



## URBAN FORESTRY BOARD Agenda

520 E. Cascade Avenue - PO Box 39 - Sisters, Or 97759 | ph.: (541) 549-6022 | [www.ci.sisters.or.us](http://www.ci.sisters.or.us)

**Monday, November 13, 2023 – 3:00 P.M.**

The Urban Forestry Board (UFB) is accessible to the public in person in the City Council Chambers at 520 E. Cascade Avenue, Sisters, OR 97759 and via the following Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88059419247?pwd=ZlNWcnd6QVQrMGYreUF0RjBjUjZwdz09>

**Passcode:** 814290

**1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL**

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. October 9, 2023 – Regular Meeting

**3. VISITOR COMMUNICATION** If speaking in-person, please use the Visitor Communication Sign-In form at the meeting. Written communication can be submitted for the record to [jdumanch@ci.sisters.or.us](mailto:jdumanch@ci.sisters.or.us). Written communication and requests to speak via Zoom must be received by 1:00 PM on the day of the meeting.

**4. BOARD BUSINESS**

- A. Consideration of recommendation to remove declining Ponderosa Pine at 109 E St Helens Ave. – City Forester
- B. Consideration of recommendation to remove dead Ponderosa Pines in Creekside Campground. – City Forester

**5. OTHER BUSINESS** - Miscellaneous Issues or For the Board’s Information (FYI only) and Specific to Trees in Public Rights-of-Way and Parks. City Forester’s Use of Their Professional Authority/Discretion.

- A. Guest Speakers – Mike Oxendine & Brittany Oxford
- B. Update on monitored Ponderosa Pine at 1151 S Creekside Dr – City Forester
- C. Staff report regarding concerned resident and Ponderosa Pine at 385 W Washington - City Forester

**6. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

**7. ADJOURN**

*This agenda is also available via the Internet at [www.ci.sisters.or.us](http://www.ci.sisters.or.us). The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. Requests for an interpreter for the hearing impaired or for other disability accommodations should be made at least 48 hours before the meeting by contacting Kerry Prosser, City Recorder at [kprosser@ci.sisters.or.us](mailto:kprosser@ci.sisters.or.us) Pursuant to ORS 192.640, this agenda includes a list of the principal subjects anticipated to be considered at the above referenced meeting; however, the agenda does not limit the ability of the Council to consider or discuss additional subjects. This meeting is subject to cancellation without notice.*

**Urban Forestry Board (UFB)**  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Monday, October 9, 2023

**Board Members Present:**

Patrick Burke, Vice Chair  
Marcus Peck  
Rebecca Green  
Therese Kollerer

**Staff Present:**

Dan Galecki, City Forester  
Jackson Dumanch, Public Works Project Coordinator  
Gary Ross, Councilor

**1. Call to Order & Roll Call**

Vice Chair Burke called the Monday, October 9, 2023, regular meeting to order at 3:00 PM. Staff confirmed a quorum was present.

**2. Determination of Chair and Vice Chair**

Project Coordinator Dumanch called for nominations for Board Chair. Board Member Peck nominated Vice Chair Burke. Board Member Green seconded. Motion passed unanimously, 4-0. Dumanch called for nominations for Board Vice Chair. Board Member Kollerer nominated Peck. Green Seconded. Motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

Chair Burke directed the Board to the August 14, 2023, draft meeting minutes. Board Member Peck made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Board Member Green seconded. Motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

**4. Visitor Communications**

Project Coordinator Dumanch noted 3 visitors, two regarding agenda items and one specifically for Visitor Communications.

Mark Dickens of 133 E Black Crater Ave addressed the Board regarding tree removals, public and private, relating to utilities and private development. Vice Chair Peck asked if this development was related to a prior topic brought to the Board's attention regarding directional boring. City Forester Galecki noted it was not. Board Member Kollerer thanked Dickens for their comments regarding more scrutiny surrounding tree removals.

