



Arts, Culture & Heritage Commission Staff Report

Date: August 21, 2024

From: Georgia McAlister, Associate Planner

Subject: Wilsonville's Heritage Tree Program

Recommended Action:

Learn about the history of Wilsonville's Heritage Tree Program as well as the Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission's role in the program.

Check out following links:

[Virtual Tour of Wilsonville's Heritage Trees](#)

[Heritage Trees Map](#)

Background:

Since 2004, the Heritage Tree Committee has been accepting nominations and making recommendations to City Council about the inclusion of trees or tree groves into the Heritage Tree Program. In 2022, Resolution No. 2941 designated the Heritage Tree Committee to be a subcommittee of the Arts, Culture, and Heritage Committee. Resolution No. 2941 states, "The original purpose of the Heritage Tree Committee continues to oversee a "heritage tree program [that] will recognize, foster appreciation of, and inspire awareness of the contribution trees make to the community" and advocate that "heritage tree recognition will promote awareness of our history as a community, and provides important links to the past." The Commission, however, may modify the name, purpose and other components of the Heritage Tree Committee as the Commission sees fit."

Definition of Heritage Tree: Heritage Trees shall be recognized due to their involvement or inclusion in the development of landscape architecture, forestry, city planning, and culture. They are recognized due to their species, unique features, age, size, setting, design placement, link to important events or activities, location, or persons associated with them.

Nomination Process: This program is voluntary and carries no regulatory component. Any person may nominate a tree or trees as a Heritage Tree using the form prepared by the City. If the nominated tree is located on private property, the nomination form shall be submitted by the property owner or accompanied by the property owner's written consent, and the tree should be clearly visible from the public way. If the proposed Heritage Tree is on public property, the nomination shall be forwarded to the department responsible for use and/or maintenance of the property for review and recommendation prior to consideration.

Future Steps (if applicable):

Select members for the subcommittee.