

## Community Comments for Planning Commission Meeting

### Tree Code

October 14, 2020

Good evening Commissioners,

My name is Ed Schwarz and I am a resident of West Linn.

West Linn has been designated a Tree City for the past 27 years.

Our town is called the “City of Hills, Trees, and Rivers.”

The attached “Top 22 Benefits of Trees,” written by Kirsten Ramstad of the Oregon Department of Forestry, underscores how important this City’s trees are to the community.

I ask that the Planning Commission once again ask the City Council to approve and prioritize a code change for our tree code. We realize you have asked before and the request has gone unheeded.

The citizens have sent several emails to the Council recently asking that the tree code be made tougher and it is time for the City Council to get this done.

Of particular importance is the “up to 20%” cap on tree preservation. This is found in the CDC’s tree code chapters of 55.100 B.2 b and 85.200 A.1. This wording is so ambiguous that it could be held to be zero by a developer’s attorney. A lawyer who lives in our neighborhood recently made that statement.

Please once again ask the City Council to update the tree code to protect what we value so much in this city.

As the kids say, please “be the change.”

Thank you very much,

Ed Schwarz

West Linn