

Appendix A: Outreach Survey Questionnaire

Introduction

Thank you for your interest in protecting and managing Milwaukie's trees!

Milwaukie's "urban forest" makes our community special. An urban forest is defined as all the trees that grow within the city, on both public and private property. Milwaukie's community-led Tree Board is developing plans we can all follow to protect our existing trees and plant even more.

This fall, the Tree Board will present a draft Urban Forest Plan and recommended updates to the Milwaukie tree code to City Council. We need your ideas and feedback to develop an Urban Forestry Plan and tree code that work for our community.

Please complete the following short survey to share your ideas and opinions on these important efforts. The survey takes approximately 10 minutes to complete. **Everyone who completes the survey to the end can enter to win a \$50 gift card to Wind Horse Coffee.**

Your connection to Milwaukie's trees

1. Do you... (select all that apply)

- Live in Milwaukie
- Own property in Milwaukie
- Work in Milwaukie
- Work for a tree care or landscaping business
- Travel to Milwaukie for recreation activities or to visit Milwaukie parks
- Shop in Milwaukie
- Go to school in Milwaukie

2. If you live in Milwaukie, how long have you lived here?

- Less than 1 year
- 1-3 years
- 3-5 years
- 5-10 years
- More than 10 years

3. If you live in Milwaukie, what neighborhood do you live in?

- Ardenwald-Johnson Creek
- Hector Campbell
- Linwood
- Historic Milwaukie
- Island Station
- Lake Road
- Lewelling
- Other - Write In: _____

4. How would you describe Milwaukie's urban forest? (Urban forest is defined as all the trees that grow within the city, on both public and private property)

- Milwaukie's urban forest is healthy, vibrant and distributed equally across the community
- Milwaukie's urban forest is healthy and vibrant in some areas and not in others
- Milwaukie's urban forest is minimal or decreasing across most of the community
- Other - Write In: _____

5. What do you value most about Milwaukie's trees? Select the top three benefits that matter most to you.

- They are beautiful and improve the look and feel of our community
- They provide health benefits (e.g. trees clean our air)
- They make Milwaukie a nice place to visit and live, boosting our economy
- They provide habitat for wildlife
- They capture stormwater and help prevent floods
- They provide shade from the weather
- They fight climate change by storing carbon and making our community
- Other - Write In: _____

6. What concerns do you have about trees in Milwaukie?

7. Have you ever contacted the City regarding tree maintenance, planting, or removal?

- Yes
 - No
 - Not sure
-

Forest size

The Urban Forest Plan will be a first-step toward realizing priority actions from our [Community Vision](#) related to trees. It will include goals, policies, and near-term actions for the City to help manage and preserve our tree cover. The Plan will be a living document: the Tree Board will evaluate progress regularly and review the Plan every two years.

The following sections ask for input on the policies and near-term actions in the draft Urban Forest Plan. [Click here to view a copy of the draft plan.](#)

Forest size goal: Foster urban forest growth to achieve 40% aerial canopy coverage by 2040 and sustain that level through time.

Background: According to a 2014 assessment, 26% of Milwaukie’s geographic area was covered by trees. The assessment showed many areas throughout our community that could accommodate more trees. The Tree Board has identified 40% canopy coverage as an ambitious yet achievable goal for Milwaukie to reach by 2040 (tree canopy refers to the amount of land covered by trees in the community).

8. The draft Urban Forest Plan recommends policies for the City to adopt to help achieve goals related to forest size. Rank the top three proposed policies that are most important to you. (1 = top most important)

_____ Promote sustainable design principles in site development and redevelopment to integrate tree canopy into future built environments

_____ Make tree planting affordable to residents

_____ Maintain existing tree canopy cover by restricting needless canopy reductions

_____ Require replanting for dead and removed trees whenever possible

_____ Preserve and protect trees on properties in development

9. The draft Urban Forest Plan recommends the following actions to achieve the goal related to forest size:

- *Adopt provisions to the Milwaukie Municipal Code addressing removal, maintenance, and planting of trees on public and private land.*
- *Develop a tree planting program and plant 22,000 trees in Milwaukie by 2025.*
- *Conduct a public tree inventory to support the tracking, maintenance and planting of trees on public land.*
- *Establish a monitoring protocol to track trends in Milwaukie's urban forest canopy.*
- *Amend the Comprehensive Plan to support the tree canopy goals for Milwaukie*

What should the Tree Board consider as it further develops an action plan around forest size?

