



## TREE BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Online via Zoom and In Person at  
Tumwater Fire Department  
Headquarters, Training Room, 311 Israel  
Rd. SW, Tumwater, WA 98501

Monday, April 10, 2023  
7:00 PM

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Changes to Agenda
4. Approval of Minutes
  - a. Tree Board Meeting Minutes December 12, 2022
5. Tree Board Member Reports
6. Coordinator's Report
7. Public Comment
8. Discussion - Stormwater-Tree Board Symbiosis
9. Discussion – Tumwater School District Summer Program
10. Discussion – Heritage Tree Nomination at 5800 Littlerock Road
11. Next Meeting Date - 05/09/2023, Joint Meeting with Planning Commission
12. Adjourn

### **Meeting Information**

The public are welcome to attend in person, by telephone or online via Zoom.

### **Watch Online**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_5liEL6duQSud7-0Eg8CWOA](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_5liEL6duQSud7-0Eg8CWOA)

### **Listen by Telephone**

Call (253) 215-8782, listen for the prompts and enter the Webinar ID 835 6122 5383 and Passcode 654030.

### **Public Comment**

The public is invited to attend the hearing and offer comment. The public may register in advance for this webinar to provide comment: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_5liEL6duQSud7-0Eg8CWOA](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_5liEL6duQSud7-0Eg8CWOA)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

The public may also submit comments prior to the meeting by sending an email to: [AJonesWood@ci.tumwater.wa.us](mailto:AJonesWood@ci.tumwater.wa.us). Please send the comments by 1:00 p.m. on the date of the meeting. Comments are submitted directly to the Commission/Board Members and will not be read individually into the record of the meeting.

If you have any questions, please contact Sustainability Coordinator Alyssa Jones Wood at (360) 754-4140 or [AJonesWood@ci.tumwater.wa.us](mailto:AJonesWood@ci.tumwater.wa.us).

### **Post Meeting**

Audio of the meeting will be recorded and later available by request, please email [CityClerk@ci.tumwater.wa.us](mailto:CityClerk@ci.tumwater.wa.us)

### **Accommodations**

The City of Tumwater takes pride in ensuring that people with disabilities are able to take part in, and benefit from, the range of public programs, services, and activities offered by the City. To request an accommodation or alternate format of communication, please contact the City Clerk by calling (360) 252-5488 or email [CityClerk@ci.tumwater.wa.us](mailto:CityClerk@ci.tumwater.wa.us). For vision or hearing impaired services, please contact the Washington State Relay Services at 7-1-1 or 1-(800)-833-6384. To contact the City's ADA Coordinator directly, call (360) 754-4128 or email [ADACoordinator@ci.tumwater.wa.us](mailto:ADACoordinator@ci.tumwater.wa.us).

### **What is the Tree Board?**

The Tumwater Tree Board is a citizen advisory board that is appointed by and advisory to the City Council on urban forestry issues, including drafting and revising a comprehensive tree protection plan or ordinance, or any other tree matter. Actions by the Tree Board are not final decisions; they are Board recommendations to the City Council who must ultimately make the final decision. If you have any questions or suggestions on ways the Tree Board can serve you better, please contact the Water Resources & Sustainability Department at (360) 754-4140.

**TUMWATER TREE BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
December 12, 2022 Page 1**

**CONVENE:** 7:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Chair Trent Grantham and Boardmembers Brent Chapman, Joel Hecker, Tanya Nozawa, Dennis Olson, and Jim Sedore.

Excused absence: Boardmember Michael Jackson.

Staff: Planning Manager Brad Medrud and Sustainability Coordinator Alyssa Jones Wood.

**CHANGES TO AGENDA:** There were no changes to the agenda.

**APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES: TREE  
BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 7, 2022:**

**MOTION:** Boardmember Sedore moved, seconded by Boardmember Olson, to approve the November 7, 2022 Tree Board meeting minutes as presented. A voice vote unanimously approved the motion.

**TREE BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:** Boardmember Sedore shared information on several sources of information and resources pertaining to trees, native plants, climate change, and the natural environment he recently obtained. He provided a list of books, materials, events, and references to Coordinator Jones Wood to forward to the Board and encouraged members to review the information and participate in webinars on climate change sponsored by the United Nations. He recommended scheduling a briefing to the Board on Tumwater’s Climate Action Plan.

**COORDINATOR'S REPORT:** Coordinator Jones Wood reported on her and Manager Medrud’s recent meeting with the consultant for the landscape ordinance to review sustainability measures and comments provided by staff.

Coordinator Jones Wood said staff met with *Friends of Trees* in addition to other stakeholders during meetings for the tree and vegetative preservation ordinance. The Board is scheduled to receive briefings from the consultant.

The University of Washington is sponsoring lunchtime half-hour forestry talks on different hardwoods. She participated in a talk on red alder. She offered to forward information on the talks once the information is published.

**TUMWATER TREE BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
December 12, 2022 Page 2**

Coordinator Jones Wood advised members to coordinate email communication with other Boardmembers through her to ensure transparency of communications and to avoid attaining a quorum of the Board discussing Board business without proper noticing of a meeting. The Board’s quorum is four members. Although communication between three members is not in violation of regulations, it is discouraged because the addition of a fourth member joining the conversation could lead to a violation of the Open Public Meetings Act.

Commissioner Sedore reported he sent an email to Boardmember Hecker along with photographs of various developments in the area depicting standing water on some developed parcels and some undeveloped properties with no standing water.

Boardmember Hecker shared the photographs of the subject parcels. He explained that as a hydrogeologist, there are multiple reasons for standing water. Most standing water is the result of stormwater flow over impermeable surfaces. Development in general creates less permeable surface causing stormwater to sit longer to infiltrate.

Following more discussion on the issue of standing water, Manager Medrud advised that he would follow-up with City development engineers to review the development plans of the subject developments. Commissioner Sedore said his main concern is standing water in the area of new homes and potential flooding because of the increase in hardscape.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** There were no public comments.

**ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR:** Chair Grantham invited nominations and election of a new Chair and Vice Chair as he has served as Chair for many years. He nominated Commissioner Sedore for Chair.

Commissioner Sedore replied that since Commissioner Grantham is familiar with the history and regulations of the City he supports nominating and re-electing Commissioner Grantham to serve as Chair if he is willing to serve.

Chair Grantham accepted the nomination.

**MOTION:** **Commissioner Sedore moved, seconded by Commissioner Chapman, to elect Trent Grantham as Chair of the Tree Board and Michael Jackson as Vice Chair. Motion carried unanimously.**

**TREE & VEGETATION PRESERVATION ORDINANCE** Coordinator Jones Wood introduced consultants Kim Frappier and Devin Melville with The Watershed Company.

**TUMWATER TREE BOARD MEETING**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**December 12, 2022 Page 3**

**COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT  
STATUS REPORT:**

Ms. Frappier reported she and Ms. Melville are Environmental Planners with The Watershed Company. They are working with the City to complete the gap analysis of Tumwater Municipal Code (TMC) 16.08 Protection of Trees and Vegetation. Since the October briefing, the project team implemented the public engagement plan. To date, the metrics as outlined in the Public Engagement Plan has been achieved. The primary goal of the plan was to reach a broad audience of residents, organizations, and businesses reflective of the Tumwater community. That goal was accomplished through a direct mailing to 14,292 households and businesses. The mailing exceeded the metric as described in the plan. Additionally, the City continues to provide project updates to community members via email and other direct engagements. To date, approximately 75 individuals receive regular project updates by email.

