



City of Oregon City

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Staff Report

File Number: 16-055

Agenda Date: 2/3/2016

Status: Agenda Ready

To: City Commission

Agenda #: 7a.

From: Community Development Director Tony Konkol

File Type: Ordinance

SUBJECT:

Introduction of Ordinance No. 16-1002, Repealing One Section of Chapter 12.08 Section 40 and Adopting a New Chapter 12.32 - Heritage Trees

RECOMMENDED ACTION (Motion):

Adopt Ordinance No. 16-1002, amending Oregon City's Heritage Tree Ordinance (OCMC 12.08.040 - Heritage Trees and Groves).

BACKGROUND:

The Planning Commission and Natural Resources Committee recommend approval of the revisions to the Heritage Tree Ordinance.

The Planning Commission recommended approval of the proposed revisions on December 14, 2015. At the direction of the City Commission, between June and October 2014, planning staff and the Natural Resources Committee (NRC) drafted amendments to the Heritage Tree Code.

The purpose of this Code is to recognize, foster appreciation and provide for voluntary protection of heritage trees. The proposed revisions provide clearer guidance to staff and applicants regarding this process.

A primary concern for the Planning Commission is the provision of incentives for property owners to voluntarily designate heritage trees. Please see the attached memorandum with recommendations from the Planning Commission regarding this concern.

To date, there have been five Heritage Tree and one Heritage Grove nominations approved by the City Commission. See <http://www.orcity.org/planning/heritage-trees-and-groves> for details.