

**URBAN FORESTRY MANAGEMENT PLAN  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Thursday, October 13, 2022- 3:00 PM**

**UFMP Advisory Committee Meeting**

Urban Forestry Management Plan  
Advisory Committee Meeting  
Thursday, October 13, 2022 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM (PDT)

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- (1) WELCOME / CALL TO ORDER (Eric & Matt)
- (2) ROLL CALL
- (3) ITEMS TO ADD TO THE AGENDA
- (4) APPROVAL OF MINUTES
  - (a) September 15, 2022 UFMP AC Mtg. Minutes Attached
- (5) OLD BUSINESS
  - (a) Background Information - CGMC Ch. 8 Vegetation, Trees and Bushes Attached.
  - (b) Benefits Provided by Trees & Urban Forests Attached.
  - (c) Draft Vision & Mission Statement Options Attached

(6) NEW BUSINESS

(a) Tree Inventory Discussion

- Status and Data
- Variety / Diversity Targets
- Identify strategies for maintaining inventory

(b) UFMP Relationship To Other Planning Documents

- Measures already adopted by the City that promote urban forestry
  - Landscaping
  - Water Quality
  - Stream Bank protection
  - Wildlife Habitat
- Sensitive Lands
  - Wetlands
  - Riparian Areas
- Connections with other City plans and programs
  - DEQ Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)
  - Erosion Prevention Program (EPP)
  - Low Impact Development (LID) Solutions
  - FEMA National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)
    - Community Rating System (CRS)
  - Parks Master Plan
  - Storm Water Management Plan (SWMP)
  - Statewide Planning Goals

(7) AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

(8) COMMITTEE COMMENTS

(9) STAFF COMMENTS

(10) ADJOURNMENT

*NOTE: Cottage Grove complies with state and federal laws and regulations relating to discrimination, including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) as amended. Individuals with disabilities requiring accommodations should contact Mindy Roberts at (541) 942-5501 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.*

This agenda can also be found on the City's web page at [www.cottagegroveor.gov](http://www.cottagegroveor.gov)

**CITY OF COTTAGE GROVE  
URBAN FORESTRY MANAGEMENT PLAN  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the Meeting  
September 15, 2022

**CALL TO ORDER**

Matt Laird called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Matt Laird called the roll. The following were:

Present: Greg Ervin, Chalice Savage, Ashley Rigel (online), David Christopher Tara Sue Hughart, Susan Johnson, Debra Bartlett (joined late online)

Absent: Chet Turner, Mark McCaffery

Staff Present: City Planner – Eric Mongan, Assistant Planner- Matt Laird, and City Arborist – Chris Senters

**ITEMS ADDED**

None

**MINUTES**

None

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Matt Laird summarized the UFMP Advisory Committee Meeting Rules
  - Introductions – members introduced themselves.
- b. Matt Laird reviewed the Background Information included in the packet
  - i. Authority to Establish Urban Forestry Management Plan
  - ii. CGMC Chapter 2.30 Urban Forestry Committee
  - iii. CGMC Chapter 12.03 Jurisdiction & Regulatory Control of Public Right-of-Way
    - There was discussion regarding trails and paths being within a public right-of-way
  - iv. CGMC Chapter 12.20 Street Tree Regulations (Authority)
  - v. CGMC Chapter 14.32.400 Street Trees (Details)
    - There was discussion regarding maintenance responsibility for vegetation inside and outside of public ROW