Coordinator Jones Wood reported that in support of the engagement goal she attended monthly tree group meetings with the Thurston Climate Action Team. She updates the group on the status of the City's efforts. She also exhibits quarterly at the Thurston County Food bank at Mountain View Church to review efforts by the Stream Team and the City's efforts to update tree regulations.

Manager Medrud added that staff distributed posters to various locations and public buildings in the City, as well as meeting with other groups expressing interest in the update.

Ms. Frappier reported that other engagement efforts include online engagement through the Tumwater Urban and Community Forestry online open houses and social media posts. Those efforts have been successful. The metric defines success as achieving 2,500 impressions, which represents 10% of the City's population. To date, the online open house generated 369 unique visits with over 1,000 page views and nearly 1,700 social media impressions (liked or responded to social media posts on the tree code update). The stakeholder meetings were initiated through Community Conversations. Two Community Conversations have been hosted with the first held in November and the second in early December. The November meeting attracted 25 participants representing Tumwater community members and stakeholders affiliated with Black Hills Audubon, Thurston County Health Department, Thurston Economic Development Council, Thurston County Conservation District, Olympia Master Builders, Puget Sound Energy, and Restoring the Earth Connection. Fourteen individuals expressed interest in engaging in focused discussions. Those individuals were invited to the next stakeholder meeting to serve on the focus group during the meeting. Stakeholder meeting #2 attracted 23 attendees to include a seven-member focus group. Copies of the slides and video of the stakeholder meetings are posted online at [www.tumwater.treecity.com](http://www.tumwater.treecity.com).

**TUMWATER TREE BOARD MEETING**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**December 12, 2022 Page 4**

The third community conversation is the final stakeholder meeting scheduled on January 9, 2023.

During January, the team will continue with the code update for TMC 16.08 and launch the street tree code and street plan update. Two internal stakeholder meetings are scheduled in January with City staff to receive feedback on the gap analysis for both TMC 16.08 and TMC 12.24 and the Street Tree Plan. The team will also finalize the gap analysis and begin working on draft ordinance amendments. The Tree Board is scheduled to meet jointly with the Planning Commission in February to review the draft amendments.

Boardmember Sedore recommended clarifying the term “focus group” as the terminology was confusing during the stakeholder meetings, which he attended. However, he was uncertain whether he was a member of the focus group even though he asked questions and was included in the conversation. He questioned whether the team will provide an analysis of the feedback to assist the Board in understanding the community’s positions on current codes.

Manager Medrud explained that of the thousands of postcards mailed to the community, the City received less than 100 responses, and not all comments and responses were from individuals who live or own property in the City. He would be concerned about characterizing responses as a percentage of either support or non-support of specific codes given that the responses represented multiple individuals from the same organization while others were either individual responses or they represented a larger organization. Staff is preparing a summary of all comments received to date from both Community Conversations and other input received throughout the process. Boardmember Sedore suggested that for the comments to be of value to the Board, some analysis should be completed. Manager Medrud agreed that a summary of the feedback would be provided as well as providing a copy of all individual comments.

Ms. Frappier explained that during the first Community Conversation meeting, the final poll included a question asking participants about any interest in serving as a member of a group for a more focused discussion. The poll produced 14 positive responses. Those individuals were invited to attend the second meeting to be part of the focus group. The goal was to ensure a balance of interests with diverse perspectives. In areas that were not represented, the City plans more outreach to receive feedback and perspectives with an invitation to attend the third meeting. In terms of “focus group” the intent is having a diverse group of community members and stakeholders to participate in focused discussions.

Boardmember Chapman inquired as to whether the Board has received any information on the criteria or the process the consultant team is utilizing

**TUMWATER TREE BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
December 12, 2022 Page 5**

to draft amendments. Ms. Frappier advised that the process for drafting the ordinance is initiated through the public engagement plan and efforts to receive feedback of the community's understanding of the municipal code. Development of the gap analysis included a full review of the ordinance and other background materials, the City's development guide, and cross code comparison with other jurisdiction. The consultant team, using their experience and knowledge of best management practices within urban forestry, identified within the gap analysis specific areas for improvement and further discussion required with the City. All the information is consolidated to assist in drafting amendments to the ordinance. Throughout the drafting process, the team engages in discussions with the Tree Board, Planning Commission, and staff to answer questions and explore different strategies for different topics.

Manager Medrud added that the gap analysis is a draft pending the review by permitting staff. The gap analysis serves as the starting point for the development of the ordinance followed by a comment outline based on the gap analysis identifying recommended code language on important topics within the code. The outcome will produce the proposed draft ordinance to be reviewed by the Tree Board and the Planning Commission. Essentially, the process entails three steps prior to development of the final ordinance.

Boardmember Chapman offered that it would be helpful to document the process as well as the methodology for creating the draft ordinance.

Ms. Frappier acknowledged the request to add additional clarification within the gap analysis. Included in the current draft is a method section that was forwarded to the Board prior to the meeting; however, the team can expand and clarify the section to improve clarity.

**TREE &  
VEGETATION  
PRESERVATION  
ORDINANCE GAP  
ANALYSIS:**

Ms. Frappier said the review will provide the team with initial feedback and generate questions from the Board. She asked members to provide feedback on additional information desired on specific topics or information that should be expanded within the gap analysis. The Board has the option to review the document and submit written comments. The next step following feedback from permitting staff and the Tree Board is integrating the feedback and finalizing the gap analysis. The final gap analysis will guide the development of the amendments. She offered to provide the document in a Word file to enable members to include comments.

Ms. Frappier reviewed major sections of the draft gap analysis. Section 1 speaks to the purpose of the ordinance update and the policy and planning work completed to date through the Urban Forestry Management Plan. Other sections include the methodology, purpose of the gap analysis, plans and policies reviewed, and critical policy goals and objectives in support

**TUMWATER TREE BOARD MEETING**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**December 12, 2022 Page 6**

of the Urban Forestry Management Plan. Another section is on internal and external stakeholder engagement and the role it has within the policy update process.

Chapter 2 of the gap analysis is an analysis of the existing ordinance. Main topics identified during the review included updating the purpose and intent of the code with specific reference to the Urban Forestry Management Plan to ensure the new code incorporates all urban forestry management planning completed by the City to include integration of the 2040 canopy targets within the Urban Forestry Management Plan. Another section covers definitions.

Boardmember Sedore inquired as to how the update accounts for fauna, such as surveying fauna prior to permitting development and considering impacts to animals. Manager Medrud responded that the Urban Forestry Management Plan focuses on the forest as a whole. In terms of regulations and city codes, the proposed revisions are to TMC 16.08 covering trees and vegetation exclusively. Habitat in the forest or wetlands is addressed in TMC 16.32, which is not included in this specific update process but is reviewed and revised periodically in conjunction with the Department of Ecology requirements.

