



Tree Board

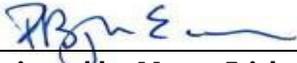
This meeting will be held remotely via Zoom AND in person
At City Hall Third Floor Conference Room

Phone: 253-215-8782/ 812 5942 2157 Passcode 474932

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81259422157?pwd=VElkdnpuTk5lOGlCVGd4UWVVSdTdyZz09>

Subject	Meeting Agenda	Date	01/09/2023
Recorder	Pat Hightower	Start Time	7:00 PM
Committee Chair	Terri Jones	End Time	9:00 PM
Committee Members	Bess Bronstein, Janet Brown, Gayle Larson, Jim Leary, Jenise Bauman		
Staff Present	Rachel Cornette Parks and Recreation; Joe Walker, Public Works; Kevin McFarland, Sound Urban Forestry, Heather Wright, and Edie Berghoff, Planning and Economic Development		

Agenda		
<p>Poulsbo is committed to being a welcoming, diverse, and equitable community where all people can access tools and opportunities to improve their quality of life, allowing them to reach their full potential. During its meetings, the Poulsbo City Council will use this lens to inclusively view its discussions and actions.</p>		
No.	Topic	Action/Recommendation/Discussion
1.	Administrative:	
	a. Questions & Concerns of the Committee	
	b. Agenda and Extended Agenda Review	
	c. Approval of minutes 11.14.22	
2.	Comments from Citizens	
3.	Agenda Items:	
	a. Tree Retention Project	
	b. Fall tree planting recap	
	c. Aftercare of Trees	
	d. Paid internship for tree planting oversight	
4.	Committee Reports	
5.	Department Reports	
6.	Miscellaneous Board Comments	


 Reviewed by Mayor Erickson

The committee may add and discuss other items not listed on the agenda.

IT IS REQUESTED THAT ATTENDEES LIMIT THE USE OF SCENTED PRODUCTS (PERFUME, COLOGNE, HAIR SPRAY, AFTER SHAVE, LOTION, FABRIC SOFTENER, ETC.). FRAGRANCES CAN BE TOXIC SUBSTANCES TO SOME PEOPLE, CAUSING RESPIRATORY OR NEUROLOGICAL DISABLING ALLERGIC REACTIONS. THIS REQUIREMENT IS CONSISTENT WITH THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT FOR A BARRIER-FREE ENVIRONMENT.

TO REQUEST AN ALTERNATIVE FORMAT OF THE PRINTED AGENDA, CONTACT THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE AT 360.394.9880.

PARA SOLICITAR UN FORMATO ALTERNATIVO DE LA AGENDA IMPRESA, COMUNÍQUESE CON LA OFICINA DEL CITY CLERK AL 360.394.9880.



City of Poulsbo Tree Board

Subject	Meeting Minutes	Date	11/14/22
Recorder	Rachel Cornette	Start Time	7:00 pm
Committee Chair	Terri Jones	End Time	8:56 pm
Committee Members	Janet Brown, Joan Hett, Bess Bronstein, Jim Leary, Gayle Larson, Jenise Bauman		
Staff Present	Rachel Cornette, Parks & Recreation; Kevin McFarland, City Arborist; Joe Walker, Public Works		

No.	Topic	Action/Recommendation/Discussion
1.	Questions and Concerns of the Committee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussed <input type="checkbox"/> Recommended to Council <input type="checkbox"/> Further Action Requested: None.
2.	Agenda and Extended Agenda Review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussed <input type="checkbox"/> Recommended to Council <input type="checkbox"/> Further Action Requested: Additional Agenda Item presented by Joan Hett regarding longtime project completion. To be placed right before New Member Recruitment
3.	Approval of Minutes: 9/12/22	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussed <input type="checkbox"/> Recommended to Council <input type="checkbox"/> Further Action Requested: M/S/A JL/JH
4.	Comments from Citizens	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussed <input type="checkbox"/> Recommended to Council <input type="checkbox"/> Further Action Requested: None
5.	Tree Retention Project	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussed <input type="checkbox"/> Recommended to Council <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further Action Requested: Rachel will confirm special meeting requirement. Terri will finalize the draft by November 23 rd . Terri presented an update on the sub committee status. The meetings provided good input, but were relatively short. Terri agreed to take that info and incorporate it with her own into a draft to be sent to the board and Kevin for comments. Draft was completed through item 4, but was not completed in time for this meeting to collaborate with Planning and Economic Development as originally intended. Bess suggested special meeting solely to discuss the drafted response. Special meeting to be scheduled on December 5 th , 2022 after some discussion on whether it need to be an officially publicized meeting. Jim congratulated Terri for all of her hard work thus far. Motion to have a special meeting for tree retention brainstorm M/S/A BB/ JL
6.	Community Tree Planting- Fall 2022	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussed <input type="checkbox"/> Recommended to Council <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further Action Requested: Jenise will email committee with itinerary on 11/16, and will touch base in January to report out with a power point and follow up on green fir planting. The next lab on Jan. 27 th could plant them. Scheduled for 11/ 18. Jenise will be carrying out a live stake cedar and hemlock planting at Poulsbo's Fish park as supported via purchase from the

		city's Soil and Water conservation fund, but it won't be a fully public planting, mostly educational in collaboration with Kevin Eyres led NKHS students. Jim asked if we need green firs. Oaks will also be moved. Jenise wasn't sure we needed green firs, but they can be dug up until March, if not. Joan recommended we wait until there is more deep soil moisture.
7	Committee Reports	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussed <input type="checkbox"/> Recommended to Council <input type="checkbox"/> Further Action Requested: <p>Education: Bess suggested that a decision be made about what will be presented in winter 2023. Prunings are popular. Kevin, Jim and Bess will coordinate. Jenise also brought up Arbor Day being more educational versus planting heavy since spring leads into our dryer season. Bess reflected on a Waterfront park outreach event in the past. Gayle suggested better marketing and Bess agreed that the audience would be better suited by flyers at the library or nurseries or in public places versus solely electronic. Perhaps an article with the paper. Focus on tough trees to be used in tough times. Discussion about renting a spot at the Farmer's market or potentially as a non-profit. Joan mentioned that when we have a booth, like as we did at Salmon Tours, there wasn't specific info about Tree board educational offerings. Bess suggested if we DID do it at the market, that it be the week prior, for Earth Day/Arbor day. Earth day booth could promote a tree planting on the 29th. Coordination about March dates will happen prior to brochure submission. Special Events: Joan and Jim not entirely sure that there is a committee, but events like Salmon Tours have happened through main board coordination. The booth was a hit, especially due to leftover Halloween candy. Do that again and reel them in! Also, Arbor Day can still have a tree planting in addition to the booth at the Farmer's market.</p>
8.	Joan Hett Project	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussed <input type="checkbox"/> Recommended to Council <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further Action Requested: Joan will continue to research and report back as a citizen intermittently. <p>Joan thanked everyone for keeping her education going and will miss the board. She requests that she be able to finish the project she started prior to Covid. She would like to continue to investigate tree topping and replacement on public lands as it pertains to our retention and permitting ordinances, especially side clearing and power line clearance. She ran a similar program when she worked for Seattle City Light. The process has a best practice procedure that could be implemented with better oversight from the city and the board. If a tree is removed as a result of the new process, tree board funding could support replacement. Janet discussed PSE circuit cycles and protocols that are in place, and commented that we are headed in the right direction. While no formal motion was made, the board agreed to permit Joan to act as a representative in regards to the project and report back as progress is made.</p>
9.	New Member recruitment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussed <input type="checkbox"/> Recommended to Council <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further Action Requested: Rachel will pursue recruitment via the city and members will follow up with their potential candidates. <p>A few names and criteria were discussed members will follow up. M/S/A GL/TJ</p>
10	Department Reports	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussed <input type="checkbox"/> Recommended to Council <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further Action Requested: Joe will consult with Kevin on a spot to

