventory and evaluation to implement the purposes of this Section;

(f) Periodically reviewing and making recommendations for updating the Significant Tree Register; and

(g) Recommending to the City Council the acceptance of grant funds and donations towards the protection and planting of trees in the community.

(5) Adopt rules and procedures for the operation of the CFC.

REGISTER TREES

(Ord. 2009-04, 03/09/2009)

9.305**Procedure for Designation of Register Trees.**

(1) Inventory. An inventory shall be conducted of significant trees (including groves) which could qualify for being placed in the Register. Criteria are as follows:

(a) Tree Criteria. An individual tree shall be considered significant if the Community Forestry Commission (CFC) finds:

1. The tree has a distinctive size, shape or location which warrants a significant status; or
2. The tree has a special botanical significance as a specimen in the Forest Grove area; or
3. The tree possesses exceptional beauty which warrants a significant status; or
4. The tree is significant due to a functional or aesthetic relationship to a natural resource; or
5. Along with one of the above, the tree is significant based upon its association with historic figures, properties, or the general growth and development of the City.

(b) Grove Criteria. A tree grove shall be considered significant if the CFC finds:

1. The grove is relatively mature and evenly aged;
2. The grove has a purity of species composition, is of a rare or unusual nature, or is an exceptional example of a type of forest such as riparian or woodland;
3. The grove is in a healthy growing condition;
4. The grove has a crucial functional and/or aesthetic relationship to a natural resource; or
5. The grove has a historic significance based upon its association with historic figures, properties or the general growth and development of the City.

(2) Update of Tree Inventory. Provisions shall be made for periodic updates of the tree inventory and possible Register as required by changes in the number and condition of significant trees.

(3) Preparation of Potential Register Tree List. The CFC shall review the Inventory and other pertinent information and draw up a proposed list of significant trees and groves of trees that the CFC believes meets the criteria to be placed on the Register.

(4) Notification. Prior to the public hearings specified in Step (5) below, each property owner of the tree or trees under consideration for Register status shall be notified by mail. The notice shall inform tree owners that they can request in writing that the tree(s) on their property not be considered for Register status. Attached to the recommendation to Council shall be a list of current property owners who have requested their tree(s) not be placed on the Register. The notice shall also include, at a minimum the following:

(a) A brief explanation of the existence and function of the Forest Grove Register of Significant Trees.

(b) A statement that particular actions affecting the tree or grove will require prior review and action by the CFC or City staff, as provided in the Development Code.

(c) A statement that the CFC is available and willing to review on an informal basis any plans that may be prepared for work which might affect the tree or grove.

(d) A statement that the City can provide resource materials and guidance in developing plans for work which may affect the tree or grove.

(5) Public Hearings. The designation and updating of the Register Tree List is classified as a Type IV procedure and is subject to all of the procedures and timelines outlined in Section 10.1.170 of this Code. Designation requires public hearing before the following review bodies:

(a) Community Forestry Commission;

(b) City Council.

9.310

Removal of Register Tree Designation.

(1) Removal of a designated tree from the Register may be proposed by a property owner or his authorized agent, by the CFC, or by the City Council. In proposing removal, an application shall be prepared and filed with the City, using prescribed forms. Notice of the public hearing shall be given as prescribed in the Development Code, Section 10.1.610 and 10.1.620 for a Type III review.

(2) The CFC shall consider and act on the request. The CFC shall act to recommend approval of the request as submitted, approve the request with modifications, or delay the request.

(a) The CFC shall make its decision on the basis of the criteria contained in Section 9.305 and shall make specific findings of fact as to whether the tree has lost its significant value based on these criteria.

(b) The CFC has one of two options as follows:

1. The CFC can stay the request for removal from the Register by making specific findings of fact as to why the tree should be retained on the Register, and request review by the City Council. Council review shall meet the notice and public hearing requirements of Section 10.1.715 for quasi-judicial hearings. The City Council can approve the request, approve with conditions, or deny the request. OR

2. The CFC can require a delay of up to one (1) year to explore methods and options of retaining the tree on the Register in its present location, or having the tree moved at a cost to the applicant of less than \$300. If at the end of one (1) year the tree has not been moved or protective arrangements completed, the owner may remove the tree from the register. Under an appeal of the delay requirement, the City Council has the option of denying a request for removal from the Register.