Ms. Frappier reviewed the sections addressing specific sections of the current code and described the format of proposed changes. One recommendation is development of a user guide to improve the usability and clarity of permitting provisions. The introductory user guide would summarize when a permit is needed, required elements of the permit submittal, review process, and specific conditions of issuance of a permit. A discussion is included about permit types and requirements within the section that should be reviewed. One suggestion by the team is development of a minor versus major permitting system or delineating the permitting process for development versus non-development. Minor permits would be issued for tree removal on parcels that have existing structures. New development proposals would require a major permit. The consultant team is seeking feedback from the City and the Board as it is a topic that has been addressed during stakeholder meetings.

Another component included in the gap analysis speaks to fine-tuning the requirements for the permitting process. The team recommends during the early phase of the development review process that urban forestry should be discussed and reviewed to ensure the project's design process maximizes the opportunity for the City to educate and engage the architects and the developers on the importance of protecting larger trees and tree groves on a project site. Another component increases and refines the types of information included in arborist reports as required as part of the permit application. Another section covers what is included in the tree protection or replacement plan. The current code contains much of the



**TUMWATER TREE BOARD MEETING**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**December 12, 2022 Page 7**

same information; however, the structure of the information is difficult to navigate. The team recommends reorganizing some of the information and including subheadings to provide clarity for users.

Boardmember Sedore noted some example of properties containing many acres of forested land recently annexed to the City. Many owners selectively harvest their trees for various purposes and want to retain the option of harvesting trees. Many property owners are unaware through annexation as they either inherited or purchased their land when it was under county regulations and were permitted to harvest the timber. Following annexation, the owners are now subject to new rules that limit their ability to manage their property. He asked about the possibility of including those types of scenarios within the permitting process as the City continues to expand its boundaries.

Manager Medrud said the issue was discussed with the particular property owner as part of the development of the Urban Forestry Management Plan. Some actions were included in the plan to address larger properties that would want to preserve woodland as part of a working forest component. Staff is exploring potential options because it would apply to a limited number of properties.

Boardmember Sedore offered a suggestion to revise a long sentence within the section pertaining to the tree account to improve clarity for readers. Additionally, the rating criteria for arborists include health, structure, and form; however, it lacks any condition component for habitat value of the plant or tree to the community. Ms. Frappier said the table within the gap analysis is modeled from ISA tree assessments. The intent is to create a streamlined consistent requirement for arborists who are assessing trees to determine whether the trees are healthy and could be retained as part of the development process. Boardmember Sedore cited forest practices that include habitat trees, such as snags for habitat for birds and hollow dwelling wildlife. He recommended incorporating that consideration within the assessment of the value of trees. The safety issues could be mitigated from retained trees by not placing buildings so close to those trees or plants.

Boardmember Chapman acknowledged the importance of the review and recommended scheduling a more focused meeting with the Board, consultants and City staff to provide comments after the Board has had an opportunity to review the draft gap analysis. His top priority as a member is the frequency of staff waiving the policy for developers. His focus is to reduce those situations where staff waives a policy as it will inhibit the City's ability in attaining goals as outlined in the Urban Forestry Management Plan.

**TUMWATER TREE BOARD MEETING**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**December 12, 2022 Page 8**

Manager Medrud agreed that one of the reasons for the update is to avoid situations when waivers are issued. Granting waivers for basic activities is indicative of an ineffective code. The purpose of the update is to develop a code that no longer includes waiver options and instead enables both staff and the applicant to know clearly what is and is not allowed under the code.

The Board discussed options for scheduling another meeting to focus on the gap analysis. Manager Medrud advised that the consultant's scope of work includes a specific number of meetings. The three major updates were deliberately scheduled to overlap because of similarities between the codes. Funding for the three updates is constrained because it ends in 2023, which is another reason for overlapping the projects.

The Board and the team discussed the process for the Board to receive and share information. Manager Medrud supported an earlier recommendation to provide members with a copy of the gap analysis as a Word file enabling time for the Board to provide comments and identify areas of further discussion to keep the process on topic and on track. Ms. Frappier offered to highlight some of the major changes the Board should consider.

Boardmember Sedore questioned whether the recommended review process complies with the Open Public Meetings Act. He also believes there is value for the Board to deliberate and discuss topics rather than individually submitting comments without the dynamic of discussing issues in one setting. Coordinator Jones Wood suggested an option of scheduling a Board meeting without the consultant team prior to the January meeting. Several members supported scheduling another meeting to ensure due diligence is afforded to the project. Chair Grantham pointed out that City staff and others in the community are also reviewing the document. Ms. Frappier offered that to improve efficiency, it would be preferable to receive the Board's comments as a combined document to avoid reviewing seven different versions of the document with different questions and edits. Chair Grantham recommended members should review the document and be prepared to discuss issues at a worksession to provide a comprehensive set of questions and recommendations. Coordinator Jones Wood advised that she would forward information on a potential date and meeting time conducive for all members.

Ms. Frappier reviewed the expectation for finalizing the gap analysis by January 30, 2023. A meeting with City staff is scheduled on January 18, 2023 to review feedback and questions from staff.

Ms. Melville suggested receiving feedback from the Board by January 18, 2023 to enable the team to share the Board's feedback with City staff.

**TUMWATER TREE BOARD MEETING**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**December 12, 2022 Page 9**

Ms. Frappier advised that the Board's January 10, 2023 meeting includes introduction to the street tree code and street tree plan update, which also includes a separate gap analysis for the Board to review. Manager Medrud noted that the Board has many other meetings prior to finalizing the ordinance affording adequate time to review the gap analysis and additional comments. He recommended either scheduling another meeting or adding additional meeting time following the joint meeting with the Planning Commission. There are also some staff resource limitations to accommodate a separate meeting.

Following additional discussion on accommodating a separate meeting, the Board agreed to defer consideration of the heritage tree nominations to a future meeting.

Chair Grantham recapped the review process moving forward on the gap analysis. The consultant team will forward information on some of the topics they are seeking for Board input, will provide the gap analysis in a Word document with the Board reviewing the document and documenting questions, comments, and/or recommendations to discuss at the next scheduled meeting in January followed by a kick-off of the street tree update.

**ARBOR DAY**  
**DISCUSSION:**

Chair Grantham supported continuing the Arbor Day event with the Earth Day event with the Parks and Recreation Department at Tumwater Historical Park.

Boardmember Sedore said one outstanding question is whether the City intends to plant a tree on Arbor Day at the same site. Coordinator Jones Wood advised that the location of the Arbor Day/Earth Day celebration has not been determined. She will advise the Board when she learns of the location.

Chair Grantham recommended considering the North End Fire Station for a tree planting as fire department personnel expressed interest in planting a large species tree at the rear of the property.

Boardmember Sedore shared that he forwarded information to some members about the potential of expanding commemorative tree plantings in Tumwater during various times of the year. He encouraged consideration of honoring a Tumwater citizen by planting a tree. Last year, Mayor Sullivan planted a tree. He would like to develop a grove of mayoral trees located in a City park or seek opportunities to recognize and honor those who have served and benefitted the City by having them plant the tree. With the end of COVID, someone in the health sector who lives in the City could be identified to plant a tree. Coordinator Jones Wood advised of the pending retirement of City Administrator Doan, who has served in the position for the last 13 years. He plans to retire in April.