		<p>relocate the Serbian Spruce. He will also look at availability of a larger tree watering bladder and more tools. Jenise will coordinate and put together a proposal to buy plants using remaining funds.</p> <p>City Arborist: Kevin had a meeting on Oct 11 with Heather Wright from P&ED to touch base about the ordinance.</p> <p>Public Works: No significant die off of trees this summer despite dryness. Raab park water tank will be moved and the board will need to decide where to replant a Serbian Spruce tree that had previously been planted by the board about 10 years ago. If it is to be moved, it will need to be moved by middle to end of January. Kevin suggested to use a front-end loader to get most of the root system out intact. It would be good to have Kevin walk and help identify a spot. By the dog park may be ideal, as there is a water source. Joe also recommended funds be applied to remove a dead, dangerous tree off Viking Ave in right of way. Jenise also suggested using remaining funds if there are any to support the January planting.</p> <p>M/S/A BB/JH Use budget to pay for tree removal and tools</p> <p>M/S/A JB/BB Purchase plants with remaining funds for January planting.</p>
11.	Miscellaneous Board Comments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussed <input type="checkbox"/> Recommended to Council <input type="checkbox"/> Further Action Requested: Joan said farewell, and a celebration was suggested.
9.	Adjournment.	M/S/A JL/JB

SUBJECT: Tree Board response to questions from the Poulsbo Director of Planning (9/15/2022) regarding strengthening the City Tree Retention Ordinance.

TO: HEATHER WRIGHT
Director of Planning and Economic Development,
City of Poulsbo

DATE: December 30, 2022

The Poulsbo Tree Board appreciates the opportunity to partner and provide expertise and recommendations for consideration to strengthen the Poulsbo Municipal Tree Retention Ordinance, Section 18.180.030. The following is our response to your September 15, 2022, requests.

Our interest is to contribute toward the City of Poulsbo becoming a place where mature, healthy, and diverse forest cover thrives and is abundant. This is achieved through tree retention, protection, augmentation, accountability and holding existing trees as a priority.

A change in mindset may be necessary to achieve this goal. It requires increased focus on more retention and protection of trees and greater incorporation of the expertise of the city's designated tree professional (DTP). It also requires increasing accountability for non-compliance and favoring tree retention over developer convenience, efficiency, or reduced expenses. Sometimes it requires designing around retained trees or applying flexibility to subdivision standards (e.g., increasing building height on a lot to reduce fill and save a tree). Realizing and internalizing that the long-term benefits of tree retention far outweigh short-term gains is what it takes to truly hold existing trees as a priority and make a meaningful and lasting difference in Poulsbo's mature tree canopy and all that it provides.

The following pages contain tree retention ordinance related content for consideration that is the result of Poulsbo Tree Board subcommittee meetings, a special Tree Board meeting that included the city arborist, written input or information received from members and the city arborist, research, and discussions that occurred during this year's annual field trip to a new subdivision. The following is a compilation of our collective effort to-date.

Response and input to the tree retention ordinance are shown as edits within the narrative of existing ordinance sections, or as possible new tree retention requirements. This format seemed to most effectively communicate our ideas and how they might be applied. The consequence of this format is that more sections of the tree retention code than requested contain input, essentially because suggestions under one section often require changes or additions to other sections to be effective.

Included at the end of this document is a copy of a portion of Chapter 2 of the Poulsbo Comprehensive plan that we found pertinent and insightful.

It is hoped that this feedback is useful! We are interested partnering with you on development of the tree retention ordinance and are particularly interested in generating ideas to consider for an effective enforcement section or any section that would be helpful.

Please contact us if you have any questions or need assistance. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Poulsbo Tree Board

RESPONSE TO TREE RETENTION ORDINANCE REQUESTS

When responding to the city's tree retention ordinance requests, color coding became a necessity to clarify the source or type of content and reduce potential confusion. As a result, the following items in **red** are your requests, and **black** is the existing ordinance. Tree Board content recommendations for consideration are in **blue** or as a **black** line strike through, and general information and comments are in **green**. All content was developed with the intent to support the city in successful retention of more trees.

18.180.010 Purpose.

The purpose of this chapter is to retain trees in the city ~~to in order to preserve and retain clusters of existing trees that~~ contribute **toward Poulsbo becoming a place where mature, healthy, and diverse tree cover is abundant and thrives, preserving and enhancing** to the city's community character, **benefitting residents, visitors, and the environment through the many direct and indirect values achieved by, increased shade, improved air quality, slope stabilization, water benefits, aesthetic qualities, ; maintain and protect property values, and environmental corridors that provide a valuable;** ~~enhance the visual appearance of the city; reduce the impacts of development on the storm drainage system and water resources; and provide a better transition between the various land uses permitted in the city. (Ord. 2013-04 § 2 (Exh. A (part)), 2013)~~ **[Ordinance references have not been checked for currency or applicability]**

18.180.020 Applicability.

Retention of trees shall be ~~evaluated~~ **planned for** during the following:

- A. New development projects in the RL zoning district, including subdivisions, planned residential developments, and nonresidential uses.
- B. New development projects in the RM/RH zoning districts, including multifamily developments; live/work and mixed use; assisted living, congregate care facilities and the like; and nonresidential uses.
- C. New development projects in the C-3 zoning district that are located east of Tenth Avenue, from Lincoln Avenue to Forest Rock Lane.
- D. New projects utilizing master plan overlay provisions. (Ord. 2013-04 § 2 (Exh. A (part)), 2013)

Adding a future requirement for tree retention on home lots would further increase the mature tree canopy in Poulsbo and multiply the benefits. Example home lot retention ordinances that currently exist are numerous and include, Mill Creek, Seattle, Bainbridge Island, etc., and might be useful to evolving the Poulsbo retention ordinance (18.180.020). Additionally, "home lots" would need to be included in the Applicability list (18.180.030). Some questions to consider if developing a home lot tree retention ordinance include:

- a) Would tree removal permits be required?
- b) If so, would permits require a tree risk assessment performed by a qualified professional to be submitted to the city?
- c) If required, would the landowner pay for the tree risk assessment(s)?
- d) What factors would guide the requirements for tree retention on small home lots during subdivision development and after lots are sold? (e.g., species, diameters, spatial distribution, condition, proximity to utilities, environmental benefits, etc.)?
- e) Would there be a percentage, or number of trees to be retained at a minimum based on existing conditions?
- f) Would exceptions be allowed for removal and how would they be fairly handled? (Commercial nurseries, tree farms, emergencies necessary to protect public safety, harvesting with a Washington State Department of Natural Resources Class II or III forest practices permit and Poulsbo permit, trees relocated to an off-site property within the city, etc.)
- g) What would be the appeal process?
- h) How would enforcement/accountability work (Fines, replacement, both, etc.)?
- i) How is the final decision made regarding tree retention/removal and who makes it?
- j) Would the penalty for removal or damage in violation of the retention code on residential properties be different from other properties? If so, how?
- k) What would be the remedial measures?
- l) Etc.

