City of Portland

Portland Parks & Recreation
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503-823-2525

Portland Urban Forest Plan
Proposed Draft

Date: August 11, 2025

To: Urban Forestry Commission

From: Brian Landoe, Strategy & Planning Maner

CC: Jenn Cairo, City Forester; Belinda Judelman, Planning & Policy Analyst

The Proposed Draft of the Portland Urban Forest Plan (The Plan) is available for your review: Portland Urban Forest Plan | Portland.gov.

Urban Forestry Commission's Recommendation

At the August 2025 meeting of the UFC, the Commission will be asked to vote to formally submit The Plan to City Council. The UFC may recommend changes to the Proposed Draft, though substantive changes may result in a delay in the City Council's adoption of the plan. The UFC will also need to approve a transmittal statement to Council which will occupancy The Plan. Staff will provide a draft for the Commission's review, changes, and approval.

City Council Adoption

The Climate, Resilience, and Land Use Committee is scheduled to consider The Plan as recommended by the UFC at their September 11th meeting. Public testimony may be accepted at this hearing.

With the Committee's approval, The Plan will be submitted to the full City Council for adoption. A Council hearing date has not been secured but could occur as early as Wednesday, September 17th. Public testimony will be accepted.

Summary of Changes to the Proposed Draft

Section	Changes
Chapter 1: Background	• Minor updates to the text in the introduction, including revisions to the plan purpose • Updates to the tree benefits and services section to better highlight the role trees play in climate resilience • Simplification of one of the tree benefits graphics based on UFC feedback
Chapter 2: Plan Process	• Updates to Community Outreach highlights to reflect additional outreach conducted during draft plan public comment period • Additional context about community engagement activities and priorities

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	• Revised community priorities call outs to reflect additional priorities heard during the public comment phase
Chapter 3: Portland's Urban Forest Today	• Minor text revisions to nearly all discussions in the section, including more substantive revisions informed by community, UFC, or CAC member feedback to: ○ neighborhood canopy cover, ○ land use and zoning, ○ role of streets and canopy ○ Acknowledgement of development's role in tree removal ○ Updates to bureau roles and responsibilities ○ Updated summary of Metro's role • Revised discussions in considerations for urban forest management to Climate Change, Extreme Weather, Wildfire, Urban Design and Development, and Tree Establishment and Maintenance sections to address challenges, opportunities and highlight impacts of urban heat • New discussion of the roles of trees in water quality and aquatic habitat and City's need to meet Oregon Department of Environmental Quality requirements
Chapter 4: Community Vision and Goals	• Minor updates to the vision and goals to communicate role of trees in creating a sense of place and identity • Minor updates to goals to emphasize importance of building relationships and improving coordination with community organizations • Minor update to goals to emphasize need to improve coordination within the city
Chapter 5: Recommendations and Implementation Strategy	• Minor changes to the implementation strategy: ○ Clarify opportunities for community partnerships to the extent feasible with a long-term plan ○ Identifies PP&D as lead or support implementor for many more actions than before, as result of recent Council amendment ○ Minor edits to a few actions to simply text; no changes to the substance or activities covered
Chapter 6: Tracking Process and Accountability	No Changes
Glossary	Minor updates to glossary entries based on public suggestions, and new text