**TUMWATER TREE BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
December 12, 2022 Page 10**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Sedore moved, seconded by Commissioner Chapman, to collaborate with the Parks and Recreation Department to sponsor a joint Arbor Day/Earth Day event on April 22, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

**HERITAGE TREE  
NOMINATION AT 420  
D STREET**

**&**

**HERITAGE TREE  
NOMINATION AT 6005  
TYEE DR SW:**

Commissioner Sedore said he has been seeking more information about the tree and recommended deferring consideration until he receives the information. However, there is no proof the Tyee tree was planted by the Kindred family. He located Mr. Kindred’s tombstone, which indicates that Kindred started the first school in Tumwater. He reviewed the information with Karen Johnson, a curator with the Olympia Tumwater Foundation who indicated it was not possible to prove where the first school in Tumwater was located because many people have claimed to have started the school within their homes. He also followed up with the cemetery director to identify the source of the text on the tombstone. The ESD Office was excited to learn that 150 years ago the current site was the location of a school and perhaps one of the first in Tumwater. It is likely the tree is not 150 years old. Commissioner Chapman has been assisting him in determining the age of the tree when a core sample cannot be obtained because the tree center has rotted.

Commissioner Chapman said some literature in the arborist community speaks to ways for determining the age by considering the tree species and measuring the diameter and the breast height and multiplying the growth factor for the particular species. The method is not completely reliable and is not based on science but may be the best option for determining the approximate age of a tree lacking a sample of the core. Essentially, it would entail estimating the age of the tree based on using that formula.

The Board recommended deferring the nomination at this time, and if more information becomes available, they reconsider the nomination.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Sedore moved, seconded by Commissioner Hecker, to table the heritage tree nominations at 6005 Tyee Dr SW and 420 D Street at this time pending receipt of additional information. Motion carried unanimously.

**HERITAGE TREES  
NOMINATION AT 5725**

Members discussed the nomination and agreed that the trees are champion trees.

**TUMWATER TREE BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
December 12, 2022 Page 11**

**LITTLE ROCK ROAD**

**SW:**

**MOTION:**

**Commissioner Sedore moved, seconded by Chair Grantham, to accept the nomination and forward a recommendation to the City Council to designate two Champion American chestnut trees at Mills & Mills Funeral Home as heritage trees. Motion carried unanimously.**

**NEXT MEETING**

**DATE: -**

Coordinator Jones Wood advised that the next meeting includes an introduction to the Street Tree Plan with the Planning Commission. A discussion on Arbor Day supplies could be added to the agenda. The joint meeting is scheduled on Tuesday, January 10, 2023. Commissioner Chapman advised that he would be unable to attend a Tuesday meeting. Coordinator Jones Wood reported she asked the Planning Commission about the possibility of conducting the joint meeting on Monday, January 9, 2023. She has not received a response at this time. She reviewed the schedule of joint meetings with the Planning Commission during 2023.

The Board and staff discussed scheduling a second meeting in January 2023 to discuss the gap analysis. Coordinator Jones Wood advised that she would follow-up with Ms. Frappier on whether other follow-up questions would be provided to the Board prior to the January meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**With there being no further business, Chair Grantham adjourned the meeting at 9:10 p.m.**

Prepared by Valerie L. Gow, Recording Secretary/President  
Puget Sound Meeting Services, psmsoly@earthlink.net

TO: Tree Board  
FROM: Alyssa Jones Wood, Sustainability Coordinator  
DATE: April 10, 2023  
SUBJECT: Discussion – Stormwater & Tree Board Symbiosis

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1) Recommended Action:

Discussion item for Tree Board.

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2) Background:

The City Council adopted the Urban Forestry Management Plan (UFMP) on March 2, 2021 by Ordinance No. 2020-004. The intersection of stormwater and urban forestry is included throughout the UFMP including specifically:

Objective 1.3: Establish a full complement of beautiful, healthy trees in the City by planting trees in locations that maximize their ability to grow while minimizing damage to the essential infrastructure of the City.

- Action B. Develop a partnership with the City Stormwater Utility to support maintenance of the City’s urban forest and staffing.
- Action C. Look at enlarging planting sites to capture stormwater, benefit trees, and reduce hardscape damage such as sidewalk failures or gratings notfitting due to confined growing spaces for trees. Consider increasing resources to prioritize repairing sidewalk damage.

Members of the Tree Board have expressed an interest in utilizing stormwater sites as potential planting areas. City stormwater staff will present the opportunities and limitations to utilize stormwater sites for tree plantings.

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3) Alternatives:

- Schedule further discussion at the Tree Board’s May 8, 2023 meeting
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4) Attachments:

TO: Tree Board  
FROM: Alyssa Jones Wood, Sustainability Coordinator  
DATE: April 10, 2023  
SUBJECT: Discussion – Tumwater School District Summer Program

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1) Recommended Action:

Discussion item for Tree Board.

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2) Background:

The City Council adopted the Urban Forestry Management Plan (UFMP) on March 2, 2021 by Ordinance No. 2020-004. The Water Resources & Sustainability Department has been developing a relationship with the Tumwater School District and has been informed that the District will be hosting a special summer program for 12 students related to urban forestry in the summer of 2023. This is supported by the UFMP:

Objective 6.2: Maintain a community and urban forestry educational program.

Action D. Collaborate with non-profit groups, such as schools or other organizations to provide community and urban forestry education.

Staff would like to involve the Tree Board with this program.

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3) Alternatives:

Schedule further discussion at the Tree Board's May 8, 2023 meeting

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4) Attachments:

TO: Tree Board  
FROM: Alyssa Jones Wood, Sustainability Coordinator  
DATE: April 10, 2023  
SUBJECT: Discussion – Heritage Tree Nomination at 5800 Littlerock Road

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1) Recommended Action:

Discussion item for Tree Board and then recommendation to City Council.

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2) Background:

After the City Council adopted the Urban Forestry Management Plan on March 2, 2021 by Ordinance No. 2020-004, the Tree Board began a discussion at their April 12, 2021 meeting of the actions that are the Tree Board's primary responsibility in implementing the Plan; among those actions are those that address heritage trees.

On February 28, 2023 Tumwater resident and Tree Board member Jim Sedore nominated a Garry Oak (also known as Oregon White Oak) at 5800 Littlerock Road. This nominated tree is located on City-owned right-of-way. The Transportation & Engineering Director Brandon Hicks provided consent to the nomination. This nominated tree was assessed by the City's Tree Professional on March 15, 2023. This application is now submitted for consideration by the Tree Board and then a recommendation to the City Council for final action.

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3) Alternatives:

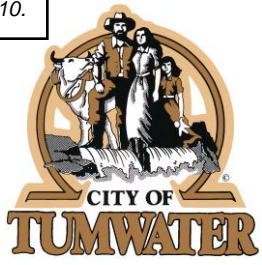
Schedule further discussion at the Tree Board's May 9, 2023 meeting

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4) Attachments:

- A. Heritage Trees Discussion Memorandum
- B. Heritage Tree Nomination Form
- C. Photo & location of the Tree
- D. Heritage Tree Information Sheet provided by Jim Sedore
- E. Memorandum from Sound Urban Forestry





## HERITAGE TREES

### MEMORANDUM

#### TREE BOARD DISCUSSION – April 10, 2023

#### Contents

Background ..... 1

Definition and Resources ..... 2

Proposed Heritage Tree Nomination..... 2

Next Steps ..... 2

Staff Contact ..... 2

Appendix 1 – TMC 16.08 Protection of Trees and Vegetation ..... 3

#### Background

The Tumwater City Council adopted the Urban Forestry Management Plan on March 2, 2021 by Ordinance No. 2020-004. Among the Urban Forestry Management Plan actions to be implemented, two addressed heritage trees:

#### Action 2.1.J. Designate, register, and promote heritage trees.

Priority	Leads [Primary (P) & Secondary (S)]	Timing	Monitoring Action
#2	Community Development (P) Tree Board (S)	Start in Spring 2023 based on Peninsula Environmental Group work and update every five years thereafter	Track number of trees considered heritage trees on an ongoing basis

#### Action 8.1.B. Identify tree specimens, including heritage trees, on City property that illustrate proper tree care and discuss in articles on the City website and social media.