The feasibility of using “lots” during subdivision development to increase the area available to meet tree retention goals is not currently very effective as the trees retained by the developer are often not retained by the subsequent homeowner, defeating the purpose of retention. An ordinance that requires homeowners to retain trees would increase the potential for developers to meet retention requirements. A homeowner tree retention ordinance could apply to all homeowners in Poulsbo, or perhaps only to those purchasing homes built after a new ordinance was established, etc.

If the City of Poulsbo chooses to develop a tree retention ordinance for “Homeowners”, Tree Board expertise is available for assistance.

1) Please add to, remove, and rank these priorities.

Tree Board members initially prioritized the following items as requested, but it was subsequently decided at the special Tree Board meeting that effective priority rankings are dependent on site specific conditions. Consequently, additions and subtractions were made, but priorities were not assigned because they were not seen as flexible enough to address site specific conditions and retain larger trees.

18.180.030 Retention required. The following are related to actions listed in the previous Applicability Section 18.180.020 of the Tree Retention ordinance as it currently exists. Tree retention on homeowner lots mentioned above is not addressed below.

A. In applying the requirement for retention of trees, with the intent to increase existing and future mature tree canopy, the review authority shall facilitate ~~consider the preservation of as many trees in any of the following circumstances as priorities~~ as possible in association with new developments and projects, emphasizing retention of the largest diameter healthy trees that do not pose a risk to persons or property (Current ordinance priority #8). Trees selected for retention shall reflect the following requirements where site specific conditions warrant.

1. Preserve wind firmness of retained trees by selecting trees that occur ~~Trees located within healthy vegetated groups and stands, rather than as isolated trees scattered throughout the site~~ or individual trees that have grown all or most of their life without significant competition from other trees (open grown), or trees that have had time to adapt to growing in open conditions. Wind firmness assessment requires field verification by the Designated Tree Professional (DTP)
2. Retain the largest healthy trees that are predicted to ~~Trees that have a reasonable chance of survival once the site is developed.~~ Assume compliant implementation of the most current and pertinent American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standards that apply to tree, shrub, and other woody plant management (A300) and the companion Best Management Practices (BMPs). ANSI (A300) standards and BMP's applied shall not conflict with requirements of the City of Poulsbo Tree Retention Ordinance (e.g., fencing, etc.).

Note: Existing ordinance item numbers 3,4,6,7 and 9 below are blended into the following:

3,4,6,7,9 Emphasize retaining the largest trees that benefit the environment in multiple ways such as having the greatest ability to intercept rain during stormwater peak flow events (i.e., the largest perennial crowns)-Current ordinance priority #9, contributing to species diversity and/or spatial distribution, benefitting habitat quality, providing connective corridors for wildlife, etc. These tree retention conditions combined with the preferred locations listed below provide multiple benefits and shall be emphasized when selecting trees for retention contingent on site specific conditions.

- a) Adjacent to required critical area buffers. (Current ordinance priority #4)
- b) Adjacent to existing forested open space particularly when increasing the length or width of connected forested corridors will benefit wildlife. (Current ordinance priority #7)
- c) Incorporated into a perimeter buffer that screen the site from adjacent properties (Current ordinance priority #6)

- d) Contributes toward required landscaping and setback areas (Current ordinance priority #3)
 - e) Incorporated with recreational amenity areas or tracts (Current ordinance #7)
 - f) Individual open grown or adapted trees, not connected with forested open space (adds spatial distribution for wildlife e.g., birds squirrels, etc.)
3. Trees that can be incorporated into required landscaping and setback areas. [Incorporated into proposed paragraph labeled as 3,4,6,7,9 above]
 4. Trees adjacent to required critical area buffers. [Incorporated into proposed paragraph labeled as 3,4,6,7,9 above]
 5. ~~When trees are in locations that have~~ Trees having a land stability function- (e.g., geologic hazard zones), or in a wetland or riparian zone, or where their removal would impact critical area buffers, or privately owned land they must be retained and protected unless they are determined to be a risk by the city DTP.
 6. Trees that can be incorporated into a perimeter buffer or screen the site from adjacent properties. [Incorporated into proposed paragraph labeled as 3,4,6,7,9 above]
 7. Trees that can be incorporated into required open space and/or recreational amenity areas or tracts. [incorporated into proposed paragraph labeled as 3,4,6,7,9 above]
 8. Trees that will not pose a threat to persons or properties. (Incorporated into "A." above)
 9. ~~Conifers which provide for superior ability to intercept stormwater during high rain events over deciduous trees.~~ [Items that are not crossed out are incorporated into proposed paragraph 3,4,6,7,9 above]

B. Tree Retention Requirement.

1. Expertise related to tree retention such as monitoring, meeting compliance requirements, retention plan review, species replacement review, and performing risk assessments, etc. shall be fulfilled by a certified tree professional that has five or more years' experience, is designated by the City of Poulsbo as their tree representative, and currently has a Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ) from the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA). This Designated Tree Professional will be referred to as DTP (See definitions section for more detail).

- ~~1. At least twenty-five percent of the existing trees which are ten inches in diameter or greater measured four feet six inches above grade and meet the priorities in subsection A of this section, shall be retained. Recommend removing this requirement for the following reasons:~~

Issues that came up with this requirement during our annual field trip (the trip was to a new subdivision), were that there might not be any pre-existing trees 10 inches or greater and therefore no trees would have to be retained even if there were a considerable number of healthy 4-to-8-inch trees close to becoming future mature tree canopy.

Additionally, if the subdivision only had a few pre-existing trees over 10 inches, for example 4, then only 1 tree would be retained when it would be most beneficial and likely feasible to keep all 4 trees plus some smaller trees.

Finally, having only one tree diameter category greatly limits flexibility, diversity of size class and the number of trees that could be beneficially, safely, and feasibly retained while still meeting subdivision size and density requirements.

There will always be unanticipated situations where tree retention requirements cannot be met even with the best effort. This makes it difficult to draft effective retention requirements that substantially increase tree retention while still providing the flexibility to resolve unpredictable retention issues. Consequently, an exceptions section is needed and proposed to replace the Alternative tree retention option 18.180.040 found later in this document.

After considerable research on how retention and flexibility are handled in other municipalities it was concluded that the tree unit measure system used by many cities including Bainbridge Island and Olympia, allows substitution of small trees for large trees, is not a good way to increase retention of the larger and more beneficial mature canopy.

