



AGENDA

Wednesday, March 4, 2026

6:00 p.m.

This meeting will be conducted virtually. At 6:00 p.m., Join the meeting here:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83068386417?pwd=clFnb3h3TWWhIWIWfjNHlWRTY0K3NhZz09>

Meeting ID: 830 6838 6417 Passcode: 763440

Please help us get Albany's work done.

Be respectful and refer to the rules of conduct posted on the website

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. PUBLIC COMMENTS
 - 1) None

Persons wanting to provide comments may:

- 1- *Email written comments to Debbie.little@albanyoregon.gov, including your name, before noon on the day before the meeting.*
- 2- *To comment virtually during the meeting, register by emailing Debbie.little@albanyoregon.gov before noon on the day before the meeting, with your name. The chair will call upon those who have registered to speak.*
- 3- *Prearranged – appear in person at the meeting and register to speak.*

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - a. February 4, 2026
5. SCHEDULED BUSINESS
 - a. Discussion Items
 - 1) Tree Survey Results-Liz Olmstead
 - b. Action Items
 - 1) None
 - c. Reports and Updates
 - 1) Capital Projects Update – Kim
 - 2) Program Updates – Staff
6. BUSINESS FROM THE COMMISSION
7. NEXT MEETING DATE: Wednesday, April 1, 2026 - Virtual
8. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting is accessible to the public via video connection. In-person attendance is available. For arrangements, please contact city staff at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting at: Debbie.little@albanyoregon.gov or call 541-917-7778. If you have a disability that requires accommodation, please notify city staff at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

Testimony provided at the meeting is part of the public record. Meetings are recorded, capturing both in-person and virtual participation, and are posted on the City website.





MINUTES

Wednesday, February 04, 2026

6 p.m.

REMOTE

Approved: Draft

- CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 6:02 p.m.
- Members present: Sharon Konopa, Jill VanBuren, Joyce Thompson Graham, Bill Stoneroad, Nick Anderson, Gabrielle Roesch-McNally
- Members absent: Anna Roller
- Staff present: Kim Lyddane, Director; Tommy Reeder, Parks & Open Manager; Tyler Reece, Recreation Assistant; Debbie Little, Administrative Services Coordinator
- Guest present: None

Business from the Public

- 1) None

Commissioners introduced themselves and provided some background information.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES 6:10 p.m.
November 5, 2025

MOTION: Thompson Graham moved to adopt the minutes. VanBuren seconded the motion, which passed 6-0.

DISCUSSION ITEMS 6:11 p.m.

- Introductions
Lyddane introduced new staff members, and they provided some background information.
- Department Overview
Lyddane presented an overview of the department. Brief discussion followed
- Tree Planting Update
Reeder reported approximately 200 trees are in the process of being planted. Planting completion target is end of February.
Stoneroad requested the commission members be notified of tree removals in case commissioners get questions from the public. Brief discussion followed
- VanBuren shared that students involved with LBCC's art organization have expressed an interest in creating and installing a mural in one of the City's parks. Brief discussion followed.
Lyddane, Reeder, and VanBuren will continue the conversation with LBCC.

ACTION ITEMS

a. Chair/Vice-Chair Elections 7:00 p.m.

Nomination: Member Kanopa nominated Member Anderson for the position of Chair. Anderson accepted the nomination. There being no other nominations, Anderson was elected to the position of Chair. Vote 6-0.

Nomination: Member Thompson Graham nominated Member Roller for the position of Vice-Chair. There being no other nominations, Roller was elected to the position of Vice-Chair. Vote 6-0.

REPORTS AND UPDATES 7:02 p.m.

a. Capital Projects

Lyddane reviewed the project report included in the agenda packet.

- Deerfield Park renovation project continues, hopefully it will be completed by late spring. Brief discussion followed.

STAFF REPORTS

Lyddane provided an update on recreation programs.

- Five new employees started January 5, 2026, and two more will start mid-February.
- Waverly Paddle boats funded has been subsidized by Coastal Farm & Ranch.
- Waverly duck is being assessed for refurbishing needs and cost. Fundraising is process through the Albany Parks & Recreation Foundation and Sybaris for a fundraising dinner.
- District swimming meets will be taking place at ACP next week.
- Summer preparation is taking place, for programs, concerts and classes. Looking at incorporating a park/playground passport.