Priority	Leads [Primary (P) & Secondary (S)]	Timing	Monitoring Action
#2	Community Development (P) Parks and Recreation (S) Public Works (S) Tree Board (S)	Start in Spring 2023 and evaluate every five years thereafter	Evaluate program as compared to the Goals, Objectives, and Actions of the Plan

## Heritage Tree Memorandum

### Definition and Resources

From the City's Heritage Trees website, heritage trees are:

*“Trees that have historical significance, by virtue of age, association to a historical structure, district, person or event, rare or unique species, or significant stand (grove) of trees can be designated as Heritage Trees, and therefore provided with special protections.”*

You can find out more about heritage trees on our website here:

<https://www.ci.tumwater.wa.us/departments/community-development/trees/heritage-trees>

And in TMC 16.08.075 *Heritage trees designated* here:

<https://www.codepublishing.com/WA/Tumwater/#!/Tumwater16/Tumwater1608.html#16.08.075>

Appendix 1 contains the definitions section of TMC 16.08 *Protection of Trees and Vegetation* as well as TMC 16.08.075 *Heritage trees designated*.

“Heritage trees” and “historic trees” are defined in TMC 16.08.030 as follows:

*M. “Heritage tree(s)” means tree(s) designated by the city and their owners as historical, specimen, rare, or a significant grove of trees.*

*N. “Historic tree” means any tree designated as an historic object in accordance with the provisions of TMC Chapter 2.62.*

### Proposed Heritage Tree Nomination

Board Member Jim Sedore filed a nomination form for a Garry Oak tree at 5800 Littlerock Road SW. The City's contracted Urban Forester visited the tree on March 15, 2023 and estimates the tree is 165-185 years old.

### Next Steps

Staff suggests the Tree Board review the materials in the packet and discuss next steps at today's meeting.

### Staff Contact

Alyssa Jones Wood, LEED Green Associate, Sustainability Coordinator  
City of Tumwater Water Resources & Sustainability Department  
360-754-4140  
ajoneswood@ci.tumwater.wa.us

**Appendix 1 – TMC 16.08 Protection of Trees and Vegetation**

[...]

**16.08.030 Definitions.**

A. “Buildable area” is that portion of a parcel of land wherein a building, parking and other improvements may be located and where construction activity may take place. Buildable area shall not include streams, flood hazard areas, geological hazard areas or wetlands and their buffers as defined in TMC Chapter 18.04. For the purpose of calculating required tree protection open space area, existing and newly dedicated city rights-of-way shall not be included.

B. “City” means the city of Tumwater, Washington.

C. “Code administrator” means the director of the community development department or the director’s designated representative.

D. “Conversion option harvest plan (COHP)” means a voluntary plan developed by the landowner and approved by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources and the city of Tumwater, indicating the limits and types of harvest areas, road locations, and open space. This approved plan, when submitted to the Department of Natural Resources as part of the forest practice application and followed by the landowner, maintains the landowner’s option to convert to a use other than commercial forest product production (releases the landowner from the six-year moratorium on future development).

E. Critical Root Zone or CRZ. Unless determined otherwise by the tree protection professional, the root protection zone for trees means an area contained inside an area on the ground having a radius of one foot for every inch of tree diameter, measured from four and one-half feet above ground level, but in no event shall the root protection zone be less than a six-foot radius.

F. “Drip line” of a tree means an imaginary line on the ground created by the vertical projections of the foliage at its circumference.

G. “Environmentally sensitive area” means any lands with the following characteristics:

1. “Geologically hazardous areas” as defined in TMC Chapter 16.20;
2. Lakes, ponds, stream corridors, and creeks as defined in TMC Chapter 16.32;
3. Identified habitats with which endangered, threatened, or sensitive species have a primary association as defined in TMC Chapter 16.32;

4. Wetlands as defined in TMC Chapter 16.28.

H. “Grading” means excavation, filling, or any combination thereof. Excavation and grading is governed by the International Building Code (IBC).

I. “Greenbelt” means certain designated areas of a project or development that are intended to remain in a natural condition, and/or private permanent open space, or serve as a buffer between properties or developments.

J. “Greenbelt zone” means any area so designated on the official zoning map of the city and subject to the provisions of TMC Chapter 18.30.

K. “Ground cover” means vegetation that is naturally terrestrial excluding noxious or poisonous plants and shall include trees that are less than six inches in diameter measured at four and one-half feet above ground level.

L. “Hazardous tree” means any tree that, due to its health or structural defect, presents a risk to people or property.

M. “Heritage tree(s)” means tree(s) designated by the city and their owners as historical, specimen, rare, or a significant grove of trees.

N. “Historic tree” means any tree designated as an historic object in accordance with the provisions of TMC Chapter 2.62.

O. “Land clearing” or “clearing” means any activity which removes or substantially alters by topping or other methods the vegetative ground cover and/or trees.

P. “Open space” means unoccupied land that is open to the sky and which may or may not contain vegetation and landscaping features, subject to the provisions in TMC 17.04.325 and 17.12.210.

Q. “Parcel” means a tract or plot of land of any size which may or may not be subdivided or improved.

R. “Qualified professional forester” is a professional with academic and field experience that makes them an expert in urban forestry. This may include arborists certified by the International Society of Arboriculture, foresters with a degree in forestry from a Society of American Foresters accredited forestry school, foresters certified by SAF, or urban foresters with a degree in urban forestry. A qualified professional forester must possess the ability to evaluate the health and hazard potential of existing trees, and the ability to prescribe appropriate measures necessary for the preservation of trees during land development. Additionally, the

## Heritage Tree Memorandum

qualified professional forester shall have the necessary training and experience to use and apply the International Society of Arboriculture's Guide for Plant Appraisal and to successfully provide the necessary expertise relating to management of trees specified in this chapter.

S. "Topping" is the removal of the upper crown of the tree with no consideration of proper cuts as per the current ANSI A300 Standard. Cuts created by topping create unsightly stubs that promote decay within the parent branch and can cause premature mortality of a tree. Topping a tree is considered to be a removal, and may require a tree removal permit.

T. "Tree" means any healthy living woody plant characterized by one or more main stems or trunks and many branches, and having a diameter of six inches or more measured four and one-half feet above ground level. Healthy in the context of this definition shall mean a tree that is rated by a professional with expertise in the field of forestry or arbor culture as fair or better using recognized forestry or arbor cultural practices. If a tree exhibits multiple stems and the split(s) or separation(s) between stems is above grade, then that is considered a single tree. If a tree exhibits multiple stems emerging from grade and there is visible soil separating the stems, then each soil-separated stem is considered an individual tree. Appropriate tree species under six inches may be considered with approval of the city tree protection professional.