**5. Board Business**

**A.** Consideration of Proposed alternative driveway locations at 864 S Pine St.

Chair Burke read the agenda item into the record. Jim Henson, owner of 864 S Pine St, addressed the Board and presented the previously requested alternative driveways. City Forester Galecki asked for the reasoning for the proposed driveway location. Mr. Henson stated that the aim for the home's design is to take advantage of sunlight for solar. Board Member Green asked how many trees would be removed. Mr. Henson noted 5 private trees would be removed and added that Proposal #2 would require only one public tree to be removed. Board Member Kollerer asked for confirmation on Proposal #2 and #3 that the driveway would split to preserve a tree, Mr. Henson confirmed adding that the City Public Works Department approved a split driveway. Kollerer asked for confirmation that the overall width would be 25 feet, Mr. Henson confirmed adding that the southern edge of the driveway maintains the 50-foot distance from the centerline of W Sisters View Ave. Green asked for clarification on the measurement shown in the proposal, Mr. Henson stated that the image provided showed a measurement to the property corner not the centerline. Project Coordinator Dumanch stated that the City Engineer reviewed the proposed alternative accesses and found all to be appropriate. Mr. Henson proceeded to address the question of why access is not being taken from W Sisters View Ave. Mr. Henson stated that the design is to maximize sunlight exposure to the home and pointed out that with the current proposed footprint of the house that such a driveway would be difficult to maneuver. Green asked if a driveway on the eastern side of the property had been considered. Mr. Henson stated that such a design would place the house too close to S Pine St. Kollerer asked for clarification about Mr. Henson's prior statement about proximity to S Pine St. Mr. Henson stated that the eastern side of the property is ideal for gardening and that City-required setbacks would not make a driveway on the east ideal. Kollerer stated that they appreciated the thought put into the design and consideration towards tree preservation but was puzzled by desire to place a driveway on S Pine St. Mr. Henson stated that a complete redesign of the house would be unreasonable and would not meet their desired requirements for the house. Kollerer mentioned further concerns over private trees and confusion surrounding the approved access. Vice Chair Peck stated that the Board's concern was public trees not private trees proposing a motion to not allow any public tree removal. Green asked what the appeal process would be. Peck stated it would likely go to City Council. Mr. Henson asked if Proposal #2, where one tree was removed, would be favorable. Councilor Ross asked Galecki if the driveway would prevent water from getting to the tree. Galecki stated that trees could survive nearby construction and that the Board should focus on the situation and request currently being considered and that work can be done in the future to mitigate decline in preserved trees. Green mentioned another agenda item where a tree appears to be in decline as a result of nearby construction. Galecki noted that the tree Green mentioned was originally meant to be removed but attempts were made to preserve it. Green restated their concerns over later decline in preserved trees. Galecki noted common preservation techniques. Green asked about a nearby 28-inch tree and stated their concern over its survival adding their confusion surrounding Proposals #2 and #3. Mr. Henson stated that Proposal #3 was added just in case it would be necessary and that the scale of the image shows the crown not the trunk of the tree. Chair Burke stated that they did not understand why the access would not be taken from W Sisters View Ave. Mr. Henson stated solar access and outdoor living was the reason. Burke stated that every property has pros and cons. Ms. Henson addressed the Board stating that the southeast corner has the most solar exposure for solar

