



MEDINA, WASHINGTON

AGENDA BILL

Monday, January 23, 2023

Subject: Tree Management Code Amendments

Category: City Business

Staff Contact: Steven R. Wilcox, Development Services Director

Summary

The purpose of this Agenda Bill is for Council to consider directing city staff to perform two tasks:

1. Prepare draft amendments to Medina Municipal Code Chapter 16.52 Tree Management Code according to the six (6) "Short-term Solutions" as presented by our City Arborists.
2. Prepare a plan for an approach to a comprehensive review of MMC Code Chapter 16.52 Tree Management Code.

In 2022 Medina employed two new arborist consultants, Sean Dugan (Tree Solutions, Inc.) and Andy Crossett (Tree Frog, LLC). Following a consistent 15-years of success with our previous consulting arborist Tom Early, our two new arborists have brought us a fresh perspective and have voiced their observations regarding the effectiveness of our Tree Management Code while considering the defined Purpose and Intent.

Ordinances adopted by municipalities require amendments from time to time. A discussion about the effectiveness of our Tree Management Code is appropriate now that we have new information. Presenting our arborist's observations is important for Council to hear so that decisions about possible actions can be made.

Sean Dugan is a Principal with Tree Solutions, Inc. Sean performs development project work for Medina. Sean is involved with proposed development projects from pre-application through final inspection approval. Sean primarily interacts with property developers and contractors. More information about Sean and his company may be found at [Tree Solutions Inc. - a tree consulting company in the Pacific Northwest](#).

Andy Crossett is owner of Tree Frog LLC. Andy performs non-development work for Medina. Any request by a Medina resident for tree removal, tree health assessment, and general tree related code enforcement outside of new development projects including the public right of way, are assigned to Andy. Andy primarily interacts with our residents and finds himself often guiding people through our permit process. More information about Andy and his LLC may be found at [Tree Frog LLC](#).

The proposed project meets and supports Council priorities 3, 4, and 5.

Council Priorities:

1. Financial Stability and Accountability
2. Quality Infrastructure
3. Efficient and Effective Government
4. Public Safety and Health
5. Neighborhood Character

Attachments

PowerPoint presentation prepared by Sean Dugan and Andy Crossett

MMC Ch. 16.52 with our arborist's and staff comments

Budget/Fiscal Impact:

1. Code amendment draft preparation estimated at \$25,000. This is an estimated cost to draft simple code amendments necessary to affect short-term solutions to matters involving the Tree Management Code.
2. Comprehensive review plan draft estimated at \$2,000 preparation. This is not the cost to comprehensively review the entirety of the Tree Management Code.

Estimates are for consulting arborists and attorney's costs. There is no defined budget for this work.

Recommendation: Approve.

City Manager Approval:



Proposed Council Motions:

1. I move to direct city staff to prepare for Council consideration draft amendments to the Medina Municipal Code Chapter 16.52 Tree Management Code according to the six (6) "Short-term Solutions" bullet points as presented at the 1/23/23 meeting by our tree code consultants.
2. I move to direct city staff to prepare for Council consideration a plan for a comprehensive review of the Medina Municipal Code Chapter 16.52 Tree Management Code.