



City of McMinnville
Planning Department
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MINUTES

June 21, 2023
Landscape Review Committee
Regular Meeting

12:00 pm
ZOOM Meeting
McMinnville, Oregon

Members Present: Carlton Davidson, Brain Wicks, and Patty Sorensen
Members Absent: Jamie Fleckenstein and John Hall
Staff Present: Tom Schauer – Senior Planner and Jessica Payne – City Councilor
Guests Present:

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Sorensen called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

2. Citizen Comments

None

3. Approval of Minutes

None

4. Action Item

A. L 24-23: Street tree removal for Harold Strahle, 852 SW Sitka Dr. (Tax Lot R4419DC 8310)

Senior Planner Schauer presented the street tree removal application of an Ash tree that was in close proximity to underground utilities and was pushing the sidewalk up. It met the criteria for removal without being replaced.

Marianne Strahle, applicant, was eager to get the application approved.

Committee Member Wicks moved to approve L 24-23 with conditions. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Sorensen and passed unanimously.

5. Discussion Items

Senior Planner Schauer discussed a street tree removal application in one of the tree removal districts. That tree would be replaced, but he noticed the adjacent property had removed a tree in 2019 that had not been replaced. It was also in a district, and staff would follow up. He then

discussed the tree plan for Oak Ridge Meadows and the substitutions that had been approved in March.

Committee Member Sorensen voiced concerns about the plants dying in subdivisions, especially because they were not watered, and the responsibility of the homeowner.

Senior Planner Schauer explained the process of plan approvals, staff inspections for compliance, and replacement of any dead trees/plants by the applicant in the first year.

There was discussion regarding when code enforcement would get involved and how homeowners did not understand what their responsibility was regarding dead trees. There was further discussion regarding the need for larger caliper trees, the reasons the plants were dying in recent subdivisions, education for homeowners/developers to take care of the trees, how it took 2-3 years until new trees were established, putting an education article in the newspaper, and need for adequate nursery stock for two-inch caliper.

There was consensus that the focus should be on education and outreach, reviewing standards for landscape plans, and redefining street tree goals. They wanted to set subdivisions up for success with the right type of tree and follow through for the trees to be able to survive.

6. Committee Comments

None

7. Staff Comments

Senior Planner Schauer said the landscape and tree removal draft amendments went to the Planning Commission who continued the hearing to July. The amendments better clarified when a landscape plan was needed. There would be further discussion regarding when a City public works or parks project needed to be reviewed by the LRC.

The next LRC meeting would be held on July 7.

8. Adjournment

Vice Chair Sorensen adjourned the meeting at 1:12 p.m.