



# CITY OF SWEET HOME PARKS & TREE COMMITTEE AGENDA

February 18, 2026, 8:30 AM  
3225 Main Street, Sweet Home, OR 97386

WIFI Passcode: guestwifi  
PLEASE silence all cell phones – Anyone who wishes to speak, please sign in.

## Mission Statement

The City of Sweet Home will work to build an economically strong community with an efficient and effective local government that will provide infrastructure and essential services to the citizens we serve. As efficient stewards of the valuable assets available, we will be responsive to the community while planning and preparing for the future.

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## Meeting Information

The City of Sweet Home is streaming the meeting via the Microsoft Teams platform and asks the public to consider this option. There will be opportunity for public input via the live stream. To view the meeting live, online visit <http://live.sweethomeor.gov>. If you don't have access to the internet you can call in to 971-203-2871 and enter the meeting ID followed by the # sign to be logged in to the call. Meeting ID: 212 391 460#

## Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

## Roll Call of Park and Tree Committee Members:

## Time Reports

## Meeting Minutes:

- a) [2026-01-21 Park and Tree Committee Meeting Minutes](#)

**Public Comment.** This is an opportunity for members of the public to address the Park and Tree Committee on topics that are not listed on the agenda.

## Beautification Committee Update

### Old Business

**Arbor Day / Blooms & Brews**

**Sankey Park Phase III**

**Ames Creek Planting Update**

### New Business

**Strawberry Park**

**City Hall Park**

**Quarry Park**

**Weeding and General Upkeep**

**Threatened and Endangered Species**

**EAB Public Works Classes**

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*The location of the meeting is accessible to the disabled. If you have a disability that requires accommodation, advanced notice is requested by notifying the City Manager's Office at 541-367-8969.*

## **Round Table Discussions (Committee comments about topics not listed on the agenda)**

### **Adjournment**

The Sweet Home Park and Tree Committee welcomes your interest in these agenda items. Pursuant to ORS 192.640, this agenda includes a list of the principal subjects anticipated to be considered at the meeting; however, the Committee may consider additional subjects as well. This meeting is open to the public and interested citizens are invited to attend.

If you have questions, please contact the Community and Economic Development Department at 3225 Main Street, Sweet Home, Oregon 97386; Phone: (541) 367-8113.

## **SHMC 1.10 CITY COMMITTEES**

### **§ 2.10.050 POWERS AND DUTIES.**

A. Park and Tree Committee. The powers and duties of the Park And Tree Committee shall be as follows:

1. To conduct an inventory of existing street trees, including historical trees and public properties in need of beautification and plantings and present a written report to the City Council of its findings;
2. To develop and recommend to the City Council, for its adoption, a master list of trees suitable for planting within the city. The list shall be reviewed annually, a copy of which shall be kept on file in the office of the City Recorder for public information;
3. To develop and recommend to the City Council, for its adoption, ordinances and policies for the planting, care, maintenance, replacement and protection of trees throughout the city;
4. To act in an advisory capacity to the Planning Commission with respect to landscape design, suitable plantings, protection of natural vegetation and street tree requirements;
5. To submit recommendations to the City Council regarding the beautification of public properties and rights-of-way;
6. To promote public knowledge and acceptance of the value of tree planting and maintenance programs and requirements;
7. To develop a capital development program for each fiscal year, to include acquisition of new land and/or development of existing property for parks and other recreation areas;
8. To recommend recreation programming needs to be produced by the city;
9. To recommend an operating budget to carry out the recreation program as outlined for the forthcoming fiscal year; and
10. To perform additional duties and studies as may be required from time to time by the City Council.
11. To meet a minimum of four meetings a year, beginning with the month of December, which meeting should be devoted to the development of the next year's capital and recreation programs.

(Ord. 1263, § 1, 2017)



# CITY OF SWEET HOME PARKS & TREE COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 21, 2026, 8:30 AM  
3225 Main Street, Sweet Home, OR 97386

WIFI Passcode: guestwifi  
PLEASE silence all cell phones – Anyone who wishes to speak, please sign in.

## Mission Statement

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The meeting was called to order at 8:33 AM

## Roll Call of Park and Tree Committee Members:

### PRESENT

Member Matthew Bechtel  
Vice Chair Lena Tucker  
Member Nancy Patton  
Member Melanie Jones  
Member Scott Swanson  
Councilor Aaron Hegge  
Member Debra Northern (8:39)

### STAFF

Angela Clegg, Planning & Building Manager  
Dominic Valloni, Public Works Operations Manager  
Sean Hegge, Crew Lead: Facilities and Parks  
Adam Leisinger, Special Projects Manager

### GUESTS

Candy Snyder, Beautification Committee

## Time Reports None

## Meeting Minutes

2025-11-19 Park & Tree Committee Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the 2025-11-19 Park & Tree Committee Meeting Minutes was made by Member Jones and seconded by Member Bechtel. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYE: Member Bechtel, Vice Chair Tucker, Member Patton, Member Jones, Member Swanson  
NAY: None  
ABSENT: Member Northern (arrived at 8:39 AM)

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*The location of the meeting is accessible to the disabled. If you have a disability that requires accommodation, advanced notice is requested by notifying the City Manager's Office at 541-367-8969.*

**Public Comment.** None

### **Beautification Committee Update**

Candy Snyder provided a report to the Committee. Candy highlighted the lollipop planter project and those involved making it happen. Candy turned her volunteer hours sheet to Manager Clegg.

Manager Valloni provided additional information on the metal fish being made by the high school that will be installed in the median.