Although there is not a sure way to achieve desired outcomes, the following is potentially an improvement to the current requirements as it is an additive system for retention of different size classes instead of a substitution system. It would help create a path to increase mature tree canopy and add diversity of size classes in new Poulsbo subdivisions.

The following suggested tree retention requirements would need to be evolved if the 18.180.020 Applicability section of this ordinance was modified to include retention of trees on residential lots.

2. Trees identified for retention require field review by the Designated Tree Professional (DTP) and approval by the Director of Planning and Economic Development prior to any site disturbance.

- a) Retain and protect 100% of the healthy conifers over 28 inches in diameter at breast height (DBH) (DBH is measured at 4.5 feet above the ground on the uphill side of the tree) that do not pose a risk to persons or property as determined by the DTP. If the subdivision or project area is too small, or for other substantial reason it is not feasible to meet this tree retention requirement then refer to the “Exceptions to tree retention Section 18.180.040” for resolution.
- b) Retain and protect as many healthy trees 11 to 28 inches in diameter that exist on the site prior to site disturbance as possible. If tree removal in this size class becomes necessary, then retain no less than 50% of the healthy trees with preference toward retention of the largest trees that provide multiple benefits (See 18,180.030(A) regarding multiple benefits). If there are 10 or less trees on site in this diameter range retain them all providing they do not pose a risk to persons or property as determined by the DTP. If the subdivision or project area is too small, or for substantial reason it is not feasible to meet this tree retention requirement refer to the “Exceptions to tree retention Section 18.180.040” for resolution.
- c) Retain and protect as many healthy trees 5 to 11 inches in diameter that exist on the site prior to site disturbance as possible. If tree removal in this size class becomes necessary, then retain no less than 30% of the healthy trees with preference toward retention of the largest trees that provide multiple benefits (See 18,180.030-A regarding multiple benefits). If there are 30 or less trees on site in this diameter range then focus retention on groups of 3 or more providing they do not pose a risk to persons or property as determined by the DTP. If the subdivision or project area is too small, or for substantial reason it is not feasible to meet this tree retention requirement refer to the “Exceptions to tree retention Section 18.180.040” for resolution.
- d) Retain and protect as many healthy trees 2 to 5 inches in diameter that exist on site prior to site disturbance as possible. If tree removal in this size class becomes necessary, then emphasize retention of groups of 7 or more trees that provide multiple benefits (See 18,180.030(A) regarding multiple benefits) and retain species diversity where feasible. Only retain trees that do not pose a risk to persons or property accepted by the DTP. If the subdivision or project area is too small, or for substantial reason it is not feasible to meet the tree retention requirement refer to the “Exceptions to tree retention Section 18.180.040” for resolution.

2. ~~The review authority may approve retention of trees which do not meet the size requirement above as a contribution toward the sum of the diameter inches required if a group of trees and its associated undergrowth can be preserved and falls within one of the priorities identified in subsection A of this section. (Ord. 2016-20 § 2 (Att. A (part)), 2016; Ord. 2013-04 § 2 (Exh. A (part)), 2013)~~ Recommend removing this requirement for the following reasons.

Meeting retention requirements by replacing large trees with small trees without first ensuring that all the options to retain the large trees such as design adjustments, flexibility in subdivision standards, etc. have been explored often result in outcomes that are inadvertently focused on the developer's interests over the City's long-term vision. A loss of mature canopy cover requires decades to recover.

Additionally, small trees are typically densely spaced which supports their survival early in life; however, most of them will soon die as a result of competition for light and water as their growth demands increase. Due to their high mortality, many more small trees would have to be left than what directly add up to the diameter of the large trees removed in order to achieve the concept of replacing lost diameter intended in the above requirement. Using a cumulative diameter or more of smaller trees is not an equivalent compensation for the loss of a larger tree.

Leaving small trees is better than leaving none but is not a substitute for the benefits of doing what it takes to retain the existing large trees that take decades or centuries to replace.

18.180.040 Alternative Exceptions to tree retention option requirements.

The review authority may approve exceptions to an alternative tree retention plan option, when the alternative is one of the following alternatives tree retention requirements cannot feasibly be met:

~~A. Incorporates the replacement of trees equal in equivalent diameter inches as required in Section [18.180.030\(B\)](#). Recommend removing this for reasons described in [18.180.030\(B2\)](#) above.~~

A. Exceptions to tree retention requirements contained in this chapter shall only be permitted when retention focused design adjustments, flexible or alternative interpretation of subdivision standards, etc. cannot accommodate retention ordinance requirements. Evaluation of exceptions shall be performed by the City of Poulsbo Director of Planning and Economic Development using the expertise of the DTP. Acceptable departures that focus on retaining as many large trees as possible shall require a tree removal permit prepared by the DTP and approved by the Director Planning and Economic Development. A fee for processing an exception established by City ordinance shall be paid by the developer.

- B. **Re-labeling of bullets would be necessary if this deletion was made.** Incorporates the retention of other trees and natural vegetation in equivalent diameter inches as required in Section ~~18.180.030~~(B) and is in consolidated locations that promote the natural vegetated character of the site. **Recommend removing this for reasons described in 18.180.030(B2) above.**
- C. Where an ~~alternative proposal~~ **approved exception** includes supplemental or replacement trees in lieu of retention **because there are no other retention options**, the applicant shall utilize plant materials which complement the natural character of ~~the Pacific Northwest, western Washington~~ and which are adaptable to the climatic, topographic, and hydrologic characteristics of the site. A landscape plan is required to be submitted, **the plan and species selected must be reviewed by the DTP and approved by the City of Poulsbo Director of Planning and Economic Development in advance of implementation.**
- D. Where an ~~alternative proposal~~ **approved exception** includes supplemental or replacement trees in lieu of retention, or moving an existing tree **because there are no other retention options** the application shall be required to provide a maintenance assurance device, as set forth in Section ~~18.130.060~~(C) or (D). Ord. 2013-04 § 2 (Exh. A (part)), 2013) **The maintenance assurance device must be reviewed by the DTP and approved by the City of Poulsbo Director of Planning and Economic Development [Ordinance references have not been checked for currency or applicability].**

18.180.050 Reduced landscaped areas.

If a project includes the retention of trees ~~or alternative option~~ above that is required by this chapter, the review authority may approve a reduction of the project's landscaping requirement by the equal amount of square footage the additional tree retention has added; provided, that a project's yard setback landscaping requirement remains unaltered. (Ord. 2013-04 § 2 (Exh. A (part)), 2013) **[Ordinance references have not been checked for currency or applicability]**

18.180.060 Tree retention plan.

A tree retention plan ~~or alternative tree retention option~~ shall be prepared and submitted with the associated land use permit for projects identified in Section 18.180.020.

- A. **All trees 5 inches in diameter or greater existing on site prior to any disturbance associated with development** ~~Trees designated for retention~~ shall be inventoried and shown on the project site plan, plat drawing and/or landscape plan indicating a tagged tree number, diameter to the nearest inch (the mapped circle size scaled to reflect the diameter), species, location, condition (e.g., H,M,L), and designation for retention when applicable. The inventory must also include untagged trees on adjacent properties that appear to have root zones that extend onto the subject property; ~~shall be shown on the project site plan, plat drawing and/or landscape plan~~; a project-specific tree retention written narrative shall be included.