10. How important is it to you to save large, mature trees from being cut down on both public and private property?

- Very important
- Somewhat important
- Not very important
- Not at all important
- No opinion

11. Approximately 80% of Milwaukie's trees are located on private property. To protect and grow Milwaukie's urban forest, would you support a permit system for large tree removals on private property?

- Strongly support
- Somewhat support
- Somewhat oppose
- Strongly oppose
- No opinion

12. Why or why not?

13. How important is it to you to be able to harvest trees on private property for their timber resources?

- Very important
 - Somewhat important
 - Not very important
 - Not at all important
 - No opinion
-

Forest health

Forest health goal: Maintain trees in a healthy condition through good practices.

Background: The urban forest functions best when individual trees are free from pests, disease, and unnecessary environmental stress. Poorly maintained and unhealthy trees can put people and property at risk. Promoting tree health will ensure that our community is safe and receives the most benefits from its urban forest.

14. The draft Urban Forest Plan recommends policies for the City to adopt to help achieve goals related to forest health. Rank the top three proposed policies that are most important to you. (1 = top most important)

_____ Manage Milwaukie's urban forest as a functional ecosystem and factor climate change into urban forest management plans.

_____ Require certified professional arborists to perform tree maintenance, and restrict improper pruning practices.

_____ Protect trees on property in development through tree protection plans and an auditing process.

_____ Promote proactive tree maintenance by supporting residents with creative resources (e.g. financial incentives, free materials, etc.)

15. The draft Urban Forest Plan recommends the following actions to achieve the goal related to forest health:

- *Adopt provisions to the Milwaukie Municipal Code detailing tree protection measures and auditing requirements for properties under development.*
- *Strengthen existing regulations regarding tree pruning in Milwaukie Municipal Code.*
- *Develop invasive pest management strategies.*

What should the Tree Board consider as it further develops an action plan around forest health?

16. Requiring professional arborists to prune trees can help keep trees healthy, but professional tree care can be expensive. How important is it to you to be able to prune your own trees beyond routine maintenance?

- Very important
 - Somewhat important
 - Not very important
 - Not at all important
 - No opinion
-

Age and species diversity

Age and species diversity goal: Manage the urban forest for a diversity of ages and species

Background: A diverse urban forest with trees of different species and ages helps make our canopy stronger against environmental and climate threats. The impact of pests, diseases, and a changing climate on tree health are often related to biological traits of certain species or ages of trees. Urban forests with many of the same types and ages of trees are more likely to become unhealthy quickly or at the same time.

17. The draft Urban Forest Plan recommends policies for the City to adopt to help achieve goals related to age and species diversity. Rank the following policies by what is most important to you. (1 = top most important)

_____ Require new trees to be planted to replace dead trees on a continuous basis

_____ Strengthen the City's climate resilience through tree planting and maintenance that improves the adaptive capacity of our urban forest

_____ Encourage the planting of climate change-suited native tree and vegetation species wherever appropriate

18. The draft Urban Forest Plan recommends the following actions to achieve the goal related to age and species diversity:

- *Identify priority species for special protection from removals through new provision to the Milwaukie Municipal Code.*
- *Update the current species list for planting street and public trees.*
- *Strengthen and expand the language in the Milwaukie Municipal Code regarding required replantings.*
- *Create a program to acquire and grow tree and shrub species which show promise for being adapted to the predicted climate of 2100.*
- *Establish and maintain an urban forest nursery.*

What should the Tree Board consider as it further develops an action plan around age and species diversity?

19. Which tree species are most important to you to maintain as part of our community tree canopy? Select up to three from the list on the next page.

Western Redcedar (*Thuja plicata*)



Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*)



Bigleaf Maple (*Acer macrophyllum*)



Oregon White Oak (*Quercus garryana*)



Black Walnut (*Juglans nigra*)



Pacific Madrone (*Arbutus menziesii*)



Dogwood (the *Cornus* species)



Ponderosa Pine (*Pinus ponderosa*)



20. Why did you select these species?

Street tree management

Street tree management goal: Manage street trees appropriately to maximize benefits and minimize hazards and conflicts with infrastructure.

