

# MEETING MINUTES

TUMWATER JOINT TREE BOARD AND PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING  
May 26, 2026



**CONVENE:** 7:01 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Planning Commission Chair Elizabeth Robbins, Vice Chair Brandon Staff, and Planning Commissioners Sandra Nelson, Grace Edwards and Terry Kirkpatrick, and Tree Board Chair Trent Grantham and Tree Boardmembers Charles Edmonson, Broderick Coval, and Michael Jackson.

Excused: Planning Commissioners Matthew Rounsley and Gina Kotek and Tree Boardmember Tonya Nozawa.

Staff: Associate Planner Dana Bowers, Deputy Community Development Director Sharon Lumbantobing, Sustainability Manager Alyssa Jones Wood, and Urban Forester Brian Caughlan.

Others: Kim Frappier and Alex Capron from Facet Inc.

**CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:** No changes.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Public comment was given by residents and community members Shattuck-Todd and Gutherie.

**URBAN FORESTRY CODE UPDATES:** Planner Bowers and Consultants Frappier and Capron from Facet Inc. presented key concepts that will be addressed in the tree code updates. Topics included:

- Tree Density Credit Approach
- Tree Incentives
- Landmark Tree Protections

Commissioners and Boardmembers discussed potential approaches to tree density credits and incentives. They both

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supported providing incentives for grove trees and counting trees located within required buffers toward tree density credits. Discussion also included whether ornamental cultivars and trees on the prohibited species list should receive partial credit or no credit rather than full credit.

Commissioners and Boardmembers supported incentivizing native trees through the tree credit system. They also supported prohibiting replanting of trees identified on the prohibited species list and debated whether existing prohibited species should receive partial or no tree density credit.

**NEXT MEETING DATE:** The next joint meeting with the City Council, Planning Commission and Tree Board is scheduled for Tuesday, July 28, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. This meeting will include a bus tour of several sites in Tumwater with illustrative examples of issues that will be addressed through the tree code amendments.

**ADJOURNMENT:** **With no further business, Chair Robbins adjourned the meeting at 7:56 p.m.**

Prepared by Dana Bowers, Associate Planner