and to put a driveway and garage in the sun would be a waste of the resource. Chair Burke stated that solar panels could be placed on a garage. Ms. and Mr. Henson clarified that passive heating would be used, utilizing natural light to heat the home adding that being practically retired, the driveway would be infrequently used. Chair Burke asked for clarification about the tree saved by the split driveway, Mr. Henson clarified that it is a 14-in/16-in tree not a 4-in tree. Dumanch noted that the plans cut off the "1" in the tree measurement. Ross asked Galecki if the 10-in tree was under the canopy of the surrounding trees, Galecki confirmed, Ross added that those trees tend to struggle and asked if the loss of that tree significantly impact the viewshed of S Pine St. Galecki stated that Ross was correct, the tree is marginal and the loss would likely not be noticed given the proximity to other trees. Green restated their desire to know what the appeal process was. Peck stated that I could possibly go to the Planning Commission. Ross stated that they are not certain of the process. Green stated that the Board was recently created. Burke and Peck corrected stating around 10 years. Green restated that they refer to the Management Plan when making decisions. Mr. Henson stated that they've been accommodating with presenting alternatives. Burke stated they are potentially in favor of Proposal #2. Galecki stated that, in terms of forestry, the 10-inch tree was expendable. Ross returned with an answer regarding appeals, stating that an appeal would go to City Council. Green asked for clarification that 7 trees would be removed though not in the Board's purview. Mr. Henson stated that only one tree is in the Board's purview, 6 private trees and one public tree including a juniper and a ponderosa with a broken top. Ross emphasized the purview of the Board when considering the topic. Chair Burke stated they would accept Proposal #3, Ross stated that Proposal #3 included permission to remove a second tree, Burke thanks Ross for the clarification. Burke proposed Proposal #2 as the best choice. Green asked that care be taken to monitor and preserve the other trees. Peck mentioned types of permeable pavements that could potentially be used. Chair Burke made a motion to accept Proposal #2 with the understanding that efforts be made to maintain the 28-in tree next to the driveway. Chair Burke asked for a second. Hearing none, Peck proposed further discussion adding that the City Forester be involved to ensure preserved tree survival. Galecki offered to make regular site inspections and suggested it be included in a motion. Green expressed hesitation concerning the Board's role, stating that residents desire healthy trees remain, as well as their own desire to maintain healthy trees. Peck stated that a 10-in tree is close to the cut-off for "significant tree" designation. Ross mentioned that there has been discussion about increasing the size for significant trees from 8 to 10 inches in the past and noted a disconnect between private and public tree removals regarding maintaining an urban canopy emphasizing that the Board is limited to decisions concerning public trees. Peck asked for an amended motion from the Chair. Burke made a motion to approve Proposal #2 with regular site visits from the City Forester and that the persevered trees be monitored for signs of decline. Peck seconded. Motion passed, 3-1.

**B. Consideration of recommendation to remove declining Ponderosa Pine at 377 W Sisters Park Dr.**

Chair Burke read the agenda item into the record. Galecki provided an overview of their report recommending removal. Vice Chair Peck noted that it appears the tree cannot survive. Galecki

agreed. Board Member Kollerer asked if the Board was ready for a motion. Kollerer made a motion to approve removal of the 26-inch Ponderosa Pine at 377 W Sisters Park Dr. Peck seconded. Motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

**C. Consideration of recommendation to top two Ponderosa Pines located on S Locust St near Creekside Campground.**

Chair Burke read the agenda item into the record. City Forester Galecki provided an overview of their report and suggests possible Ips beetle presence based on observed symptoms. Burke asked if removal would be advisable. Peck asked if injections could help improve the health of the trees to resist the beetles. Galecki stated that, from prior experience, success rates are low for such a procedure and cost prohibitive. Councilor Ross stated that the trees are part of the character of the campground and topping is preferred to removal. Peck made a motion to top the trees and monitor them in the future. Board Member Green seconded. Motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

**D. Consideration of recommendation to remove 21-inch Ponderosa Pine at 599 W Canopy Way.**

Chair Burke read the agenda into the record. City Forester Galecki provided an overview of their report. Board Member Green asked if surrounding trees in similar situations might experience similar decline. Galecki stated that this development has been the most aggressive in regards to preserving trees, noting a metal tag on the tree denoting preservation status, with the developer having hired an arborist to assess trees. Galecki restated that the tree was originally designated for removal, however the developer attempted to preserve the tree. Galecki expressed confidence in the developer's interest and efforts to preserve trees but stated that some trees will likely decline in the future. Green stated that there was a change to better preserve trees going forward in that development. Galecki stated that those involved in the development are aware of standard tree preservation methods. Peck noted that construction can cause decline to be visible many years after the work was done. Peck asked if the City would have to pay for removal. Galecki assumed that was the case. Councilor Ross added that the City recently accepted the public improvements which included the tree in consideration. Chair Burke made a motion to remove the tree and schedule a replacement. Peck seconded. Motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

**6. Other Business**

**A. 1094 E Horseback Trail, Excessive Residue on Foliage.**

Don McLellan of 1094 E Horseback Trail addressed the Board about their concerns over the two aspens and expressed a desire to keep the trees but treat the aphid infestation. The infestation is attracting wasps and staining the sidewalks with a sticky residue. McLellan requested additional information on treatment. Galecki stated that fallen leaves should be bagged and disposed of quickly. McLellan stated that they have been doing that but it is getting worse and has spread to the next aspen over. Galecki asked if any other trees are displaying symptoms. McLellan stated they have not observed any. Galecki advised spraying the ground with a soapy water solution with a small amount of bleach to kill any aphid eggs on the ground. Vice Chair Peck suggested an insecticide product for spraying on the tree itself. McLellan asked when was

best to spray the tree. Galecki advised spraying as soon as possible and after the tree has budded in the spring.

