



PORTLAND PARKS & RECREATION™

Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland

Urban Forestry Heritage Tree Items

Presentation for Urban Forestry Commission

August 2022

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Agenda

- **Overview of Heritage Tree Program (10 mins)**
 - Program Background
 - Role of UFC
- Heritage Tree #265: Request for Tree Removal (30 mins)
- Heritage Tree #206: Request for Removal of Designation (15 mins)

Photo by Steve Terrill





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Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland

Heritage Tree Program

portland.gov/trees/heritage

Recognizes trees of:

- Unique size
- Age
- Historical significance
- Horticultural significance

Designated by City Council

Photo by Steve Terrill





Baseline Criteria:

- In City of Portland
- Non-nuisance species
- In good health
- Space for roots and crown

- City Council designates per 11.20.060.D



Photo by Steve Terrill



Designation

D. Designation. The Urban Forestry Commission (UFC) makes a recommendation to City Council as to whether a tree should be designated as a Heritage Tree. A recommendation to designate a tree shall be supported by at least six members of the UFC. City Council may designate a tree if it finds that the tree's health, aerial space, and open ground area for the root system have been certified as sufficient by an arborist.



Roles and Responsibilities

Urban Forestry:

- Program Management
- Permitting and Inspections
- Emergency Removals

Heritage Tree Committee:

- Nominations review and recommendations to UFC
- Education and outreach
- Measurements and inspections





Roles and Responsibilities

Urban Forestry Commission:

- Reviewing nominations
- Reviewing requests of removal
- Reviewing requests for removal of designation (de-listing)

City Council:

- Designates Heritage Trees
- Removes Designation





How are Heritage Trees Removed?

11.20.060.F. Heritage Tree Removal.

Heritage Trees may be removed only with the consent of the UFC, except as provided in Subsection I., below. The UFC shall hold a public hearing on a request to remove a Heritage Tree. Consent to remove the tree shall be supported by at least six members of the UFC.

11.20.060.I. Emergencies.

1. If the City Forester determines that a Heritage Tree is dangerous and is a threat to public safety, the City Forester may order the tree to be removed without prior consent from the UFC.



Removal of Designation

11.20.060.E Removal of Designation

The UFC makes a recommendation to City Council as to whether the Heritage Tree designation should be removed from a tree. A recommendation to remove the designation shall be supported by at least six members of the UFC. City Council may remove the designation if it finds that the designation is no longer appropriate.



Agenda

- Overview of Heritage Tree Program
- Heritage Tree #265:
Request for [Tree Removal](#)
- Heritage Tree #206:
Request for [Removal of Designation](#)

