

CITY OF COOS BAY CITY COUNCIL
Agenda Staff Report

MEETING DATE	AGENDA ITEM NUMBER
November 3, 2015	

TO: Mayor Shoji and City Councilors

FROM: Rex Miller, Tree Board Member
Randy Dixon, Operations Administrator

THROUGH: Jim Hossley, Public Works Director
Rodger Craddock, City Manager *see*

ISSUE: Presentation - City of Coos Bay Urban Forestry Plan (Status)

BACKGROUND:

The Tree Board agreed in 2014 that it was time to revisit the tree species list for the City of Coos Bay and create Urban Forestry Plan. The Tree Board took time with staff to inventory some of the tree species (see attached) and begin mapping areas in an effort to create tree zones. Zone #1 is the Downtown and Empire commercial area; Zone #2 is right-of-way; and Zone #3 is park property. The Tree Board renewed the tree species list in January 2015 and currently staff is working on the tree zone map(s) that identifies the different zones. The Tree Board's vision regarding Urban Forestry Plan will include the following components once completed 1) zone maps, 2) tree inventory, 3) tree assessment, 4) species distribution and plant selection, 5) maintenance, and 6) planting specifications.

ADVANTAGES:

The purpose of having an urban forest management plan is to ensure that our community will enjoy the benefits of trees through proper arboricultural techniques and best management practices.

DISADVANTAGES:

None

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

Currently there are two fund sources the City utilizes to address maintenance and safety concerns of our urban canopy. They are the General Fund (01-306-520-2309 Building & Grounds Maintenance), and Gas Tax Fund (02-320-520-2310 Streetscape Maintenance).

ACTION REQUESTED:

Informational only

APPROVED TREE LIST

Approved Street Trees – Established 1995

Hedge Maple (Queen Elizabeth)
Flowering Cherry (Sargent Cherry)
Flowering Plum (Thundercloud Plum)
Flowering Pear (Pyrus Variety)
Crabapple Cultivar (Malus Variety)
Japanese Snowbell (Styrax Japonicus)
Paperbark Maple (Acer Griseum)
Pin Oak (Quercus Palustris)

Street trees suited for sidewalk areas along major streets. Large scale, canopy must be trimmed to 8 feet above street.

Framework Trees

Maples – Armstrong, Red Sunset
Pear (flowering) – Chanticleer
Oak – Pin Oak, Red Oak

Examples are Hwy 101 N & S, Market, Commercial, Central, 4th, 2nd and D Street in Eastside

**The street should follow a theme, no hodge-podge planting. Maples are best suited for major streets.

Conifers are not recommended for street trees

Updated Tree Listed February 4, 2015 to include:

Street Trees for less busy streets or residential areas:

Flowering Plum
Styrax
Stewartia
Carpinus (Hornbeam)
Norway Maple
Flowering Cherry

Usage is small scale, slower traffic and more pedestrian use. Flowering trees and trees known for their shape and fall color do not belong on busy, fast streets. Watch the road – “NO DISTRACTIONS.”

Examples of these plantings would be S5th, Date, N 8th, Curtis, Ingersoll, Elrod, Hall and Golden.

**The blocks should follow a theme. Make a statement, give an area an identity. Have a plan and follow it. 6th, 7th and 8th streets in Eugene are good examples.

Trees Not to be used as street trees – NO Evergreens on public streets

Populus (Cottonwood); Liriodendron (Tulip Tree); Magnolias; Alder; Birch; Cercis (Red Bud); Albizzia; Ash; Cercidiphyllum; Corylas; Ginkgo; Gleditsia (Honeylocust); Laburnum; Oxydendron; Rhus; Salix; Sorbus; Tilia; Cherry Family; Fraxinus (Ash); Hawthorn; Robinia; and Liquidambar.