- Discussion regarding public utility easements
  - Discussed street tree classifications
  - Discussed tree species on Main Street (Norway Maple) too big for space, they were planted 40 years ago as a Boy Scout project and have outgrown their 2' x 2' square.
- vi. CGMC Chapter 14.37.300 Riparian Development (within 50' of stream)
- vii. CGMC Chapter 14.33 Parking and Loading
- c. Project Kickoff
- i. Develop Urban Forestry Management Plan Goals
1. Identify community values and local concerns
    - Fruit and Nut Trees provide local food where appropriate. Food Forest.
      - Food trees may have additional costs of maintenance, fertilizer, clean up, pesticides, etc.
    - Identify trees that get too big and destroy sidewalks, get the right tree, in the right place.
    - Rules for public trees vs. private trees, they may be different
    - Remove trees that are problematic or in the wrong place and replace with more appropriate trees. Require replacement of trees removed.
    - Increase diversity of tree species.
    - Educate the public about benefits of trees in the city, aesthetics and wildlife habitat, temperature control, air quality, stormwater, reduces stress improved mental health, energy conservation, increase property values, carbon sequestration, has value and maintenance costs, is infrastructure.
    - Goal of increasing urban canopy to 28%
  2. Identify issues and needs
    - Try and maintain large trees
    - Different rules for public vs private
    - Get the right trees in the right spots, minimize wrong trees in wrong spot
      - Trees must be pruned and maintained even if in the right spot
      - Educate people about maintaining trees in front of their house
      - Tree Audits sometimes end up sending letters to homeowners asking them to control vegetation, but there is no recourse if they do not.
    - Can we create a baseline clean slate to use as a control, might include removing problem trees and replacing with new trees, possibly use federal ARPA money. Economies of scale as one big project.
    - Acknowledge that many citizens will not be able to afford thousands of dollars to have tree work done on their property.
    - It would cost less if done as a big project, offer people a hand up, by paying for a portion of the cost. Communication.

- Identify problem trees from the Tree Survey. Condition and location. Sidewalk issue, height issue, city does not have the correct equipment to do it all. People also do not have the equipment. That is why it does not get done.
  - Large trees in the NW neighborhood were there before the sidewalks. If you cut the roots to fix the sidewalk, it kills the tree in about 4 years.
- d. Establish the role of the UFMP
- i. Why do we need a plan?
- We need to pay attention to the trees and have a plan
  - With a plan you have organization and direction
  - This plan will be followed by the UFC giving them direction
  - Know where we are, where we are going and how to get there.
  - The City Council and UFC have both requested a UFMP to follow
  - Started with a Tree Survey to track progress, measurable
  - UFMP can be tracked and improved over time, flexible, adjust to changing conditions, ongoing monitoring, helps make good decisions, accountability
  - Discuss Fire issues, wildland urban interface, Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan
  - Financial realities can be helped with efficient direction and organization
  - Good Plans will help us obtain grant funds
  - Action plans ex. Certain neighborhood has low tree canopy, census information on that neighborhood, identify need, can help get specific grants
  - Identify Tree Species that we want to avoid planting ex. Trees that impact underground infrastructure or cause other damage.
- ii. What is the planning horizon (5, 10, 20 years, more...)
- 2023-2050 with annual check in and progress report
    - Shorter parameters at the beginning, then push out longer over time
    - Make sure we are on the right path
  - Trees grow slow, will take years to measure canopy, need it to be long term with canopy review every X number of years
  - Climate and growing conditions will likely change long term
  - Review the elements of the plan – potential future changes, climate may change type of tree species recommended for planting, pests such as the Ash Borer, Tree list may change over time
- e. Develop UFMP Community Vision Statement and Mission Statement
- Should be fairly broad, identify a pathway
  - Should be inclusive, quality of life, beautification, shade, health, climate change, equity, BMP's local decisions, diversity of species, resilience, residents, healthy, sustainable,
  - Trees can become a focal point, or feature of our city, come see our....
    - Ex. Milwaukie, the Dogwood City of the West
    - Cherry blossom blooms along the bike path

- Encourage involvement, education opportunities, planting programs, proper maintenance. Set benchmarks and action items in plan. Ex. LIDAR
- CG goal of canopy coverage is 28%. Currently we have 23.8%.
- Staff to bring draft Vision and Mission back to the group.

#### **INFORMATION FROM STAFF**

- Next meeting scheduled for October 13<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm.
- Packets will be printed for each member and emailed to them as well.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, Matt Laird adjourned the UFMP Advisory Committee meeting at 4:25 p.m.

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Matt Laird, Assistant Planner

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Approved Date

**8.12.040 Noxious vegetation.**

No person shall allow, cause, permit or suffer noxious vegetation on property or in the right-of-way of a street, alley or sidewalk abutting the property. Noxious vegetation must be cut down or destroyed as often as needed to prevent the creation of a health, fire or traffic hazard, or, in the case of weeds or other noxious vegetation, from maturing or from going to seed. Noxious vegetation includes but is not limited to:

A. Vegetation that is or is likely to become:

1. A health hazard;
2. A fire hazard;
3. A traffic hazard, because it impairs the view of a public right-of-way or otherwise makes the use of the thoroughfare hazardous; or
4. Grass or weeds exceeding twelve inches. Properties used for crop cultivation and livestock grazing are exempt from the tall grass and weeds provision if a five-foot-wide cut or cleared fire break surrounds the perimeter of the property.