1. The tree retention plan and narrative shall detail how the proposal meets the requirement of this chapter including how Best Management Practice (BMPs) planned to ensure protection of retained trees will be effectively achieved.
 2. Re-labeling of bullets would be needed if this paragraph is included. Only current ANSI A300 standards, definitions, and their companion BMPs that are compatible on a site-specific basis with achieving ordinance requirements shall be proposed by the developer, reviewed by the city DTP for appropriateness, and ordinance compliance, and approved by the Director of Planning and Economic Development prior to implementation. The ANSI A300 Standards do not replace ordinance requirements but supplement them. The DTP may delete or modify aspects of an ANSI A300 or BMP pertinent standard to better meet site specific retention requirements as needed.
2. Tree tract(s), open space tract(s) or other permanent protective mechanism shall be utilized where appropriate to specifically identify the areas set aside for to achieve tree retention requirements.
- B. The city may shall request the city arborist city DTP to review and provide a written recommendation on of the project's proposed tree retention plan to the Director of Planning and Economic Development for action as needed. If requested, Review by the DTP and subsequent monitoring will be at the applicant's expense. (Ord. 2013-04 § 2 (Exh. A (part)), 2013) [Ordinance references have not been checked for currency or applicability]

18.180.70 Tree protection measures.

- A. Prior to initiating tree disturbance, removal and/or and land alteration on the site, (e.g., accessing soil test sites, soil tests, percolation holes, installation of sediment fences, lot clearing, construction trailer placement, laydown areas, utility and road/sidewalk placement, stormwater containment sites etc.) trees and vegetated areas identified during land use permit approval to be preserved shall be maximized, (particularly larger trees) and protected from potentially damaging activities.
1. Tree retention tract(s), open space tract(s) or and other protective mechanism such as protection zones for individual trees designed to protect their crown, stem and roots shall be depicted on all submitted construction or land alteration plans, including but not limited to land clearing and grading permits, final landscape plans, and engineering construction drawings.
 2. Tree retention tract(s), open space tract(s), or and other protective mechanism shall be shown on the face of the plat, binding site plan or

similar documents, with a note on the face describing the purpose for long-term retention.

3. The retained trees ~~should~~ **shall** be drawn to diameter scale, protective measures included in the construction notes **and tree retention plan**, and the detail for protective **6-foot high chain link fencing and signage** included.

B. Re-labeling of the bullets would be needed if this requirement was included.

Protection of retained trees shall include applying ANSI A300 standards and Best Management Practices (BMPs). Only the most current and pertinent ANSI A300 Standards and their companion BMPs (ISA developed) that do not conflict with the City of Poulsbo Tree Retention Ordinance shall be used. The tree retention plan and construction notes will include the ANSI A300 and companion BMP title, year, and item numbers planned for use, including a description of how the BMPs will be achieved.

B. Before land clearing, filling or any land alteration approved through a land clearing or grading permit, the applicant:

1. Shall install a visible ~~protective tree fence~~ **along the outer edge and completely surrounding the Critical Root Zone (CRZ) (dripline/critical root zone)** of all protected trees or groups of trees. Fences shall be constructed of chain link ~~or other approved material~~ and at least ~~four~~ **six feet high and visibly signed to keep out. Unless other type of fencing is authorized by the review authority. (See definition for CRZ Barrier for more detail)**
2. Shall prohibit excavation or compaction of earth or other potentially damaging activities within the ~~barriers~~ **fenced areas.**
3. Shall maintain the protective barriers in place until the **DTP and** review authority authorizes their removal, or a final certificate of occupancy is issued, whichever occurs first **ensuring that no further impact to the CRZ will occur.**
4. Shall ensure that any landscaping done in the ~~tree protected~~ **protection zone** subsequent to the removal of the barriers shall be accomplished **using hand labor and/or without any equipment trafficking within the protected zone. light machinery or hand labor.**
5. In addition to the above, the **Director of Planning and Economic Development** ~~planning director~~ **using the expertise of the city DTP** may require the following:
 - a. **Temporarily** ~~cover~~ areas adjoining the critical root zone with ~~mulch to a depth of at least six inches or with plywood~~ **or mats such as wetland or swamp mats, or similar materials, or a heavyweight**

permeable geotextile material with 4 inches of mulch on top in order to reduce ~~protect roots from~~ damage caused by heavy equipment. All temporary protective coverings shall be removed as soon as possible. Mulching for root protection during construction without a permeable strong geotextile underneath allows heavy equipment to inadvertently mix mulch into the soil causing damage and reduction in soil fertility in the feeder root zone particularly during the mulch decomposition process. Additionally, mulch being forced into the soil severs or crushes many of the feeder roots. This will cause the tree to be more stressed well-beyond completion of construction. Prevention of disturbance and compaction are most effective.

- ~~b. Minimize root damage by excavating a two-foot-deep trench, at edge of critical root zone, to cleanly sever the roots of trees to be retained. [This practice is not focused on tree protection for the long-term, it risks infringement on the critical roots, even if outside the subjectively determined critical root zone with potential to affect the future health and structural integrity of the root system and tree.]~~
 - c. Have corrective pruning directly administered by a certified arborist and done in accordance with International Society of Arboriculture standards performed on protected trees in order to avoid damage from machinery or building activity. Vehicles shall be prohibited from the CRZ
 - d. Maintain trees throughout construction period by regular and appropriate watering and fertilizing. There are many issues with fertilization, it is not recommended during construction operations.
- C. Directional felling of trees shall be used to avoid damage to trees designated for retention. In addition to directional hand felling of trees, feller bunchers, processors, and similar harvesting equipment have a heavy-duty cutting head, typically attached to a boom that performs cutting, holding, guiding and ground placement of trees. With an experienced operator, retained tree damage can be nearly eliminated using this type of equipment.
- D. All construction activities, including staging and traffic areas, shall be prohibited within ~~five feet of the dripline~~ the CRZ of the protected trees.
- E. Where tree retention areas are remote from areas of land disturbance and when reviewed by the DTP and approved by the ~~planning~~ Director of Planning and Economic Development, ~~alternative~~ another form of tree protection may be used in lieu of the ~~tree protection~~ chain link fencing; provided that retained trees are completely surrounded with continuous rope or flagging construction fencing

that is accompanied by “Tree Save Area—Keep Out” signs spaced at 20-foot intervals.