9.315

Annual Notification of Register Tree Owners.

(1) Once each year, between January 1 and April 1, the City shall mail a notice to the owners and occupants of the property on which each Register Tree is located.

(2) The list of owners shall be drawn from the most recent tax roll of the county Assessor. The list of occupants shall be drawn from the most recent listings posted in the unified billing accounts of the City.

(3) The purpose of the notice shall be to inform or to remind the owners and occupants of the property that such tree or grove has been found by the City to be a significant tree or grove, and that its listing on the Register subjects the tree or grove to certain review requirements.

9.325

NEWSPAPER RECEPTACLES

(Repealed in its entirety Ord. 2009-13, 11/23/2009)

STREET TREES

(Ord. 2009-04, 03/09/2009)

- 9.400** **Enforcement Authority.**
The City Manager or designee shall be charged with the enforcement of Code Section 9.400 et al.
- 9.405** **Permission to Plant Trees.**
No trees or shrubs shall be planted in or removed from any public parking strip or other public place in the City without prior permission from the City Manager or designee.
- 9.410** **Street Tree Plan.**
All trees and shrubs planted in any public parking strip or other public place in the City shall conform as to species and location to the street tree plan and regulations which may be promulgated by resolution of the Council.
- 9.415** **Prohibited Trees.**
It shall be unlawful to plant in any public parking strip, public alley or easement the following trees: poplar, willow, cottonwood, fruit trees, nut trees, ailanthus. Selected conifers may be planted in a public parking strip, public alley or easement only with the written approval of the City Manager or designee. It shall be unlawful to plant willows, cottonwoods or poplar trees anywhere in the City unless the City Manager approves the site as one where the tree roots will not interfere with a public sewer.
- 9.420** **Removal of Trees.**
The City Manager or designee may cause to be trimmed, pruned or removed any trees, shrubs, plants or vegetation in any parking strip or other public place or may require any property owner to trim, prune or remove any trees, shrubs or vegetation in a parking strip abutting the owner's property. Failure to comply with the request after 30 days' notice by the City Manager shall be deemed a violation.

9.425 Dangerous Trees a Nuisance; Summary Powers to Remove Dangerous Trees.

(1) Any tree or shrub growing in a parking strip, any public place, or in private property, which is endangering or may endanger the security or usefulness of any public street, sewer, utility service or sidewalk is hereby declared to be a public nuisance. The City may remove or trim such tree, or may require the property owner to remove or trim the tree or shrub on private property, or in a parking strip abutting the owner's property.

(2) It shall be the duty of every property owner to cut off and remove all branches and limbs of trees which extend over or upon any street or sidewalk adjacent to the owner's property for a distance of at least eight feet above the street or sidewalk. (Ord. 2003-07, 04/28/2003)

(3) Failure of the property owner to remove or trim any tree or shrub which constitutes a nuisance or exceeds the limitations specified in this Code, after 30 days' notice by the Manager, shall be deemed a violation. The City may then remove or trim the tree or shrub and assess the costs against the property. (Ord. 2003-07, 04/28/2003)

9.430 Appeals.

Appeals from orders made under this Code may be made by filing written notice of appeal with the City Manager within 10 days after the order is received. The City Manager shall notify the Council of the appeal at the next regular Council meeting, at which meeting the appellant and the City Manager may present evidence. Action taken by the Council after the hearing shall be conclusive.

9.435 Abuse or Mutilation of Trees.

It shall be unlawful to abuse, destroy or mutilate any tree, shrub or plant in a public parking strip or any other public place or to attach or place any rope, wire (other than one used to support a young or broken tree), sign, poster, handbill or other thing to or on any tree growing in a public place, or to cause or permit any wire charged with electricity to come in contact with any tree, or to allow any gaseous, liquid or solid substance which is harmful to a tree to come in contact with its roots or leaves.

9.440 Permit Required.

A tree permit shall be obtained prior to any modification or removal of trees subject to City tree protection requirements. Ord. 2003-07, 04/28/2003)

Appendix H: *Other*

- Appendix I: 2011 Forest Grove street tree inventory
Appendix J: City list of recommended street trees for planting
Appendix K: Register/list of historic and significant trees in Forest Grove

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