B. Poison oak.

C. Poison ivy.

D. Blackberry bushes that extend into a public way or a pathway frequented by children, or cross a property line. (Ord. 3089 §1(part), 2018; Ord. 2889 §2(part), 2003; Ord. 2878 §2(part), 2003)

**8.12.045 Hazardous vegetation.**

A. No owner or person in charge of property shall allow vegetation which constitutes a fire hazard to be on said property or in the right-of-way of a public thoroughfare abutting the property from May 15th through November 1st of each year. Hazardous vegetation shall be cut down or destroyed as often as needed to prevent the creation of a fire hazard. Hazardous vegetation includes but is not limited to the following which is in a dry and combustible state or which in the opinion of the enforcement official otherwise constitutes a fire hazard (the fire chief or his designate at the South Lane County Fire and Rescue District may be consulted to determine a fire hazard):

1. Wild blackberry bushes;
2. Weeds more than twelve inches in height;
3. Grass more than twelve inches in height;



4. Vegetation that:

- a. Is near combustibles; or
- b. Is likely to endanger buildings or other property if fired; or
- c. Increases or may cause an increase of the hazard or menace of fire to a greater degree than that customarily recognized as normal by the enforcement official.

B. Exclusion of Agricultural Crops. The term "hazardous vegetation" does not include an agricultural crop, unless that crop is determined by the city manager or his designate to be a fire hazard as defined in this chapter.

C. The enforcement official may waive the requirements of this chapter where in his opinion strict compliance with the requirements would be impracticable as they apply to certain types of vegetation or to a certain parcel of real property. The requirements may only be waived as they apply after inspection of the property with the fire chief or his designate. For example, terrain, natural boundaries, and other factors may warrant cutting less than one hundred percent of the hazardous vegetation if doing so abates the fire hazard. (Ord. 3158 §1, 2022; Ord. 3089 §1(part), 2018; Ord. 2889 §2(part), 2003)

**8.12.060 Trees, bushes and shrubs.**

A. No person in charge of property shall allow or permit trees, bushes or shrubs on property abutting a street, alley or sidewalk to interfere with vehicular or pedestrian traffic. A person in charge of property shall keep all trees, bushes or shrubs on the premises, including the adjoining parking strip, trimmed so that any overhanging portions are at least eight feet above the sidewalk and at least thirteen feet, six inches above the roadway.

B. Trees, hedges and other shrubbery on corner lots shall be trimmed and maintained so as to permit the minimum vision clearance prescribed by Title 14. (Ord. 3089 §1(part), 2018; Ord. 2878 §2(part), 2003)

**8.12.090 Sidewalks.**

A. The owner of real property abutting a sidewalk shall maintain the sidewalk in good repair and safe condition.

B. No owner or person in charge of any premises, improved or unimproved, abutting upon any public sidewalk shall permit snow or ice to remain on such sidewalk for a longer period than the first two hours of daylight after the snow has fallen. It shall be the duty of the person to remove any ice or snow accumulating on such sidewalk or to properly cover it with sand, ashes or other suitable material to assure safe travel.

C. No owner or person in charge of any premises, improved or unimproved, abutting upon any sidewalk shall permit leaves, rubbish, dirt and other litter or obstructions on such sidewalk.

D. The provisions of this section do not apply to authorized construction projects; provided, that during the course of construction reasonable safeguards are maintained to prevent injury or death to persons. (Ord. 3089



§1(part), 2018: Ord. 2983 §2, 2009: Ord. 2878 §2(part), 2003)

**8.12.095 Liability for sidewalk injuries.**

A. The owner of real property abutting a sidewalk shall be liable to any person injured because of failure by the owner to maintain the sidewalk in good repair and safe condition.