- F. The review authority may require additional tree protection measures as conditions of approval, which are pertinent and consistent with the current accepted urban forestry practices ANSI A300 and the companion BMPs and do not conflict with the current City of Poulsbo Tree Retention Ordinance. (Ord. 2013-04 § 2 (Exh.A(part)), 2013) [Ordinance references have not been checked for currency or applicability]

18.180.080 Long-term tree protection and maintenance.

- A. The trees retained as required by this chapter shall be preserved and maintained as established in the conditions of the land development approval. It is advisable that the land development approval reference the current ANSI A300 Standards and companion BMPs to identify the pertinent protection and maintenance measures that do not conflict with the City of Poulsbo Tree Retention Ordinance. (See ANSI in the definition section for more detail)
- B. The tree retention tract(s), open space tract(s) or other permanent protective mechanisms for tree retention shall be owned and maintained through a homeowners’ association or other common ownership. The face of the plat, binding site plan or similar document shall include a statement(s) that the project’s homeowners’ association or other common ownership will own and maintain the tree retention tracts, and enforce any activities contrary to the retention and preservation of the trees.
- C. The trees retained as required by this chapter may be removed to remedy a hazardous tree or for public safety reasons only, and upon approval by city arborist the certified city Designated Tree Professional (DTP) that has a current ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ) and approval of the Planning Director of Planning and Economic Development.
- D. Pruning of trees retained as required by this chapter may be permitted for maintenance and health of tree(s) or other justifications found acceptable by the city, and upon review and approval of the planning director Director of Planning and Economic Development and city arborist-DTP. Ord. 2013-04 § 2 (Exh. A (part)), 2013) [Ordinance references have not been checked for currency or applicability] Pruning when required, shall be administered by a certified arborist in a manner that complies with current ANSI A300 standards and the companion BMPs established by the ISA.

18.180.??? Appeals of tree retention requirement(s):

If after working through the exception section of the tree retention ordinance to obtain resolution to retention feasibility issues the final decision may be appealed to:

Position?
City of Poulsbo
Address

The City of Poulsbo DTP will provide tree expertise and insight associated with review and response to an appeal at the expense of the developer.

18.180.??? Enforcement, penalties, and rehabilitation

After reviewing tree enforcement ordinances from many cities in western Washington, Oregon, and British Columbia the requirements of the City of Kirkland, WA (See link below) seem to be the most thorough and have consequences significant enough that they truly might make a positive difference in achieving tree retention objectives. Research shows that without a strict tree ordinance, enforcement, and significant consequences for non-compliance, tree retention will remain secondary to other project priorities and generally traded off to address, time, cost, and efficiency associated with meeting construction objectives. To achieve increased tree retention, it must become equally as important as other project objectives.

<https://www.codepublishing.com/WA/Kirkland/html/Kirkland01/Kirkland0112.htm#1.12.100>

The pertinent section is entitled: 1.12.100 Special provisions relating to enforcement of tree regulations. It is in Chapter 95 KZC.

- 2) If we were to charge a fine for the removal of a tree required for retention, would you please provide for us your preference on how the City should spend the fines, i.e., purchase trees for planting on citywide property, to support a full time or part time arborist, etc. (subject to legal review).**

Tree Board Response:

Income from fines would be most beneficial if used in multiple ways. Some flexibility would be provided if categories of possibilities were funded instead of individual items. Possibilities include:

Tree Establishment

- a. Purchase of trees
- b. Labor (i.e., in partnership with WWU etc.)
- c. Soil addition
- d. Tree protection from deer browse or rodents (non-chemical deterrents)
- e. Mulch
- f. Watering bags/rings
- g. Drip Irrigation
- h. Tree establishment equipment (planting shovels, brush cutter, augers, gloves, planting bags etc.)
- i. Site preparation
- j. Tree stakes
- k. Competition reduction

- l. Invasive species reduction
- m. Monitoring/Data collection
- n. Etc.

Tree Enhancement

- 1) Ivy cutback from tree stems
- 2) Pruning
- 3) Thinning of dense young trees (<15 years)
- 4) Individual tree release from vegetation encroachment
- 5) Soil amendments on nutrient deficient sites
- 6) Related supplies (saws, pruners, etc.)
- 7) Labor
- 8) Etc.

Tree Education & Events

- 1) Supplies (i.e., dependable megaphone speaker for outdoors, easels, canopies, foldable tables, chairs, foam core for posters, etc.)
- 2) Trees for planting or giving away to residents.
- 3) Planting equipment (shovels, bags, etc.)
- 4) Education for city employees (i.e. ISA certification, etc.)
- 5) Brochure development
- 6) Copy production for handouts
- 7) Tokens i.e., pencils, litter bags etc.
- 8) Interpretive opportunities
- 9) Arboretum enhancement
- 10) Outside speakers
- 11) Etc.

Tree Expertise from the City DTP and Tree Board Support

- 1) Events
- 2) Meetings
- 3) Field trips
- 4) Education
- 5) Tree acquisition
- 6) Planting
- 7) Code enforcement
- 8) Monitoring (e.g., establishing a baseline of existing city tree canopy shade and periodically re-inventory to monitor the trend and distribution of change and relate it to the benefits provided to share with the community.)
- 9) Etc.

Expansion of Natural Areas

Contribute toward land acquisition to expand City forested or natural areas planned for reforestation.

The city of Kirkland WA has a City Forestry Account. The pertinent section of their tree ordinance is 95.57. It contains 2 sections, 1) Funding Sources and 2) Funding Purposes. It is worth exploring the following link for additional information the City of Poulsbo may want to consider adopting.

<https://www.codepublishing.com/WA/Kirkland/html/KirklandZ95/KirklandZ95.html#95.57>

3) Please review the following definitions and suggest any changes. Also, please propose new definitions, if applicable.

Tree Board Response:

General comments are shown in **green**. Proposed changes for consideration to the definitions section are shown in **blue** or as a **black** line strike through and the existing ordinance definition is shown in **black**.

Some of the following definitions may vary from those found in publications prepared by the International Society of Arboriculture or the ANSI A300. These departures exist to address specific interests of meeting City of Poulsbo objectives and should supersede other definitions.

Additionally, it is likely that the definition section will need to be frequently modified as the tree retention ordinance evolves.

Not all definitions are in alphabetical order because some of them have title changes and were instead kept adjacent to their related existing titles. If any new definitions are used re-alphabetizing will be needed.

“American National Standards Institute (ANSI)” was created to address a recognized need for standardization in many industries with standards based on collaboration, current research, sound practice and accepted principles. In this case, ANSI unifies all known, previously existing tree care industry standards and labels it **ANSI A300** which is applicable to tree, shrub, and other woody plant management [vines]. A300 is divided into multiple parts based on tree care practices (e.g., Soil Management, Tree Risk Assessment, Site Development and Construction, Pruning, Root Management, Planting, etc.). A300 standards provide the parameters within which tree work should take place. They are a minimum. Site specific project objectives associated with meeting tree retention ordinance requirements can be met by building upon the current standards and applying Best Management Practices (BMP's) (See BMP definition below)

For the purposes of the City of Poulsbo Tree Ordinance, references to ANSI require implementation of the most recent version of the relevant ANSI A300 parts and standards and companion BMPs (See BMP definition below) that are in place at the initiation of the project planning phase and do not conflict with any Poulsbo Tree

Ordinance Requirements (e.g. tree protection fencing requirements, etc.). Relevancy and application of selected standards are evaluated by the DTP and approved by the Director of Planning and Economic Development prior to implementation. The A300 performance standards apply to any person or entity engaged in the management of trees, shrubs, or other woody plants in association with City of Poulsbo projects listed in the Tree Retention Ordinance Applicability Section 18.180.020.