**B. Village Green Park, Bird Holes**

Chair Burke directed City Forester Galecki to provide an overview. Galecki stated that the tree was healthy and no concern was present but advised monitoring. Project Coordinator Dumanch stated that the tree was brought to the City's attention by a concerned citizen.

**C.** Board Member Kollerer asked about the natural area of S Oak St between W Jefferson Ave and W St Helens Ave and who was responsible for the trees there. Galecki confirmed that they were City trees. Kollerer asked about thinning and management. Galecki stated that they monitored the trees but did not advise any thinning of healthy trees. Board Member Green asked if this was related to an email from the public. Project Coordinator Dumanch stated that they were not familiar with what the Board members were referring to.

**D.** Project Coordinator Dumanch informed the Board that the scheduled guest speakers were not able to attend.

**E.** Project Coordinator Dumanch brought to the Board's attention the additional trees in the packet. City Forester Galecki described the right of way trees near 133 W Black Crater Ave that were brought to staff's attention. A 14-inch tree in the right of way is dead and Galecki recommended removal. Galecki then described the 24-inch tree which is alive. Galecki noted that the electric company that was originally requesting removal was now indifferent about the removal. Galecki mentioned that digging and trenching near the tree was in the design plan. Galecki described their observations of damage, possibly from vehicles and the presence of pitch tubes as well as "lion's tail" where the branches loose needles except for on the tip of the branch, indicating a weakened tree. Rebecca Green asked for clarification on which tree Galecki was referring to. Galecki clarified. Green asked for an address, Mark Dickens, from the seating area, stated 133 W Black Crater Ave. Dickens asked to speak and approach the podium holding up a site plan for the site being discussed. Dickens described the progress of the development at the site regarding tree removal and voiced their displeasure with the tree removal occurring. Green asked if the Board needed to make a motion. Galecki voiced their desire for the trees to be removed based on current observations. Dumanch stated that a motion cannot be entertained due to the item being discussed being under "Other Business", Green stated it had not been noticed to the public, Dumanch stated that this was brought up to bring it to the Board's attention, Green suggested putting it on the agenda for the next meeting. Galecki stated that under their professional discretion the dead tree could be removed immediately and a formal report could be made for the living tree and further observation can be made. Vice Chair Peck stated that the question of dead tree removal is between Galecki and



Public Works Director Bertagna. Chair Burke asked for a formal report for the next meeting. Dumanch asked if Galecki deemed the tree hazardous, Galecki stated it was not. Galecki offered to mark the tree. Board Member Kollerer asked if Bertagna could be consulted on communicating to the construction team about maintaining distance from the tree. Galecki stated they could. Kollerer asked for clarification on the "lion's tail". Galecki stated several things could cause it.

- F. Project Coordinator Dumanch noted the other items. Galecki informed the Board about dead trees in Creekside Park and Creekside Campground. Galecki stated that all that were brought to his attention were dead and could be removed. Galecki recommended the dead Juniper's stump should remain. Galecki described a dead juniper between two camp sites, a 19-inch tree near the ODOT weight station that is dead, and two trees with orange flagging, a 20- and 22-inch, that are dead. Galecki stated that they could mark the trees as well.