B. If the city is required to pay damages for an injury to any person caused by the failure of an owner to maintain a sidewalk in good repair or safe condition, the owner shall reimburse the city for the amount of the damages thus paid and for the attorney fees and costs, including appeal fees and costs of defending against the claim for damages. The city may maintain an action in a court of competent jurisdiction to enforce the provisions of this section. (Ord. 3089 §1(part), 2018: Ord. 2983 §3, 2009)

**IV. NUISANCES AFFECTING PUBLIC WELFARE**



# UFMP Advisory Committee

## Benefits Provided By Trees & Urban Forests

September 2022

1. Improve air quality/ carbon sequestration
  - a. Trees absorb carbon dioxide and ozone, filter particulate matter, and produce oxygen.
2. Reduce storm water runoff
  - a. Trees absorb rain through their leaf and root systems.
3. Increase water quality
  - a. Reduced runoff leads to improved water quality as it reduces the amount of polluted runoff that enters our waterways. Urban forests also promote the recharge and restoration of groundwater resources.
4. Reduce temperature
  - a. Trees provide shade and can reduce neighborhood temperatures up to 6-10 degrees cooler than neighborhoods without significant tree coverage.
5. Reduce the risk of flooding
  - a. Healthy riparian areas along rivers and streams provide flood storage capacity as well as bank stabilization and reduced erosion.
6. Reduce Wind Speed
  - a. Mature trees can slow wind speeds and direct air flow.
7. Reduce noise pollution
  - a. The natural rustle of the wind through a tree helps diminish the sounds of the city.
8. Provide habitat for wildlife
  - a. Many species of birds, animals and insects such as bees live and feed in trees.
9. Improved mental well-being
  - a. Urban forests help us relax, lower stress levels and create outdoor spaces for recreation.
10. Create a pleasant environment
  - a. Urban forests are aesthetically pleasing, help beautify a community, and provide a connection to nature and the human senses.
11. Increase real property values
  - a. Studies show that even one tree in a landscaped yard can increase home sales prices.

12. Increase Economic benefits
  - a. Businesses on tree-scaped streets have higher income intake.
13. Reduce Energy Costs
  - a. Urban trees reduce the amount of energy used for heating and cooling.
14. Increase pedestrian safety
  - a. Trees in planter strips help separate motorists from pedestrians
15. Increase community pride
  - a. Trees improve the city's atmosphere and promote walking, talking, socializing and community pride.

# **2022 UFMP ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

## **DRAFT VISION & MISSION STATEMENT OPTIONS**

### **VISION:**

1. Cottage Grove's Urban Forest is an integral component of our city and has funding in our city budget allowing the Tree City USA heritage to be protected and to flourish. Informed residents value their Urban Forest for health, economic, climate control and aesthetic benefits. Collaborating with city, local businesses and other entities, we manage our tree canopy to 28% with a diverse urban forest equitably distributed throughout our city. Cottage Grove is the benefactor of the past as well as stewards of our future of our trees.
2. Our vision for the future of Cottage Grove is to have a diverse tree canopy, equitably distributed throughout the city that is healthy and well maintained. Residents of the City are proud of all the trees in town and are well educated on the benefits that trees provide for all. The Cottage Grove Urban Forestry program is considered a model throughout the state of Oregon, it is well funded and strongly supported by its residents.
3. The City of Cottage Grove has more trees per acre than any city in the state of Oregon.

## **MISSION:**

1. Cottage Grove Urban Forestry Master Plan provides an organized, accountable approach to managing and protecting our urban forest. Every tree, both public and private make up our diverse landscape. Through education, dedication and funding we will meet our canopy goal of 28% and reduce climate change. The master plan priorities, preserves and grows tree canopy equitably. Cottage Grove canopy alleviates health and heat disparities improving the quality of life for all its residents from humans to birds and animals.
2. The City of Cottage Grove Urban Forestry Committee mission is to serve the residents of the City by following a master plan that provides organization, guidance and direction in order to reach its goal of 28% canopy coverage within the city limits. The Urban Forestry program continues to find finding opportunities in order to manage the cities tree health in an efficient and professional manner, as well as increasing its species diversity and canopy coverage. The residents of the city value the benefits of urban trees and enjoy living in a city with clean air, that is aesthetically beautiful, naturally resilient and resistant to climate change.
3. To inspire and nurture the human spirit – one neighborhood, one person, one tree at a time. OR; We are on a mission to change the world, one tree at a time.