Urban Forestry – Current Program Status

CP&D, Public Works and Parks

April 2015

Urban Forestry Program Elements	Current Status
1. Planning and Policy • Long range planning • Code clarification/Updates • Tree Inventory/Canopy Coverage • Risk Management Policy	• No active program. No staff person assigned. • Comprehensive Plan provides high level policy framework. Engineering Design and Development Standards and Olympia Municipal Codes set standards for new public and private projects. • 2001-2011 Master Street Tree Plan outlined goals and policies, levels of service, and overall program approach. Update necessary. • Urban Forestry Manual clarifications necessary.
2. New Tree Planting	• No active program. • New trees added through private and public projects only with Grant funding • Stormwater Utility involved in extensive planting in riparian areas and at stormwater facilities. • On-going planting on parks properties.
3. Care of Existing Trees • Pruning, watering, tree grates, tree replacement • Asset management program	• Parks Department manages trees in Parks. • Parks historically responsible for maintenance of street trees in downtown and along major arterials. • No program for street tree management in neighborhoods, in unopened rights-of-way (ROW), large ROW areas and undeveloped City owned parcels. • No program for replacement of trees and tree grates. Performed on project by project basis when grant funding and crew available. • No asset management program in place.
4. Development Review/Code Enforcement	• CP&D lead (approximately 0.3 FTE) • No Code enforcement coverage.
5. Hazard Tree Management • Complaint response • Claims management • Tree removal, including contract management	• CP&D in lead. (0.3 FTE) • No dedicated funding source. 2014/2015 funded from year end funds. Need estimated at $75K- $100 per year. • Work performed by tree contractors with some occasional help from Parks when on Parks Property.
6. Education and Outreach	• CP&D response to phone calls and emails from residents/commercial (0.3 FTE). • Some native plant education through Stream Team/City Habitat Stewardship Program (PW) • Arbor Day/Tree City USA - CP&D (0.1)

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