Changes to A300 parts and standards may occur as internal ANSI procedures require that action be periodically taken to reaffirm, revise or withdraw standards. The standards are reviewed at least every 5 years.

The ANSI A300 and companion BMP's (see BMP definition below) are regularly updated industry standards that should become a part of any new version of the Poulsbo Tree Retention Ordinance.

“Best Management Practices (BMPs)” are the best available, industry recognized course(s) of action, in consideration of their benefits and limitations, based on scientific research and current knowledge.

For the purposes of the City of Poulsbo Tree Ordinance, references to BMPs require implementation of the most recent version of the relevant ANSI A300 parts, standards, and the companion BMPs that are current at the project planning phase and do not conflict with any Poulsbo Tree Ordinance Requirements.

The companion BMPs to the ANSI A300 parts were developed by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) and are intended to help conserve trees and preserve soils so that trees can continue to provide benefits for decades after construction operations are completed.

~~“Critical root zone” means the area where the majority of the tree’s roots are located. This root zone is generally the area surrounding a tree trunk at a distance equal to one foot for every inch of tree diameter at breast height (DBH). This area is described as the radius of a circle around the tree.~~

“Critical root zone (CRZ)” is the area of soil around a tree where the minimum amount of roots considered critical for structural stability and/or health of the tree are located. (ANSI A300 companion BMPs for Managing Trees During Construction). Essentially, the critical root zone is a biological limit which if breached would likely result in a decline in tree health, loss of structural stability or death. The roots in this zone require protection from all disturbance (i.e., compaction, grading, construction, etc.).

The CRZ is subjective; there is no accepted formula to biologically define it. However, there may be regulations that define it. For the purpose of the City of Poulsbo Tree Retention Ordinance the definition of CRZ shall be at least one foot of radial distance for every 1 inch of Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) (See DBH definition). Protecting this root zone in an undisturbed state will typically reduce the potential for adverse impact to

the tree, however, this may vary depending on the tree species, size, condition, soil, water table, etc. Consequently, the city DTP may adjust the shape or size of the CRZ to the degree necessary to protect tree stability and viability based on site conditions.

[The typical protection zone dimensions for CRZ were provided by the city arborist]

“Critical Root Zone Barriers” are defined as fences installed around the perimeter of CRZs for retained trees and consist of anchored steel posts and a 6-foot-high chain link fence. Once installed, the fence is not moved without authorization and monitoring by the DTP and no parking, storage, dumping, or compaction occurs within the CRZ fenced area. Tree protection—Keep out signs are installed on the most visible sections of fencing every 20-feet. [The fencing requirements were provided by the city arborist]

~~“Crown” means the portion of a tree containing leaf or needle-bearing branches.~~

“Crown” consists of leaves or needles, reproductive structures and branches extending from the trunk or main stems. It is the part of a tree measured up from the lowest branch including all the branches and foliage.

“Crown cover” also called canopy cover is the proportion of an area (e.g. a city) covered by the vertical projection of the dripline of tree crowns and is typically expressed as a percentage. ~~means the ground area within the dripline or perimeter of the foliage of a tree.~~ In cities, it is commonly referred to as the percentage of the city that is shaded by mature trees.

“Designated Tree Professional (DTP)” means a certified tree professional with five or more years’ of pertinent regional experience, designated by the City of Poulsbo as their tree representative, and currently qualified by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) to perform Tree Risk Assessments. (See Tree Risk Assessment Qualification TRAQ definition)

A DTP can be a City of Poulsbo designated professional that is eligible to obtain a Tree Risk Assessment Qualification, has pertinent regional experience of five or more years and at least one of the following credentials (per ISA): ISA Certified Arborist or ISA Board Certified Master Arborist, A degree in arboriculture, urban forestry, traditional forestry, or horticulture that is part of a national qualifications framework or is from a college or university that is accredited or recognized under a system that is substantially similar to accreditation. A national certification or certificate in arboriculture, An approved arboriculture licensing or certification granted by a state/province.

“Diameter at Breast Height (DBH)” is the standard used to measure tree diameter of trees having at least one stem that is 2 inches or greater in diameter and a total height of 6 feet or more. It is measured in inches at 4.5 feet above ground on the uphill side of the tree. If the tree is leaning it is measured parallel to the lean. If there are irregularities in the stem at 4.5 feet then DBH is measured immediately above the point where branches or bumps cease to affect the diameter of the stem or as close to 4.5 feet above ground as feasible. If the tree has multiple stems that split above 4.5 feet

then it is measured at the narrowest part of the main stem below the split(s) and as near as possible to 4.5 feet. Multi-stemmed trees that split below 4.5 feet are measured as individual trees. When recording DBH, the species and number of stems, if there is more than one is typically noted. (For multi-stem splits that occur above DBH it is useful to record an estimate of the diameter range of the stems just above the split(s) and an overall average diameter. This information helps when preparing specifications for a tree care contract). (An in-depth definition of DBH is necessary for consistency in determining compliance with ordinance requirements)

~~“Protected area, tree root” means all land within and surrounding the critical root zone of those trees to be preserved.~~

“Additional Root Protection” means a 5-foot increase in radius beyond the critical root zone will be protected.

~~“Tree.” Any self-supporting perennial woody plant with a trunk diameter of greater than two inches that matures at a height greater than six feet is generally referred to in the nursery and landscape industry as a tree. **Not a definition but staff question – How would you consider a multi-stem tree?** (Good question! See DBH definition for how to consider multi-stemmed trees)~~

“Tree” Trees are not a taxonomic group; they are a category of plants determined by their distinguishing features. Specifically, trees are a variety of perennial woody plants that have evolved an elongated stem, or trunk as a way to tower above other plants to successfully compete for sunlight and grow. They are typically the tallest form of plants in their ecological niche. Tree stems support the branches, leaves or needles, and reproductive structures, they can be single or multi-stemmed. Trees may be cone-bearing (gymnosperms--evergreen--softwood) or flowering (angiosperms--deciduous--hardwood). For the purposes of the tree retention ordinance compliance trees are defined as being 6 feet or more in height .

~~“Tree hazard” means any tree with structural defect(s), disease and proximity to persons or property that makes it subject to a high probability of failure, as determined and recommended by a qualified and certified arborist or urban forester.~~

“Hazard Tree” means a tree that has structural defect(s) that make it a high probability for failure in part, or in whole that may cause injury or unacceptable property damage. For a defective tree or it’s parts to be determined to be hazardous and need removal requires a tree risk assessment to be performed and documented by the City of Poulsbo Designated Tree Professional with a current Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ) from the International Society of Arboriculture. The ISA Tree Risk Assessment is a systematic process used by professionals to determine the level of risk posed by a tree, tree part or group of trees.

~~“Tree removal” means the removal of a tree by digging up, cutting down or other act which causes the tree to die.~~ means actions that cause the tree to die such as cutting the tree down, pushing or pulling it over, digging it up, or actions that would lead to the death of the tree or cause permanent damage that compromises tree health and stability. This includes but is not limited to, severe or incorrect pruning or topping, girdling, poisoning, over watering, under watering, trenching, excavating, compacting, altering the soil grade, etc.

“Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ)” is a credentialed qualification program offered by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) designed to train and assess candidates in a specialized field of arboriculture that performs tree risk assessments. Once a TRAQ is obtained it must be renewed every 5 years to remain current.

~~“Tree, street” means a tree located within a street right-of-way or street tree easement, adjacent to public or private streets, including undeveloped areas.~~

“Street Tree” means any tree growing within the public right-of-way of improved or unimproved public streets and sidewalks.

“Tree tract” means a separate tract of land, specifically set aside for the retention and/or planting of trees, and consistent with the limitations and requirements of an approved land use permit. Stormwater retention/detention facilities and other common areas may be considered tree tracts if they currently or are designed to support the growth of trees. [This definition may be pertinent in Poulsbo and might be referring to natural open space so instead of deleting it a similar one defining forested tracts was added for consideration]

“Forested Tract” means an area of indefinite extent that is forested or intended to be forested. Opportunities exist in some developments to preserve or create forested or natural tracts.

~~“Dead” means the tree is lifeless.~~

“Snag” means a standing dead or dying tree, often called a wildlife tree. Snag habitat is in significant decline. Providing that snag retention does not pose a risk to persons or property as determined by the DTP they serve as important wildlife habitat in both natural and landscaped settings and should be retained to the degree feasible (e.g., if a tall snag can be safely made shorter and no longer present a risk then it is still valuable to keep snags even at a shorter height) Snags typically occur as a result of disease, lightning, fire, animal damage, too much shade, drought, and old age. They are an essential part of forested ecosystems, and their retention helps to maintain habitat for birds, small mammals, and other wildlife. Snags are used for nests, nurseries, storage areas, foraging, roosting, perching, etc.

~~“Dying” means 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 the spread of the infestation or disease to other trees.~~

“**Tree Decline**” is a loss of vitality typically caused by a sequence of stressing events that cause the tree to deplete its energy reserves sometimes beyond its ability to recover. Often, mechanical and/or chemical injury, combined with climatic factors such as drought and subsequent susceptibility to disease and pests cumulatively contribute toward tree decline.

~~“Dangerous” means the condition or location of the tree presents a clear public safety hazard or a foreseeable danger of property damage to an existing structure and such hazard or danger cannot reasonably be alleviated by treatment or pruning. This is covered under the definition of hazard tree above.~~

4) Please rank the list of items you think are of most important for us to work on. Also, feel free to add to the list. For example, one item I didn't see was the creation of defensible space to prepare our homes against a wildfire. Is this something you think the City should also be preparing for?

Tree Board Response (In priority order)

- a) Further tree retention ordinance requirements and development including research, edits, collaboration, and finalization.
- b) Development of ordinance enforcement, penalties, and rehabilitation provisions for inappropriate damage or taking of trees.
- c) Wildfire Defensible space
 - 1) Preparing a defensible space is a topic definitely worth addressing. For defensible space to be most effective it should be applied at a large scale. The Tree Board (Terri) has an in-depth Zoom-PowerPoint presentation regarding this topic that she would like to share with you to provide a common foundation and insight to guide the way forward. The presentation is called “Wildfire, Trees and Safety”. The “Trees” section presents how trees can be retained and still achieve defensible space objectives. This is very pertinent to tree retention requirements in Poulsbo.

Other considerations from the Tree Board:

Planting trees is important for the future and retaining existing trees is important for a positive difference now and in the future. Keeping as many existing trees as safely possible to maximize mature canopy and all of its benefits is needed. The Tree Board is here to help with this effort.

Thank you for caring about trees and their benefits and giving our response and information your consideration.

Poulsbo Comprehensive Plan [Portions of Chapter 2]

GOAL LU-14 Recognize that trees provide many important benefits to our natural and built community - such as reducing erosion, moderating the temperature, cleaning the air, providing wildlife habitat, producing oxygen, and beautifying the community. The City shall recognize and enhance these benefits by encouraging the preservation and management of trees on public and private lands, protecting trees from unnecessary removal or damage during development, and promoting the planting of new trees.

Policy LU-14.1 Continue to support and assist the City's Tree Board in its efforts for the promotion, preservation and enhancement of Poulsbo's public tree resources.

Policy LU-14.2 Maintain or increase the tree canopy in the City through tree retention and/or replacement by: • Implementing educational programs for property owners and managers; • Provide incentives for tree retention and planting; • Prohibit or limit the amount of significant tree removal on undeveloped property without an approved land use development permit; • Protect healthy stands or groves of trees on property proposed for development; • Require where appropriate, financial assurances for required tree planting and maintenance.

Policy LU-14.3 Street trees shall be a priority for any public improvement on the City's Urban Collector, Commercial Collector and Neighborhood Collector street classifications. Further, street trees will be required for all Residential Collector streets created through new residential developments. Types, sizing and space requirements shall be as established in the City's Master Public Street Tree Plan. Street trees should be installed in planter strips or tree wells located between the curb and any sidewalk where feasible. Where streets are not a practical location, consider designating areas within the development where trees will be required to be planted on developable lots or separate tracts of land. 2016 Poulsbo Comprehensive Plan 56

Policy LU-14.4 Existing trees within a proposed development project is an important factor in its site planning, including determination of building, parking, open space and other feature locations. Tree preservation provisions that encourage the early consideration of tree protection during design and planning of development proposals shall be developed for inclusion in the City's Development Regulations. Maximum tree retention and a treed appearance will be achieved when development occurs through the following: • Establish a minimum tree retention requirement of significant trees and other applicable development standards within the City's zoning ordinance. • Prioritize the retention of viable tree clusters, forested slopes, treed gullies, and trees that are of a species that are long-lived, well-shaped to shield wind, and located so they can survive within a development without other nearby trees. • Establish best management practices based on current landscape industry standards.

Policy LU-14.5 Appropriate native tree species or non-native trees naturally adapted to local conditions, should be encouraged and incorporated, in all new public project landscaping. City public projects and capital improvement projects should be designed to preserve trees to the maximum extent possible.

Policy LU-14.6 Except as required by regulations adopted by the Department of Natural Resources, no forest harvesting of property (i.e. forest practice conversion type activity) shall be approved or authorized by the City until such time as the City has approved a land use development permit. Further, the City shall not approve a clearing and/or grading permit until such time as the City has approved a land use development permit.

Policy LU-14.7 Identify and plant suitable native trees and native vegetation within degraded stream and wetland buffers. Provide for the retention and new plantings suitable as native trees and vegetation on steep slopes.

Policy LU-14.8 Encourage and incorporate into the City's tree canopy adequate species diversity and an appropriate mix of tree types (evergreen vs. deciduous) to protect the health of the urban forest. Street trees in Poulsbo Place neighborhood 2016 Poulsbo Comprehensive Plan 57

Policy LU-14.9 Acknowledge that the addition and retention of trees may impact public views. Maintenance practices of trees and shrubs should maintain or enhance designated shoreline public views.