Photo by Steve Terrill

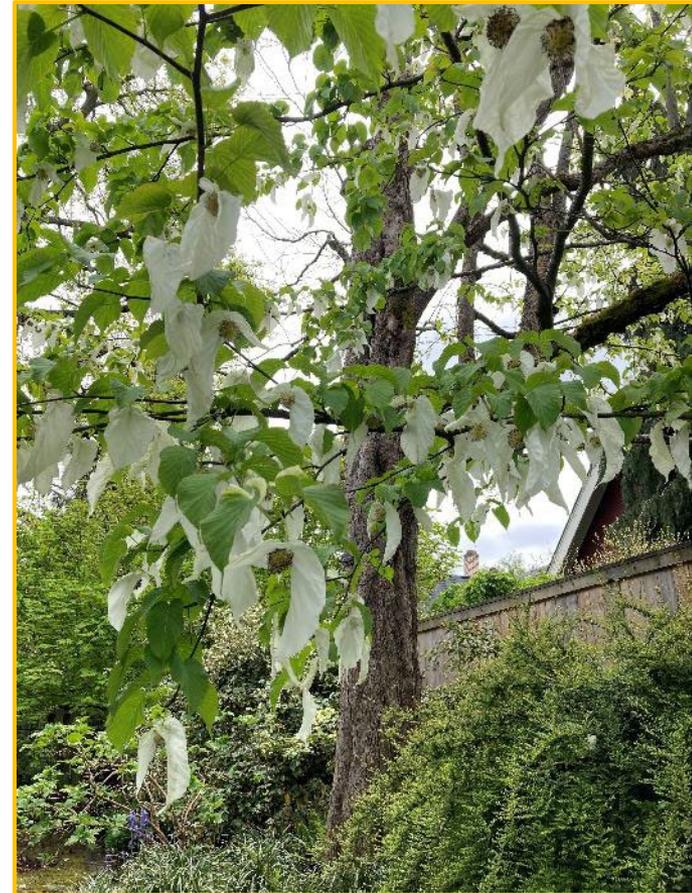




Heritage Tree #265: Public Hearing - Request for Tree Removal

Tree: *Davidia involucrate*
var. vilmorinia
Hardy Dove Tree

Location: 4014 NE Laurelhurst Pl
private tree



Process:

- 1) Property owner submitted a permit application for tree removal. Tree in decline and concern for safety.
- 2) Removal request triggers Notice of Public Hearing at UFC per Title 11
- 3) UF conducts inspection
- 4) Public Hearing





Public Hearing:

- 1) Urban Forestry presents condition assessment
- 2) Public testimony heard/reviewed
- 3) UFC discuss/asks questions
- 4) Motion to either:
 - a) approve Removal Request and recommend Removal of Designation to City Council
 - b) deny Removal Request
- 5) If “a,” then vote to Remove Tree/Recommend Removal of Designation shall be supported by at least 6 members of the UFC



11.20.060

F. Heritage Tree removal. Heritage Trees may be removed only with the consent of the UFC, except as provided in Subsection I., below. The UFC shall hold a public hearing on a request to remove a Heritage Tree. Consent to remove the tree shall be supported by at least six members of the UFC.

I. Emergencies.

1. If the City Forester determines that a Heritage Tree is dangerous and is a threat to public safety, the City Forester may order the tree to be removed without prior consent from the UFC.

11.80.020

B.36.b. "Dangerous Tree" is one where the condition of the tree presents a foreseeable danger of inflicting damage that cannot be alleviated by treatment or pruning. A tree may be dangerous because it is likely to injure people or damage vehicles, structures, or development, such as sidewalks or utilities.

Tree Photos – Heritage Tree #265

Spring 2012 and Spring 2022 observations:

- Photo A – from 2012
- Photo B – from 2022 showing declining canopy
- Photo C – from 2012 showing trunk base





Spring 2022 observations:

- Photos D & E
 - decay and missing bark around circumference of trunk base
- Photos F & G
 - soil probe inspection resulted in better understanding of decay and resulting compromised structural integrity
- Overall vigor, health, and structure of this tree is in advanced decline.





Urban Forestry Assessment

Tree is in in an advanced state of decline.

- Approximately 35-40% of the circumference of the tree is absent of cambium.
- There is concern for safety of residents and property, including the neighbor behind the property that is close to the tree.

11.40.040.A.4.b

- **A.4.b. “Dying Trees”** is where the **tree is in an advanced state of decline** because it is diseased, infested by insects, or rotting and cannot be saved by reasonable treatment or pruning, or must be removed to prevent spread of the infestation or disease to other trees or is imminently likely to be become a danger or die...



Public Testimony:

- 1) Heritage Tree Committee supports this request
- 2) Other written or spoken testimony?

