

MEMORANDUM

Date: May 15, 2023 (approved at January 24, 2023 CEC meeting)

To: Samuel Wright, Chair
Columbia Tree Board

From: Leanne Tippett Mosby, Chair
Columbia Climate and Environment Commission

Subject: CEC/Tree Board Collaboration

The Climate and Environment Commission (CEC) is interested in collaborating over shared priorities for our city's Comprehensive Plan and commitment to the CAAP. We were very pleased to have a joint discussion with members of your commission last spring.

We feel that, as city volunteers and advisory boards to the city council, it would be beneficial to meet one another and work towards synergizing each others' efforts. After preliminary review of codes and regulations and a few conversations with city staff, we would like to share the following high-level suggestions for your input and feedback. We are open to your suggestions as to how/when to provide that input.

LIVING INFRASTRUCTURE: Trees and natural areas

1. Adopt a canopy goal, or goals according to ward, and leverage the Natural Resources Inventory to track progress towards that goal.
2. Workshop a proposal to streamline the City's approach to the management of trees and forest among city departments, particularly to standardize and share priorities with Parks and Recreation.
3. Use spatial analysis to prioritize forested areas for preservation and management by creating a green network plan that confers priority on landscape ecology and multifunctional landscapes where trees or forest are providing key ecosystem services such as flood risk reduction and water management.
4. Add city staff capacity for permitting and plan review
 - a. Increase in-lieu-of-planting fees and create a transparently managed fund.
2. Increase scrutiny of city properties in regards to whether tree management is in compliance with the guidelines that are applied to private entities and businesses.
3. Require the use of native plants in landscaping at City-owned properties.

Thanks so much for your time and we hope to share ideas soon!

Sincerely,



Leanne Tippett Mosby, Chair
Climate and Environment Commission

Cc: Eric Hempel, Staff Liaison to CEC
Steve Fritz, Staff Liaison to Tree Board