Background: Appropriately managed street trees make our community beautiful and provide many environmental benefits. Street trees also shade pavement to reduce urban heat island impacts. Given their location, they often conflict with other public infrastructure and utilities, requiring special treatment to ensure their proper maintenance.

21. The draft Urban Forest Plan recommends policies for the City to adopt to help achieve goals related to street tree management. Rank the following policies by what is most important to you. (1 = top most important)

_____ Manage street trees as necessary green infrastructure

_____ Track all planting, maintenance and removals of street and public trees to ensure proper tree care

_____ Proactively plan for mature tree preservation and new tree planting in all public infrastructure improvement projects

22. The draft Urban Forest Plan recommends the following actions to achieve the goal related to street tree management:

- *Adopt provisions to the Milwaukie Municipal Code to create a street and public tree care permitting system independent of the current encroachment permitting system.*
- *Update the Public Works Standards to preserve mature trees and maximize planting densities.*

What should the Tree Board consider as it further develops an action plan around street tree management?

23. What would make you more likely to maintain trees in the right-of-way?

24. Would you support bump-outs, chicanes, one-way streets, and other creative street design features in order to save mature trees?

Yes

No

Outreach and stewardship

Outreach and stewardship goal: Foster community support for the local urban forestry program and encourage good tree management on privately-owned properties.

Background: Public engagement will make the implementation of a new tree ordinance a success. Informing the community of proposed changes and incorporating feedback will produce a stronger tree code. If citizens understand and agree with the management approaches implemented through the tree code, the greater success we will all experience.

Taking care of our urban forest is a collaborative effort. Most trees in our community are on private property, and their proper management requires more than tree ordinance compliance. Education and public engagement opportunities will enrich our community as well as our urban forest.

25. The draft Urban Forest Plan recommends policies for the City to adopt to help achieve goals related to outreach and stewardship. Rank the following proposed policies by what is most important to you. (1 = top most important)

_____ Develop a Heritage Tree program driven by the Tree Board and resident volunteers.

_____ Foster an appreciation for trees and our urban forest among residents, developers, and businesses of Milwaukee.

_____ Link stormwater management with conservation and growth of our urban forest.

26. The draft Urban Forest Plan recommends the following actions to achieve the goal related to outreach and stewardship:

- *Develop new community outreach and education programs regarding urban forest stewardship, such as invasive and native species and tree care.*
- *Inform tree ordinance updates with public input while empowering the community with knowledge of developments.*
- *Formalize and maintain partnerships with various county, state, Federal, and non-governmental agencies and divisions to, among other things, meet the goals established in the Urban Forest Plan.*

- *Adopt provisions to the Milwaukie Municipal Code institutionalizing a Heritage Tree program.*
- *Engage developers on sustainable design principles.*
- *Maintain Tree City USA designation and strive for a Tree City USA Growth Award.*

What should the Tree Board consider as it further develops an action plan around outreach and stewardship?

27. Are there any other comments you wish to share with the Tree Board?

Demographics

28. How old are you?

- Under 18 years old
- 18 – 24 years old
- 25 – 34 years old
- 35 – 44 years old
- 45 – 54 years old
- 55 – 64 years old
- 65 – 74 years old
- 75 years or older

29. What is your annual household income?

- Up to \$24,999
- \$25,000 - \$49,000
- \$50,000 - \$74,999
- \$75,000 - \$99,999
- \$100,000 - \$149,999
- More than \$150,000

30. How do you identify yourself culturally?

- African American/Black
- Asian/Pacific Islander
- Hispanic/Latinx
- Native American/American Indian
- White/Caucasian
- Mixed Race
- I prefer not to say
- Other - Write In: _____

31. What is your gender identity? (check all that apply)

- Female
- Male
- Non-binary/third gender
- Prefer not to say
- Prefer to self-describe: _____

32. If you'd like to be entered into a drawing to win a \$50 gift certificate to Wind Horse Coffee, please provide your contact information:

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Thank you for your participation in this survey!

We appreciate your feedback. Your input will be used to refine the draft Urban Forest Plan and tree code updates.

To stay up to date on the Tree Board's efforts, visit www.milwaukieoregon.gov/bc-tb and sign up for email updates.

For more information, contact Peter Passarelli, Public Works Director, at passarellip@milwaukieoregon.gov.