

City of Oregon City

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Legislation Text

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Natural Resources Committee Update

RECOMMENDED ACTION (Motion):

Staff is bringing this item forward for discussion. A letter from NRC Chair Ginger Redlinger will be available at the worksession.

BACKGROUND:

The duties generally of the natural resources committee are to review the quality and condition of the ecological, geological, aesthetic, and other natural resources of Oregon City and adjacent areas, and assist the city in developing and implementing policies and plans to protect, restore, and enhance these resources and the environmental quality of the city and adjacent areas. The natural resources committee, through staff, may recommend actions to the city commission, planning commission, and parks and recreation advisory committee. The committee is charged with assisting the city in carrying out the heritage tree program defined in Oregon City Code. Other activities are defined by the committee's bylaws, which were adopted by the city commission by resolution (Resolution No. 04-29).

The NRC is a full committee of seven members with strong backgrounds and experience in education, natural resources, ecology and biology.

The Natural Resources Committee accomplished the following significant tasks from 2013 to present: Served as the City's Tree Sub-Committee for the 3rd year as a Tree City USA.

Reviewed and provided feedback on the Stormwater and Erosion Control code and standards.

Reviewed and commented on the Cove project.

Revised NRC bylaws to simplify the NRC's scope of activities to be more realistic (not yet adopted).

Revised the Heritage Tree Code (not yet adopted, pending Planning Commission review).

Revised the City's recommended Street Tree list (adopted).

Reviewed and recommended five (5) heritage tree nominations and one Heritage Grove nomination.

Reviewed and commented on several Natural Resource Overlay District land use applications.

Improved coordination and communication with the city staff, non-profits and other advisory committees with natural resource management responsibilities.

The NRC looks forward to the worksession.

Copies of the NRC's adopted bylaws, ordinance, draft bylaws revisions and current workplan are attached.