U. "Tree plan" is a plan that contains specific information pertaining to the protection, preservation, and planting of trees pursuant to this chapter.

V. "Tree protection open space" is a separate dedicated area of land, specifically set aside for the protection and planting of trees.

W. "Tree protection professional" is a certified professional with academic and field experience that makes him or her a recognized expert in urban tree preservation and management. The tree protection professional shall be either a member of the International Society of Arboriculture or the Society of American Foresters or the Association of Consulting Foresters, and shall have specific experience with urban tree management in the Pacific Northwest. Additionally, the tree protection professional shall have the necessary training and experience to use and apply the International Society of Arboriculture's Guide for Plant Appraisal and to successfully provide the necessary expertise relating to management of trees specified in this chapter.

(Ord. O2013-017, Amended, 08/19/2014; Ord. O2013-025, Amended, 01/07/2014; Ord. O2011-002, Amended, 03/01/2011; Ord. O2006-014, Amended, 04/17/2007; Ord. O2002-012, Amended, 07/16/2002; Ord. O97-029, Amended, 03/17/1998; Ord. O94-029, Amended, 09/20/1994; Ord. 1311, Amended, 04/07/1992; Ord. 1190, Added, 05/16/1989)

[...]

**16.08.075 Heritage trees designated.**

A. Trees can be nominated for designation by citizens, the Tumwater tree board, or city staff.

1. Application for heritage tree designation must be submitted to the community development department. The application must include a short description of the trees, including address or location, and landowner's name and phone number. The application must be signed by both the landowner and nominator.
2. The tree board reviews the application and makes a recommendation to the city council.
3. All heritage trees will be added to city tree inventory and public works maps.

B. Trees that are designated as heritage trees shall be classified as follows:

1. Historical – A tree which by virtue of its age, its association with or contribution to a historical structure or district, or its association with a noted citizen or historical event.
2. Specimen – Age, size, health, and quality factors combine to qualify the tree as unique among the species in Tumwater and Washington State.
3. Rare – One or very few of a kind, or is unusual in some form of growth or species.
4. Significant Grove – Outstanding rows or groups of trees that impact the city's landscape.

C. The city will provide an evaluation and recommendation for tree health and care and will provide up to one inspection annually upon request of the landowner. The city may, at its discretion, provide a plaque listing the owner's name and/or tree species/location.

D. Heritage Tree Removal.

1. A tree removal permit is required for removal of any heritage tree(s).

## Heritage Tree Memorandum

2. The city tree protection professional shall evaluate any heritage trees prior to a decision on the removal permit. Recommendations for care, other than removal, will be considered.

3. Dead or hazardous trees are exempt from a tree removal permit after verification by the city tree protection professional.

E. Heritage Tree Declassification. Any heritage tree may, at any time, be removed from heritage tree status at the request of the landowner after providing two weeks' written notice to the community development department. Unless an agreement can be reached to preserve the tree, the tree will be removed from the heritage tree inventory list and the plaque, if any, will be removed.

(Amended during 2011 reformat; O2006-014, Amended, 04/17/2007; Ord. O2002-012, Amended, 07/16/2002; Ord. O2000-012, Added, 07/18/2000)

A new entry to a form/survey has been submitted.

**Form Name:** Heritage Tree Nomination Form  
**Date & Time:** 02/28/2023 1:47 PM  
**Response #:** 23  
**Submitter ID:** 11778  
**IP address:** 97.126.100.202  
**Time to complete:** 7 min. , 56 sec.

## Survey Details

Page 1

# Heritage Tree Nomination Form

Trees that have historical significance, by virtue of age, association to a historical structure, district, person or event, rare or unique species, or significant stand (grove) of trees can be designated as Heritage Trees, and therefore provided with special protections.

### Who is submitting this nomination?

(o) Other

### Nominator contact information.

**Nominator Name** Jim Sedore  
**email** [lizardgym@gmail.com](mailto:lizardgym@gmail.com)  
**Daytime Phone Number** (360) 754-7902

### What criteria does this tree meet?

(o) Rare: One or very few of a kind, or is unusual in some form of growth or species.

### Please provide an address or location of the tree(s).

5800 Littlerock Road, Tumwater

### Please provide as much information about the tree as you can (size, type, age).

Additional information has been sent to Alyssa Jones-Wood. says that he can sign as the property owner. The tree is located between the Walmart parking lot on the West and Littlerock Road on the East, across from the Union Cemetery.



From: Larsen, E. M., and J. T. Morgan. 1998. Management recommendations for Washington’s priority habitats: Oregon white oak woodlands. Wash. Dept. Fish and Wildl., Olympia. 37pp.

Highlights from the Executive Summary; Pages ix-xi.

- Oaks provide habitat for species that are state listed as Sensitive, ,,
- In urban or urbanizing areas, single oaks, or stands of oaks <0.4 ha (1 ac), may also be considered priority habitat when found to be particularly valuable to fish and wildlife (i.e., they contain many cavities, have a large diameter at breast height [dbh], are used by priority species, or have a large canopy).
- Many invertebrates, including various moths, butterflies, gall wasps, and spiders, are found exclusively in association with this oak species. Oak/conifer associations provide contiguous aerial pathways for animals such as the State Threatened western gray squirrel, and they provide important roosting, nesting, and feeding habitat for wild turkeys and other birds and mammals
- Oaks in Washington may play a critical role in the conservation of neotropical migrant birds that migrate through, or nest in, Oregon white oak woodlands. The decline of Oregon white oak woodlands has been accelerated by human activities --primarily oak removal
- Management recommendations are designed to maintain and enhance the integrity of Oregon white oak woodlands, reverse the trend of oak habitat loss, and promote the protection of oak habitat that is presently in good condition. Oaks west of the Cascades and in wetter sites along the Columbia Gorge should be cut only for stand enhancement.

**The landowner must consent to the nomination prior to consideration. Has the landowner agreed to this nomination?**

(o) Yes

**Landowner contact information**

<b>Landowner Name</b>	Brandon Hicks, City of Tumwater Transportation and Engineering Director
<b>email</b>	Not answered
<b>Daytime Phone Number</b>	(360) 754-4140