Committee Member Bechtel stated that he thought the lollipop planters looked great. He suggested that they be painted with metallic paint next year.

Vice Chair Tucker stated that she was pleased that there was very little damage to the lollipops. She then asked Candy if the beautification committee needed any help in the next month. Candy stated that the Committee will start meeting and weeding again in March. Candy's priority is to get the flowers order for the median and the hanging planters.

Member Patton asked if the pots that were used for the lollipops could be used again and put flowers in them. Candy stated that it will be difficult because the lollipops are secured with concrete and have pea gravel on top. Manager Clegg stated that the difficulty having flowers in them is the watering through the summer. Having businesses assistance has not been successful in the past. Vice Chair suggested an 'adopt a flower pot' program in the future.

### **Old Business**

#### Arbor Day / Bloom & Brews: April 25th at Sankey Park

Manager Clegg provided a copy of the flyer to the Park & Tree Committee members. Clegg stated that the Committee will still oversee their Arbor Day booth and will still give the proclamation as required by Tree City USA program. The Arbor Day booth will be a part of the full celebration, but City Staff will coordinate the remainder of the event.

Vica Chair Tucker reminded the Committee that they will be planting the trees in the winter and not on the day of the celebration. Manager Clegg confirmed that the Tree City USA committee approved of that.

#### Sankey Park Phase III

Manager Clegg stated that the grant extension has been approved, and the completion date goal is June 30<sup>th</sup>. Clegg informed the committee that they are currently working on the construction contracts, and as soon as those are approved and signed construction activity should start.

Vice Chair Tucker asked which section will start first, the trail or the bandstand. Manager Clegg stated that she is unsure, it will depend on weather and which section is ready to move forward. Vice Chair Tucker asked about doing a celebration for the project. Manager Clegg stated that the goal is to combine the completion celebration with the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration that is being planned. Vice Chair Tucker asked about doing a groundbreaking for the project. Manager Clegg said she can suggest that to Management. A groundbreaking was done when the playground was constructed.

Member Bechtel asked if the bridge would remain closed during construction. Member Clegg stated that the bridge will remain closed unless there are events in the park that require the bridge to be open. Because of vandalism staff decided to keep the bridge closed permanently.

### **New Business**

#### Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Project Priorities

The Park and Tree Committee was tasked with making a list of their fiscal year 2026-2027 priority projects and then narrowing down their list for recommendations to City Council. The Committee discussed each item on the list prior to making their recommendations. Staff will then forward their

recommendations for consideration by the City Council. The priorities and recommendations are as follows:

#### FY26-27 Project Priorities

- Brainstorming Session:
  - Strawberry Park
  - Weddle Bridge
  - Park Maintenance
  - Quarry Park
  - Splash Pad
  - Trail System Connectivity
  - Northside Park ADA Access
  - Northside Park sport courts and playground
  - Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)
  - Skate Park
  - Hobart Park

#### Fiscal Year 2026-2027 priorities to recommend to City Council:

- Northside Park sport courts and playground
- Strawberry Park
- Weddle Bridge
- Trails
- Quarry Park
- Upper Sankey Park
- Creating a park on the east side of Sweet Home

#### Tree Planting

Manager Clegg informed the Committee that there will be a planting on February 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> for the project on the north side of Ames Creek behind the Boys & Girls Club. This project is in partnership with the South Santiam Watershed Council (SSWC) and they could use volunteers for the planting. Vice Chair Tucker asked what type of plants would be going in. Crew Lead Hegge stated that they will be planting native shrubs along the creek outside of the covered weed barrier area. Manager Valloni stated that they are planting approximately 2,500 shrubs. Manager Clegg will inform the committee when a start time has been chosen. Manager Valloni stated that there will be students from the high school that will be assisting with the planting. Member Patton asked if there would be shovels available. Manager Valloni stated that members would need to bring their own shovels if they chose to volunteer.

#### **Round Table Discussions**

Member Patton discussed photographs she had provided to staff of a bridge in Stayton. Manager Clegg explained that the Stayton bridge is a different bridge type than Weddle Bridge, and therefore the City would not be able to replicate Stayton's approach. She also noted that if Weddle Bridge receives a historic designation, the City may be limited in the type of construction allowed. Manager Clegg stated that staff can further review the process as the designation effort moves forward. Manager Leisinger reported that he contacted Lincoln County and learned that many of their bridges remain open to traffic, which allows them to receive assistance from ODOT. He added that many of those bridges are modern structures with a historic-style façade, an option that would not be permitted if Weddle Bridge is designated as historic. Manager Leisinger also described the specific bridge type classification of Weddle Bridge. Manager Clegg explained that the purpose of pursuing historic designation is to help identify potential funding sources. Because Weddle Bridge is no longer used for transportation, it does not qualify for ODOT funding, and staff will need to research alternative funding options.

Manager Clegg informed the Committee that Sweet Home was awarded Tree City USA designation again. It is the 39<sup>th</sup> year of being awarded.

Member Bechtel asked if the budget and finance committee came up with extra funding could they move forward with the 42<sup>nd</sup> and Osage park. Manager Clegg explained the reasons why that project was put on hold. She explained that besides playground equipment, infrastructure for bathrooms, sidewalks, and parking will need to be constructed. The infrastructure costs are what the City can't afford at this time.

Vice Chair Tucker asked if they could still have plant and tree giveaways at their Arbor Day booth. Manager Clegg said they could.

Member Patton asked how the Blooms and Brews Festival came about. Manager Leisinger described the process for deciding on events in the City. With the conclusion of the Jamboree the City is looking at events to bring people to Sweet Home. There were further discussions about past events.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 AM

DRAFT