

NATURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT UPDATE

City Council Regular Session
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COMPREHENSIVE PLAN—NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

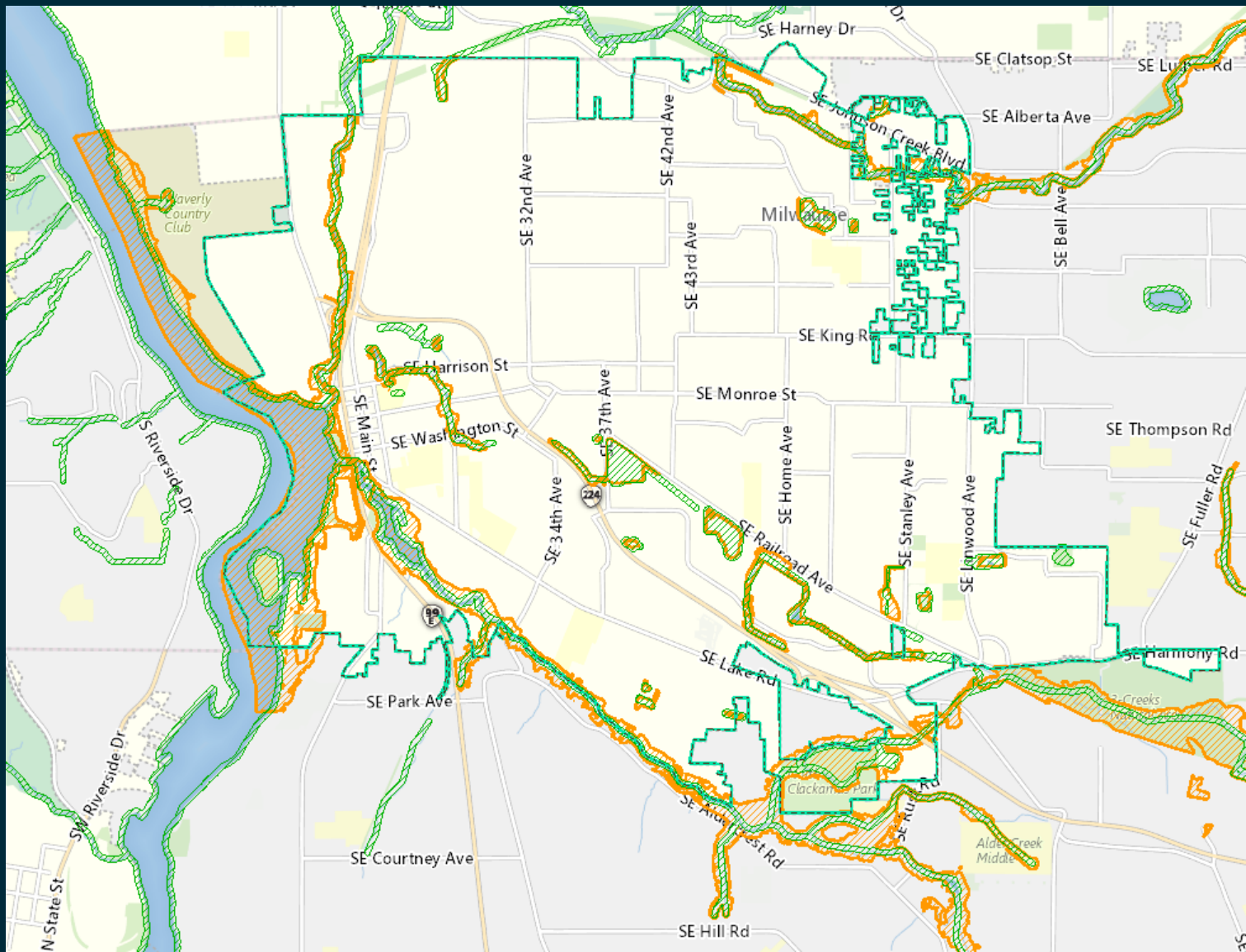
ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP & COMMUNITY RESILIENCY



Goals

1. Awareness and Education
2. Water Quality and Resources
3. Flora and Habitat
4. Healthy Urban Forest
5. Sustainable Design and Development
6. Air, Noise, and Light Quality

NATURAL RESOURCES IN MILWAUKIE



- Water Quality Resource (WQR)
- Habitat Conservation Area (HCA)
- Focused on creeks, streams, wetlands
- Standards established in MMC 19.402
- Since 1990 reviewed over 200 applications

CRITICAL NEEDS FOR NR CODE

- Clear & objective standards for housing development
- Better integration with new tree code
- NR code needs to be easier for applicants and staff to work with



OTHER IMPORTANT NEEDS FOR NR CODE

- Establish more accurate methodology for HCA verifications
- Provide a more accurate identification for wetlands that have not been delineated



OTHER MAPPING NEEDS

- Develop a clear classification for stormwater facilities as WQRs or HCAs



PROPOSED ACTION

- Work with a consultant for further assessment and scoping
- Expected timeline = Adoption of amendments by winter 2024/2025

Questions?

Are there additional needs?



SECTION 3 – NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protect, conserve, and enhance the quality, diversity, quantity, and resiliency of Milwaukie's natural resources and ecosystems, and maintain the quality of its air, land, and water. Utilize a combination of development regulations, incentives, education and outreach programs, and partnerships with other public agencies and community stakeholders.

Policy 3.1.4 – Periodically update the city's inventory of wetlands, floodplains, fish and wildlife habitat and corridors, and other natural resources through both technology and in-field verification.

Policy 3.2.1 – Support programs and regulations to enhance and maintain the health and resilience of watersheds, riparian and upland zones, and floodplains.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN GOALS

Policy 3.2.4 – Require a detailed analysis, including alternatives, of how development will avoid impacts to natural resources. If impacts cannot be avoided, include a detailed analysis of how development will minimize and mitigate impacts to the natural resources.

Policy 3.2.6 – When considering development proposals, consider changes in water flow, quantity, and duration of flow associated with both development and climate change and evaluate the downstream impacts of development in upland areas.

Policy 3.3.4 – Protect and enhance riparian vegetation that provides habitat and improves water quality along creeks and streams through the use of best available science and management practices to promote beneficial ecosystem services, such as managing water temperature and providing woody debris for habitat.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN GOALS

Policy 3.3.5 – Require mitigation that restores ecological functions and addresses impacts to habitat connectivity as part of the development review process.

Policy 3.4.3 – Provide flexibility in the division of land, the siting and design of buildings, and design standards in an effort to preserve the ecological function of designated natural resources and environmentally sensitive areas and retain native vegetation and trees.

Policy 3.5.4 – Identify additional opportunities for partner agencies and environmental organizations to provide early feedback and recommendations on reducing environmental impacts associated with development.