**If you have a a photo you would like to share, please upload it here.**

Thank you,  
**City of Tumwater, WA**

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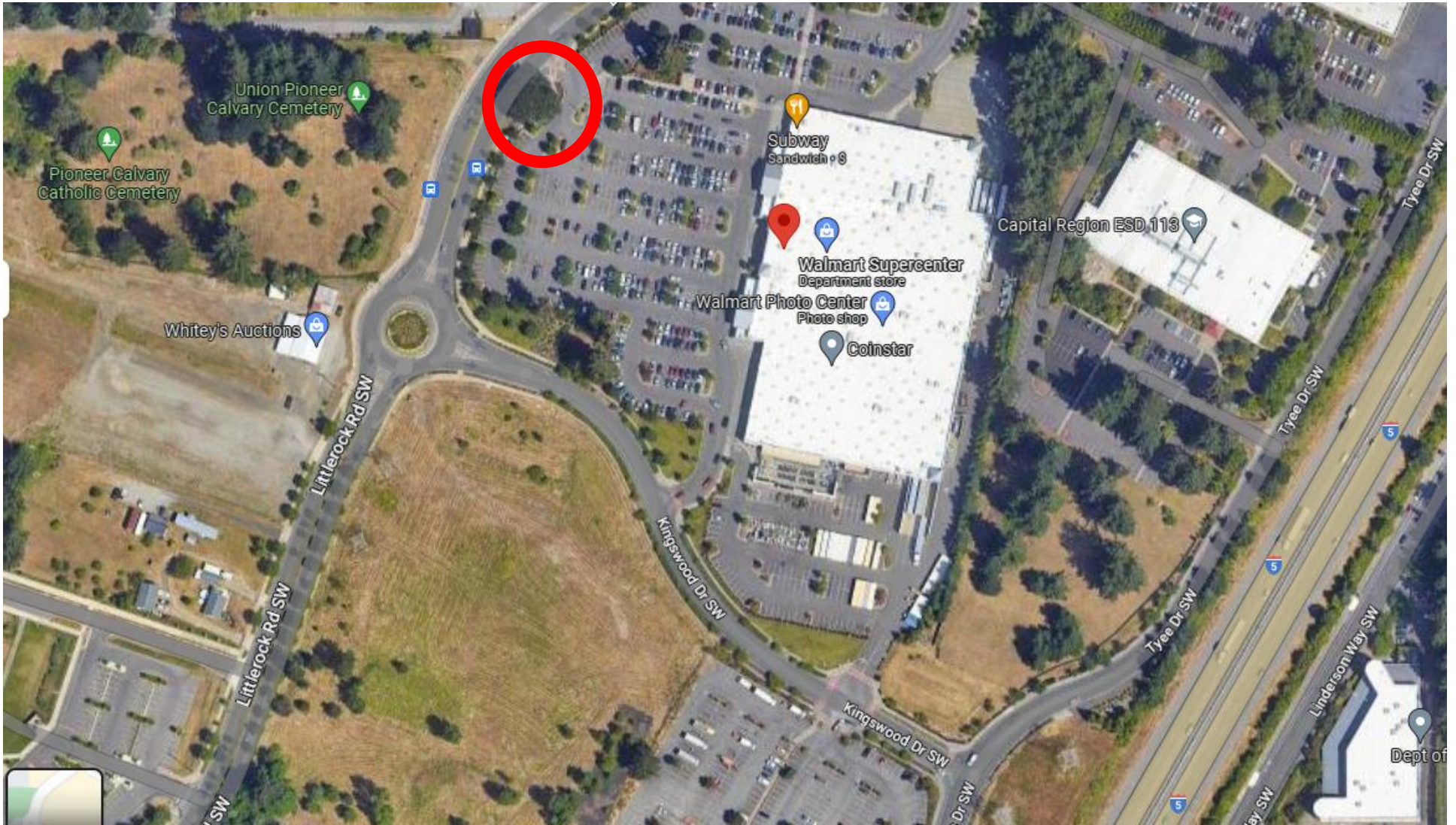
**This is an automated message generated by Granicus. Please do not reply directly to this email.**











## Heritage Tree Information

# 5900 Littlerock Road SW – Walmart Supercenter parking lot

## – Quercus garryana

Location:	5800 LITTLEROCK RD SW, TUMWATER, 98512							
Map								
Property owner	Owner Name: WAL-MART REAL ESTATE BUSINESS TRUST Owner Address: PO BOX 8050 MS 0555 , BENTONVILLE, AR 72716 Site Address: 5800 LITTLEROCK RD SW, TUMWATER, 98512  360,350.6019 Store Operator. Call 1-800-925-6278 (1-800-WALMART) – Customer service							
Genus species	Quercus garryana							
Common name(s)	Garry Oak, Oregon Oak							
Approx. size	Height – 60 feet DBH – 80 inches Age – 100 years							
Notes on species	<a href="https://www.monumentaltrees.com/en/usa-quercusgarryana/">https://www.monumentaltrees.com/en/usa-quercusgarryana/</a> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Location</th> <th>Girth ▲▼</th> <th>Height ▲▼</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <a href="#">Medford, Ken Denman Wildlife Area, OR</a></td> <td>2.44 m</td> <td>?</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Location	Girth ▲▼	Height ▲▼	 <a href="#">Medford, Ken Denman Wildlife Area, OR</a>	2.44 m	?
Location	Girth ▲▼	Height ▲▼						
 <a href="#">Medford, Ken Denman Wildlife Area, OR</a>	2.44 m	?						
Date nominated	2023.02							
Nominator	Jim Sedore							
Support for the nomination	As Littlerock Road was widened and the property transitioned from private property (owned by Mary McQueen) to commercial (owned by Walmart), developers have recognized the beauty of this tree and adjusted their development to preserve this tree.							
Supporting Tumwater Municipal Code regulations	<p><b>1. Tumwater Municipal Code Chapter 16.08 PROTECTION OF TREES AND VEGETATION</b></p> <p><b><u><a href="#">16.08.030 Definitions.</a></u></b></p> <p>G. “Environmentally sensitive area” means any lands with the following characteristics:</p> <p>3. <u>Identified habitats with which endangered, threatened, or sensitive species have a primary association</u> as defined in TMC Chapter 16.32;</p> <p>Tumwater Municipal Code Chapter 16.32</p>							

## FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT PROTECTION

## 16.32.03 Definitions

- J. "Priority habitat, state" or "state priority habitat" means a seasonal range or habitat element, **so identified by the Washington State Department of Wildlife**, with which a given species has a primary association, and which, if altered, may reduce the likelihood that the species will maintain and reproduce over the long term. These might include areas of high relative diversity or species richness, breeding habitat, winter range and movement corridors. These might also include habitats that are of limited availability or high vulnerability to alteration.
- L. "Priority species, state" or "state priority species" means those species that are so identified by the Washington State Department of Wildlife due to their population status and their sensitivity to habitat manipulation. Priority species include those which are state-listed endangered, threatened and sensitive species.

WA State  
Dept of  
F&WL  
publications

Larsen, E. M., and J. T. Morgan. 1998. **Management recommendations for Washington's priority habitats: Oregon white oak woodlands.** Wash. Dept. Fish and Wildl., Olympia. 37pp.

*Highlights from the Executive Summary; Pages ix-xi.*

- Oaks provide habitat for species that are state listed as Sensitive, ,,
- In urban or urbanizing areas, single oaks, or stands of oaks <0.4 ha (1 ac), may also be considered priority habitat when found to be particularly valuable to fish and wildlife (i.e., they contain many cavities, have a large diameter at breast height [dbh], are used by priority species, or have a large canopy).
- Many invertebrates, including various moths, butterflies, gall wasps, and spiders, are found exclusively in association with this oak species. Oak/conifer associations provide contiguous aerial pathways for animals such as the State Threatened western gray squirrel, and they provide important roosting, nesting, and feeding habitat for wild turkeys and other birds and mammals
- Oaks in Washington may play a critical role in the conservation of neotropical migrant birds that migrate through, or nest in, Oregon white oak woodlands. The decline of Oregon white oak woodlands has been accelerated by human activities --primarily oak removal
- Management recommendations are designed to maintain and enhance the integrity of Oregon white oak woodlands, reverse the trend of oak habitat loss, and promote the protection of oak habitat that is presently in good condition. Oaks west of the Cascades and in wetter sites along the Columbia Gorge should be cut only for stand enhancement.
- Specific recommendations include the following:
  - Do not cut Oregon white oak woodlands except for habitat enhancement.
  - Create snags when thinning oaks or conifers instead of removing trees.