## **7. Board Member Comments**

- A. Board Member Green had questions about the role of the Board and stated having difficulty maintaining the integrity of an urban forest, public and private, and how the Board can maintain an urban forest. Mentioning that the meeting had several living trees being requested for removal. Green wished to find a balance between healthy tree removals and maintaining an urban forest, asking for further discussion. Chair Burke stated that that could be discussed in a later meeting. Councilor Ross asked if Project Coordinator Dumanch could speak with Community Development Director Woodford about possibly speaking with the Board in a work session about City code and the Board's purvey and whether or not there is a reason to change code or the Board's mission. Adding that things could change. Board Member Peck stated that the Board's concern is public trees and private trees go through the planning department. Green wished to go through points in the plan.
- B. Board Member Peck stated that they and City Forester Galecki were working on finding a suitable location of a tree to serve as a memorial for former Board Chair Dave Moyer at the fire station.

## **8. Adjourn**

Chair Burke adjourned the meeting at 4:54 PM.

**TO:** Urban Forestry Board  
**FROM:** Dan Galecki, Spindrift Forestry Consulting, SAF CF, City of Sisters Urban Forester  
**COPY:** Paul Bertagna, Public Works Director  
Jackson Dumanch Public Works Project Coordinators  
**RE:** 109 E St Helens Ave. Nearly Dead Ponderosa Pine 10/27/2023

## STAFF REPORT

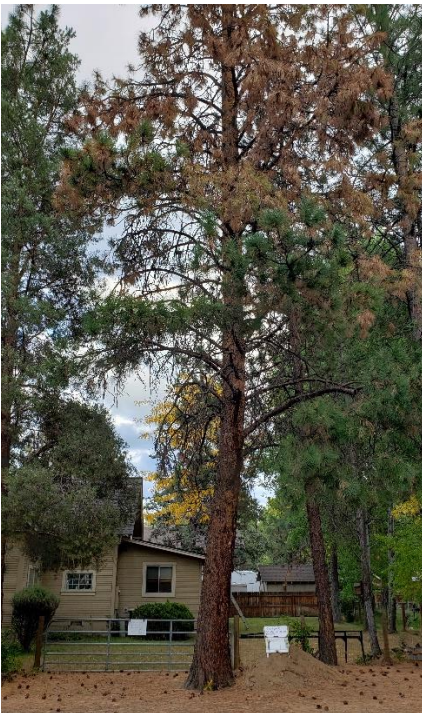
### INTRODUCTION:

A nearly dead Ponderosa Pine, facing S Elm Street, must be removed.

### BACKGROUND & FINDINGS:

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A 24 inch Ponderosa Pine ROW tree is in very poor condition. Tree health is not recoverable and there is no remedy. Large portions of the upper bole are already dead, and it is not sustainable. The damage is most likely caused by IPS beetle, another form of the Pine Beetle.



**FISCAL IMPACT:** Loss of urban ROW trees depletes the overall forested city-scape. Estimated cost of removal is about \$950.

### ACTION REQUESTED / RECOMMENDATION:

Recommendation is to remove this tree.



**TO:** Urban Forestry Board

**FROM:** Dan Galecki, Spindrift Forestry Consulting, SAF CF, City of Sisters Urban Forester

**COPY:** Paul Bertagna, Public Works Director  
Jackson Dumanch Public Works Project Coordinators

**RE:** **Creekside Campground, 4 Dead Ponderosa Pines and 2 additional Ponderosa Pines to be monitored 11/06/2023**

## **STAFF REPORT**

### **INTRODUCTION:**

4 dead Ponderosa Pines, and 2 stressed and declining Ponderosa Pines to be monitored.

### **BACKGROUND & FINDINGS:**

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A total of 4 Dead Ponderosa Pines are currently present in Creekside Campground. One group of three trees have diameters of 11, 14, and 28 inches. These particular trees are grouped close together by west side of the playground equipment.



One lone individual dead tree is located near campsite #4, near the western edge of the park. Diameter is 24 inches.



A stressed and declining 24 inch Ponderosa Pine resides in the swale on the west side of the playground equipment. The tree is marked with a small yellow dot.





The remaining stressed Ponderosa Pine that should be observed resides near the restrooms. Diameter is 26 inches.



**FISCAL IMPACT:** Loss of urban ROW trees depletes the overall forested city-scape. Estimated cost of removal is about \$1900 for all 4 trees. Trees already have yellow X's on them and marked for removal.

