CITY OF GRESHAM

URBAN FORESTRY SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES

Date:	10-19-2026
Time:	4:30 – 6:15 pm
Place:	Virtual Zoom Meeting
Attending:	**UFS**: Jim Buck, Keith Warren, Rayne MacGeorge, Lakyn Jacoby, Kyle Leslie-Christy **Staff:** Torrey Lindbo (Staff Liaison), Hayley Hamann, Terra Wilsoxson, Gabby Sinagra, Tabitha Boschetti **Council Liaison**: **PC Liaison:**

Agenda Item #2 – Public Comments	
Discussion:	• No public comment.
Decisions:	• N/A
Action:	• N/A

Agenda Item #3 – Approval of Meeting Minutes	
Discussion:	• No corrections or suggested edits.
Decisions:	• September 21, 2026, minutes approved unanimously.
Action:	• Hayley will finalize and post to webpage.

Agenda Item #4 – Tree Code	
Discussion:	• Gabby, Terra, and Tabitha from Urban Design and Planning joined to present the latest on the tree code updates. There have been several changes to tree-related codes over the past several years. Key items being updated now include the approved tree list, updates to development, as well as creating a companion tree guidebook. • New site tree requirements will add a requirement for 1 tree per 5,000 square feet of landscape area in industrial areas (no standard before) and will also limit the discretionary requests in all design districts, except Town Centers. • Tree removal permits would fall into 3 categories – A, B, and C. A is for removal of up to 10 smaller trees (<36" DBH). B is for up to 10 trees that are hazard trees. C is for sites with >10 trees or significant trees. • Introducing a scaled approach for tree preservation to provide credits for sites that keep existing larger trees. • Updated tree list is based on space available in various locations (e.g. larger trees required in wider planting strips). There are also spacing requirements for various tree sizes and how far they should be from other trees, buildings, etc. • Tree removal fees for type C removal permits will be changed. The plan is to have City Council approve that change at a separate meeting than code adoption, but to align with the effective date. The fees will go into a tree account that the City uses for streamside planting, planting on low canopy streets, replacement of damaged street trees, and planting in tree-deficient neighborhoods. • Draft code comments are due by October 26. Next steps include a Planning Commission hearing on November 9 and the City Council hearing on December 8. Enactment is expected sometime in January 2027.
Decisions:	• N/A

Action:	• UFS members have the draft code and should share any feedback they have with Terra by October 26.

Agenda Item #5 – UFS Member and Staff Updates	
Discussion:	• Rayne and Kyle did a site visit to the Miyawaki forest site to follow up on the application for the area to become a significant grove. Both were impressed with the vegetation growth over the past 1-3 years, as well as the enthusiasm and information that the property owners have about their demonstration site. Chair Buck also paid another visit to the site, and all 3 agreed that the site is impressive and it would be great to educate other Gresham residents about the Miyawaki method and pocket forests – perhaps via the UFS web page? • Torrey followed up with Transportation staff to see what pruning standards they follow. The information that Torrey got from our Transportation Department is that new staff are typically educated on the process by staff that have been around for longer, but there is not a documented policy and procedure that all staff follow. Developing clearer more detailed guidance is something they have discussed developing but is not yet in place. UFS expressed concern that the City should be setting an example for the community at following our own code.
Decisions:	• UFS members decided that the Miyawaki forest would not be something they would recommend as a significant grove at this time but would like to write a letter that acknowledges the work that Ann and Rolf have accomplished and encourage them to continue sharing information about the process.
Action:	• Chair Buck will draft a letter to the property owners who nominated their Miyawaki forest to be a significant grove • Chair Buck will draft a letter from UFS to the Gresham Transportation Department encouraging development of tree pruning standards that city crews follow, which will, at a minimum, meet the standards required by code

Adjournment	
	• The meeting adjourned at 6:15pm. • The next meeting is scheduled for November 16, 2026.
Meeting Recording Link: *These minutes were approved by the Urban Forestry Subcommittee on November 16, 2026.* https://greshamoregon.zoom.us/rec/share/NESdy6MKN8EU4l4gXDYu095nfQrpSH-oyiQNo7EukQnChFAR4T-MTmsYl267Lpl4.ONumCubm43fPDU9L	