- Leave fallen trees, limbs, and leaf litter for foraging, nesting, and denning sites.
- Retain contiguous aerial pathways.
- Other oak enhancement activities include the following:
  - Planting Oregon white oak acorns and seedlings.
  - Selling or donating oak woodlands to conservation and land trust organizations.
  - Purchasing contiguous or notable stands of oaks by local, state, and federal agencies.
  - Designating large, contiguous oak and oak/conifer stands as critical areas.
  - Encouraging aggressive oak enhancement/regeneration measures by local, state, and federal agencies.

Threatened, Endangered, or candidates for these listings.  
[://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://wdfw.wa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/00030/wdfw00030.pdf](https://wdfw.wa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/00030/wdfw00030.pdf) **Page 9 – Executive Summary**

Health assessment

Images



Garry Oak looking East from Union Cemetary 2023.01.26 by Jim Sedore

History of the property

1870? – Property settled by David Kindred  
 -1975 – 2000? Private residence owned by Mary McQueen  
 ?2000-current Walmart store





## Action:

2023.02.15 – 1617 – email from Alex Baruch re: 5900 Littlerock Road Garry Oak ownership - Walmart tree nomination

Alex Baruch. Wed, Feb 15, 4:17 PM to me

Hi Jim,

After further research we were able to come to the conclusion that the tree is in the right-of-way therefore the City can sign the form. Brandon Hicks, Transportation and Engineering Director said that he would be able to sign the form on behalf of the City. Please let us know if you have any other questions.

Sincerely, Alex Baruch

2023.02.11 – 1137 – Email from Jim to D. Puneet re: Walmart tree nomination

Liz & Jim Sedore [lizardgym@gmail.com](mailto:lizardgym@gmail.com) Attachments 11:37 AM to puneet.d, ALEX, Alyssa, bcc: Liz

To whom this may concern,

I am Jim Sedore, a member of the City of Tumwater Tree Board.

A Garry Oak on the NW edge of the Walmart property (5900 Littlerock Road, Tumwater WA) is being nominated as a Heritage Tree.

A photo of the tree is attached.

"Heritage Trees

Trees that have historical significance, by virtue of age, association to a historical structure, district, person or event, rare or unique species, or significant stand (grove) of trees can be designated as Heritage Trees, and therefore provided with special protections.

<https://www.ci.tumwater.wa.us/departments/community-development/trees/heritage-trees>

Property owner must give permission for the tree to be nominated.

1. Are you the person/company representative that would give this permission?
2. If not, can you reply with contact information for the person we should contact?

Thank you, Jim Sedore for the Tumwater Tree Board

2023.02.09 – Email from Alex Baruch. Feb 9, 2023, 3:19 PM To me

Hi Jim,

In speaking with staff and looking at the permit documents for Walmart it appears that this tree was retained as a part of the overall tree retention requirements for the development. As you mentioned it appears the tree is within the right-of-way which the City owns however when trees are planted or retained as a part of development requirements they are typically responsible for the maintenance of

those trees moving forward. That is the case with this tree as it was a part of the development's tree retention plan. Please let me know if you have any other questions.

Sincerely, Alex Baruch, Associate Planner, Community Development. City of Tumwater

555 Israel Rd SW | Tumwater, WA 98501

(360) 754-4180 | [ABaruch@ci.tumwater.wa.us](mailto:ABaruch@ci.tumwater.wa.us) [www.ci.tumwater.wa.us](http://www.ci.tumwater.wa.us)

2023.02.07 – 1024 – Email to Alex Baruch – City of Tumwater – re: 5900 Littlerock Road parkway oak tree ownership

Liz & Jim Sedore [lizardgym@gmail.com](mailto:lizardgym@gmail.com) 10:24 AM to ALEX, bcc: Liz

ALEX,

I'm on the Tumwater Tree Board and need a little information.

I'm looking for the "owner" of a large tree at 5900 Littlerock Road on the parkway.

There is a large, old Garry Oak along Littlerock Road at 5900 Littlerock Road. This is the Walmart parking lot.

When I look at the map,

<https://map.co.thurston.wa.us/Html5Viewer/Index.html?viewer=uMap.Main>, it appears that the tree is on the street parkway and NOT within the Walmart property line. There is a unique curve in the property line on the map around this tree area. Is this true?

If Walmart does not own this tree, (because it is not within their property line), who owns the tree?

I assume it would be the same ownership as Littlerock Road which is the City of Tumwater?

Thanks, Jim Sedore for the Tumwater Tree Board

# SUF

## SOUND URBAN FORESTRY, LLC

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Appraisals ~ Site Planning ~ Urban Landscape Design and Management  
Environmental Education ~ Risk Assessments

3/15/2023

City of Tumwater  
Water Resources and Sustainability Department  
Alyssa Jones Wood, Sustainability Coordinator  
555 Israel Rd SW  
Tumwater, WA 98501

RE: Proposed Heritage Tree – 5800 Littlerock Road SW Oregon White Oak

Ms. Wood:

Upon the request of the City of Tumwater, I have conducted an assessment of a tree located within the City's ROW adjacent to the Walmart property at 5800 Littlerock Rd SW. This tree has been nominated as a heritage tree by a member of the Tree Board. I visited the site on March 9, 2023.

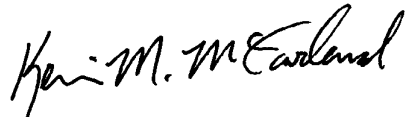
### Findings

The identified tree is an Oregon white oak (*Quercus garryana*). Diameter at breast height measures 44" with an approximate height of 62'. Live canopy ratio is 40% and the overall condition is good. There are broken/damaged and dead branches measuring 3" in diameter and greater within the canopy. Trunk soundings did not indicate internal stem decay and there are no other indications of decay or structural issues. I did find evidence of *Armillaria* (shoestring root rot) rhizomorphs along the soil covered base of the tree.

## Comments

The tree would benefit from selective pruning to clean the crown of any stubs and dead or damaged branches measuring 3" or greater in diameter. Also of concern is the excess soil and mulch around the base of the tree. Soil level should be so that the root flare is visible. I would recommend that the excess soil be carefully removed at an angle out to a distance of 4' so that the root flare be exposed (see photos and diagram). This should be accomplished by hand without the use of any equipment. No equipment should be allowed under this tree. The health of the tree may be compromised by the *Armillaria* if this is not done.

Professionally Submitted,



Kevin M. McFarland, Principal  
Consulting Forester, Contracted City of Tumwater Tree Protection Professional  
ISA Certified Arborist PN-0373 & Tree Risk Assessment Qualified

Sound Urban Forestry, LLC  
P.O. Box 489  
Tahuya, WA 98588  
360-870-2511

**Location of Nominated Tree**



**Photo of Nominated Tree**





**Photo of Excess Soil at the Base**



**Photo Showing Lack of Root Flare at Base**



**Diagram of Recommended Root Flare Exposure**