**ACTION REQUESTED / RECOMMENDATION:**

Recommendation is to remove the 4 dead trees. The 2 other trees that are not dead, and have been marked with a yellow dot, must be observed over time. Problems and issues that may have contributed to the condition of any of these trees are drought and insect infestation.

**TO:** Urban Forestry Board  
**FROM:** Dan Galecki, Spindrift Forestry Consulting, SAF CF, City of Sisters Urban Forester  
**COPY:** Paul Bertagna, Public Works Director  
Jackson Dumanch Public Works Project Coordinators  
**RE: Creekside Campground, 2 Dead Ponderosa Pines and 1 Dead Juniper 10/27/2023**

**STAFF REPORT**

**INTRODUCTION:**

2 dead Ponderosa Pines, and 2 dead Junipers, must be removed.

**BACKGROUND & FINDINGS:**

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2 Dead Ponderosa Pines are currently present in Creekside Campground. Additionally, there are 2 dead Junipers as well.

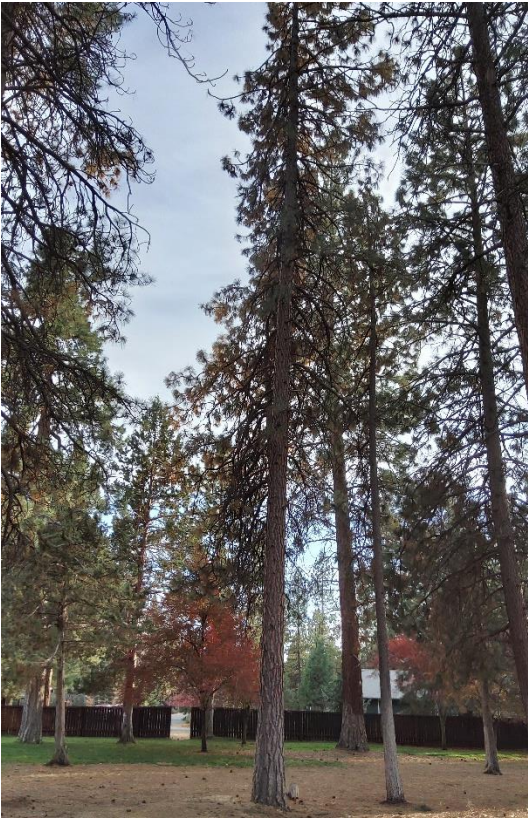


Dead Juniper, between sites 57 and 58



Dead Pine, north side of dog-play area, close to ODOT station.





Dead Pine, east of the new playground equipment.



Dead Juniper, close to bridge and southside of Whychus Creek.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** Loss of urban ROW trees depletes the overall forested city-scape. Estimated cost of removal is about \$1600 for all 4 trees. Trees already have yellow X's on them and marked for removal.

**ACTION REQUESTED / RECOMMENDATION:**

Recommendation is to remove these trees.

**TO:** Urban Forestry Board  
**FROM:** Dan Galecki, Spindrift Forestry Consulting, SAF CF, City of Sisters Urban Forester  
**COPY:** Paul Bertagna, Public Works Director  
Jackson Dumanch Public Works Project Coordinators  
**RE:** **385 W Washington Ave. Parking and Compaction Concerns, Ponderosa Pine**  
**11/06/2023**

## STAFF REPORT

### INTRODUCTION:

A city ROW, that has regular use of parking, to be observed for decline.

### BACKGROUND & FINDINGS:

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A large Ponderosa Pine ROW tree, currently is in good condition, experiences consistent vehicle parking close to the drip-line.







The tree appears to be reasonably healthy as of November, 2023. There is no doubt that parking and vehicle compaction near the roots can eventually cause harm. Recent construction, and a new influx of use on W Washington Ave. can start to influence more challenging growing situations. So far, the tree is reacting fine. The implementation of parking control nearby can only be beneficial.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** Loss of urban ROW trees depletes the overall forested city-scape. Estimated cost of removal is about \$1650 if this tree ever dies

**ACTION REQUESTED / RECOMMENDATION:**

Recommendation is to consider parking mitigation around this tree. The basic step of not allowing vehicles to park under the dripline would provide some extra insurance to this tree's health.