


**CITY OF COOS BAY
CITY COUNCIL
Staff Report**

MEETING DATE April 18, 2017	AGENDA ITEM NUMBER
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TO: Mayor Benetti and City Councilors

FROM: Jim Hossley, Public Works and Community Development Director 

THROUGH: Rodger Craddock, City Manager *pac*

ISSUE: Arbor Day Proclamation

SUMMARY:

The Tree City USA program has been greening up cities and towns across America since 1976. It is a nationwide movement that provides the framework necessary for communities to manage and expand their public trees. The City of Coos Bay has been a member of the Arbor Foundation for the past 23 years, which the City has been recognized as a Tree City USA community.

BACKGROUND:

To qualify as a Tree City USA community, you must meet four standards established by the Arbor Day Foundation and the National Association of State Foresters; 1.) Established tree board, 2.) Tree ordinance, 3.) Forestry program with an annual budget of at least \$2 per capita, and 4.) Arbor Day Observance and Proclamation. These standards were established to ensure that every qualifying community would have a viable tree management program and that no community would be excluded because of size. Each year during the Arbor Day event the City purchases trees that are approved from the City Urban Forestry Plan (approved tree species). In addition, Pacific Power, and CH2MHill donate trees, per approved species, which they partner with the City and plant them.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

The City established three tree zones; 1.) Street trees, 2.) Park trees, and 3.) Undeveloped/Natural Areas. Street trees are funded from Gas Tax fund # 02-320-520-2310, whereas Park Trees and Undeveloped/Natural Areas are funded from Building Grounds Maintenance #01-306-520-2309. This is an existing service provide by Public Works.

ACTION REQUESTED:

If it please council, approve the Arbor Day Proclamation.



Proclamation

WHEREAS, in 1872 J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees, and

WHEREAS, this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, and

WHEREAS, Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world and the City of Coos Bay was designated a Tree City USA city in 1994, and

WHEREAS, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating, and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen, and provide habitat for wildlife, and

WHEREAS, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires, and countless other wood products, and

WHEREAS, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community, and

WHEREAS, Coos Bay has been recognized as a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation, and desires to continue its tree-planting endeavors, and

WHEREAS, trees are a source of joy and spiritual renewal, and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Joe Benetti, Mayor of the City of Coos Bay, do hereby proclaim that the last Friday in April, from this time forward, shall be observed as

ARBOR DAY

in the City of Coos Bay, and I urge all citizens to support efforts to care for our trees and woodlands, and to support our City's community forestry program, and

FURTHER, I urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden the hearts and promote the well-being of present and future generations.



In the witness thereof, I hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Coos Bay to be affixed on this 18th day of April 2017.

Joe Benetti, Mayor