- **UFC discussion and questions?**

- **Motion to either:**

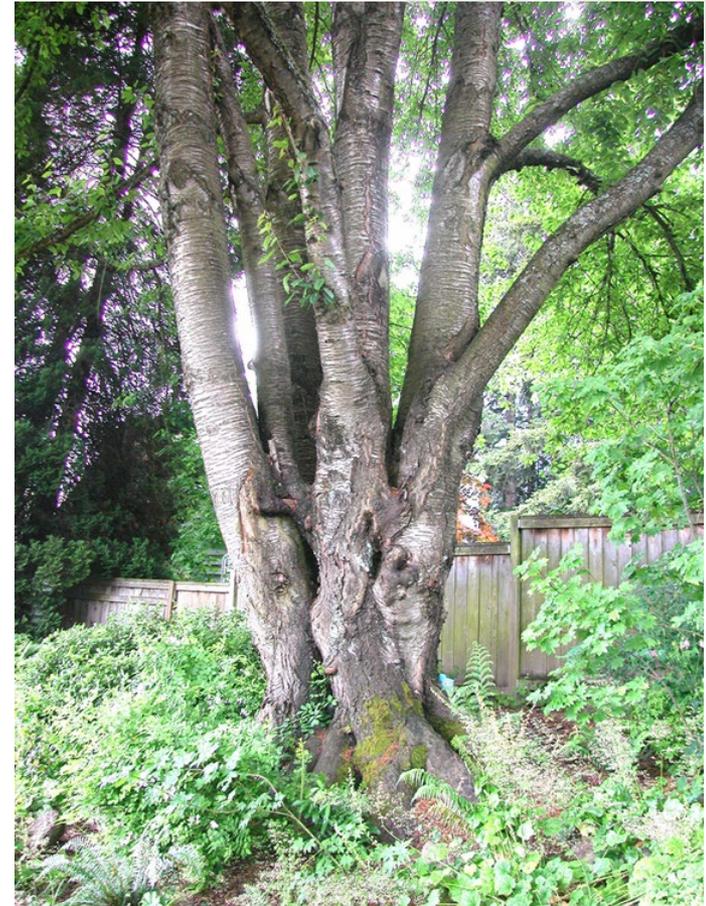
- a) approve Removal Request and recommend Removal of Designation to City Council
- b) deny Removal Request

(Vote to Remove shall be supported by at least 6 members of the UFC)

Heritage Tree #206: Request for Removal of Designation

Tree: *Prunus avium*
Royal Ann Cherry

Location: 3415 SE Kelly St
private property





Process:

- 1) Property owner submits “Request to Delist” form, with explanation and supporting documents
- 2) Per Title 11.020.060.E (Removal of Designation):

The UFC makes a recommendation to City Council as to whether the Heritage Tree designation should be removed from a tree. A recommendation to remove the designation shall be supported by at least six members of the UFC. City Council may remove the designation if it finds that the designation is no longer appropriate.



UFC:

- 1) Review request
- 2) Review supporting documentation (in this case, assessment provided by Urban Forestry)
- 3) Discussion/Q&A
- 4) UFC Motion to either:
 - a) Recommend Removal of Designation to City Council
 - b) Not Recommend Removal of Designation to City Council
- 5) If “a,” vote to Recommend Removal of Designation shall be supported by at least 6 members of the UFC



Is designation no longer appropriate?

Consider whether the tree is in good health:

- 1) Review request by property owner
- 2) Review supporting documentation (in this case, assessment provided by Urban Forestry)
- 3) Review by Heritage Tree Committee



Supporting Documentation (in packets)

DELISTING REQUEST INFORMATION	
Today's Date	4/29/2022
Heritage Tree Number	206
Heritage Tree Address	3415 SE KELLY ST PORTLAND 97202
Heritage Trees are trees that because of their age, size, type, historical association or horticultural value, are of special importance to the City. Please describe why the Heritage Tree designation is no longer and appropriate for this tree.	<p>REQUESTING DELISTING DUE TO POOR HEALTH AND POTENTIAL HAZARD.</p> <p>TREE IS MULTISTEM 80-100' TALL ONE STEM IS LEANING SLOWLY BUT PROGRESSIVELY AWAY FROM VERTICAL.</p> <p>FUNGUS NOTED ON TREE BARK BASE WITH SPLITTING OF BARK WHICH D. SAID SAID WAS TREE'S ATTEMPT TO HEAL ITSELF FROM FUNGUS.</p>
Please describe any supporting evidence attached to this form.	SEE RECORDS FOR GENERAL TREE SERVICE PRUNING SERVICES COORDINATING WITH HERITAGE TREE DEPT. PERSONNEL

