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Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Comments

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Form Name: Comment on Agenda Items
Date & Time: 03/03/2021 5:23 pm
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Survey Details: Answers Only

Page 1

1. Amy Walgamott
2. Shoreline
3. (o) Ridgecrest
4. wigglemott@gmail.com
5. 03/05/2021
6. Tree Regulations Review and Discussion
7. I fully agree with the proposed amendments for the 2021 Development Code Amendments from Save Shoreline Trees. All of these amendments are valid and would beneficially impact the city tree cover. However, I feel an additional amendment should be considered, and that is to curtail or eliminate the MUR70 developers' exemption to the tree retention and replacement code. Either MUR70 developers should be required to retain at least 20% of significant trees AND 10% of trees with a DIAMETER of 20 inches AND have to replace removed trees in the immediate vicinity, OR there should be a moratorium on removal of significant trees of 20 inches in diameter once a (low) threshold has been reached. 20% of significant trees is not very many: just 4 of 20. Right now developers receive incentives for retaining 10%+ (2 of 20), but there is no requirement, and they don't even have to keep the largest. A tree that is 8 inches in diameter at breast level is not the same in terms of tree cover and habitat as one that is 30 inches. I personally have three trees that are 24-30 inches in diameter (80-100 inches in circumference), currently within the MUR70 zone, and slated to be cut by a developer. It feels inequitable to allow much of the tree cover to be removed in large areas/whole neighborhoods, especially when they were previously zoned R-6. It also feels inequitable that the city can assess its tree cover without taking into consideration where most of that tree cover is - ie. wealthier neighborhoods, or bunched into parks bordered by houses that are then significantly more expensive. Even mature street trees are constantly in danger of being cut by the city, and replaced with the same number of tiny saplings.
8. (o) Support

Thank you,
City of Shoreline

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