REQUESTOR INFORMATION	
Name	MARY RUIT, KATHRYN ELWERT
Organization	-
Mailing Address	3415 SE KELLY ST
City, State, Zip	PORTLAND OR 97202
Phone	503 475-5595
Email	maryru99@aol.com
Relationship to the property where trees are located	OWNERS
What is the best way to contact you?	<input type="checkbox"/> Email <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phone
Requestor Name: MARY RUIT	Requestor Signature: Date: 4/29/2022
Submit the completed request to trees@portlandoregon.gov	



Tree Photos - Heritage Tree #206

Crown senescence

The late stage of a tree's life characterized by a decline in the volume of the crown and root system.

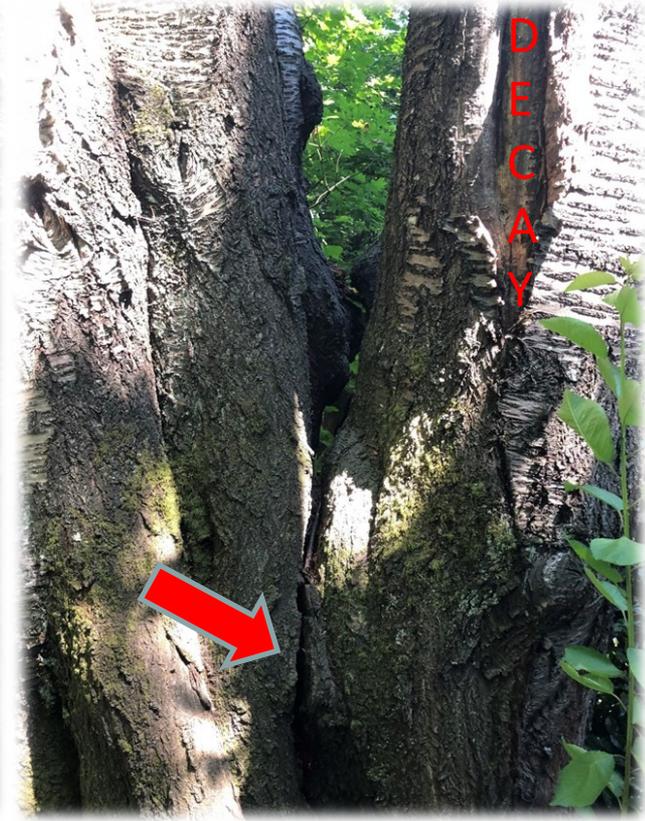


Once a tree can no longer sustain the resources it needs to stay alive, it will begin to “senesce” or deteriorate with age. During senescence, the tree's once-strong defense system will weaken, inviting a slew of insects, diseases, and other natural predators to feast on the tree. Meanwhile, decomposers, such as bacteria and fungi, weasel their way in and break down woody tissue. Eventually, the tree falls.



Tree Photos - Heritage Tree #206

Bark inclusions on both sides of the main stem, showing separation of natural bracing between stems.





Heritage Tree Committee (HTC) Review

- HTC met property owner and viewed the tree
- Agree with Urban Forestry Assessment and support Property Owner Request
 - Tree is in decline
 - Stems are separating, reducing structural integrity
 - Lack of sound wood for cabling



Next steps:

UFC discussion and questions?

- Motion to either:

- a) Recommend Removal of Designation to City Council
- b) Not Recommend Removal of Designation to City Council

(Vote to Remove shall be supported by at least 6 members of the UFC)