Reeder provided an update on Park Maintenance.

- Reeder is getting to know the team and assessing areas of need. Happy to be a part of the team.

BUSINESS FROM THE COMMISSION 7:09 p.m.

Thompson Graham inquired about the Locks of Love memorial structure. Lyddane provided an update. Location will be Timber Linn Memorial Park, and a family ceremony will take place in April.

Anderson inquired about the Plant Walk. Lyddane noted it is still in development.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Next meeting will be Wednesday, March 4, 2026. This meeting will be virtual.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Submitted by,

Reviewed by,

Debbie Little
Administrative Services Coordinator

Kim Lyddane
Parks & Recreation Director



TO: Albany Parks, Recreation, and Tree Advisory Commission

VIA: Kim Lyddane, Parks and Recreation Director

FROM: Liz Olmstead, Planner II

DATE: February 23, 2026, for March 4th, Albany Parks, Recreation, and Tree Advisory Commission Meeting

SUBJECT: Albany Development Code Tree Protection Regulations Update

Purpose:

Discuss results of the online tree survey and give feedback on potential changes to the Albany Development Code.

Background/Discussion:

At the August 2025 meeting, the Commission discussed potential updates to the tree protection regulations in the Albany Development Code (ADC). In October 2025, staff met with local developers to discuss tree code regulations, solicited feedback, and discussed options for tree code revisions.

In December, an online survey was posted for residents in the community to provide feedback on tree related issues in the community and provide comments on new tree regulations.

Survey responses indicated the following:

- Protection of endangered trees and native tree groves are of highest importance,
- Street trees make residential neighborhoods a desirable place to live, followed closely by preservation of trees through a neighborhood in front or backyards,
- Tree canopy as a method to measure the amount of trees removed/replanted on a property is of greater importance than the number of trees removed. Respondents also indicated both tree canopy and the number of trees should be used to measure the amount of trees removed on a property,
- Strategic planting of new trees is more important than saving non-endangered trees. It was also indicated that new trees should be strategically planted as well as non-endangered trees be saved, or it should be done on a case-by-case basis, and
- A fee-in-lieu program would be supported if trees cannot be saved during development.

The last survey question asked what goals or results the community would like to see accomplished in the tree protection standards update. Many respondents indicated they do not want any regulation on private property. Based on those statements, it appears many people do not understand that the tree protection regulations or ADC Article 9 do not apply to properties less than 20,000 square feet. Other respondents would like to see a focus on large, older trees, native and endangered trees, and trees that create habitat. Others feel the focus of the regulations should be

old and new trees, as well as enforcement of trees that were required to be planted and then removed.

At the meeting, staff will be seeking input on the following topics:

1. Tree removal – what type, size, and percentage of trees/tree canopy can be removed
2. Tree replacement options - number/percentage of trees/tree canopy, tree protection easements, and street trees versus on-site trees
3. Fee-in-lieu program – how to implement

Attachment:

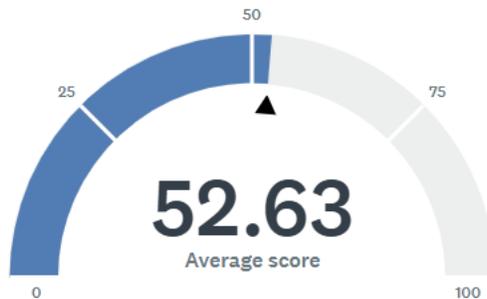
1. Tree Protection survey results

Tree Protection Survey Results

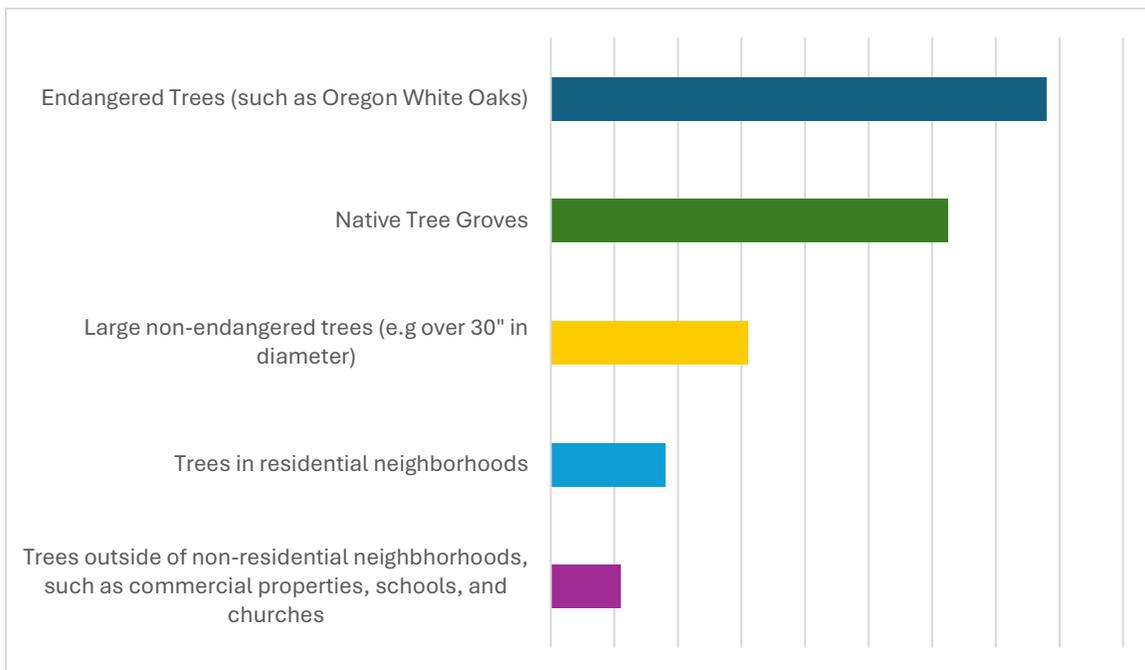
The tree protection survey was shared on social media as well as on flyers posted at the library and community center with a QR code. The survey was posted on December 4, 2025, and closed on January 2, 2026. 358 responses were received.

The following shows the questions asked in the survey and the response data:

Question #1: How well do the City of Albany regulations protect trees on private property outside of natural areas (streams, wetlands, steep slopes)?



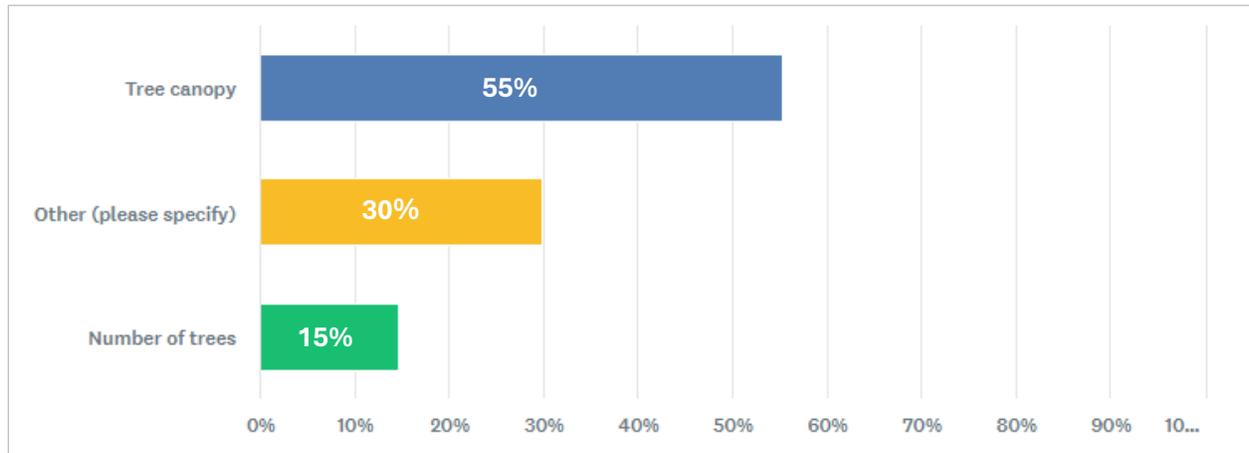
Question #2: How important is it to increase protection of the following? Rank in order of importance.



**Question #3: What trees make residential neighborhoods a desirable place to live?
Rank in order of importance.**



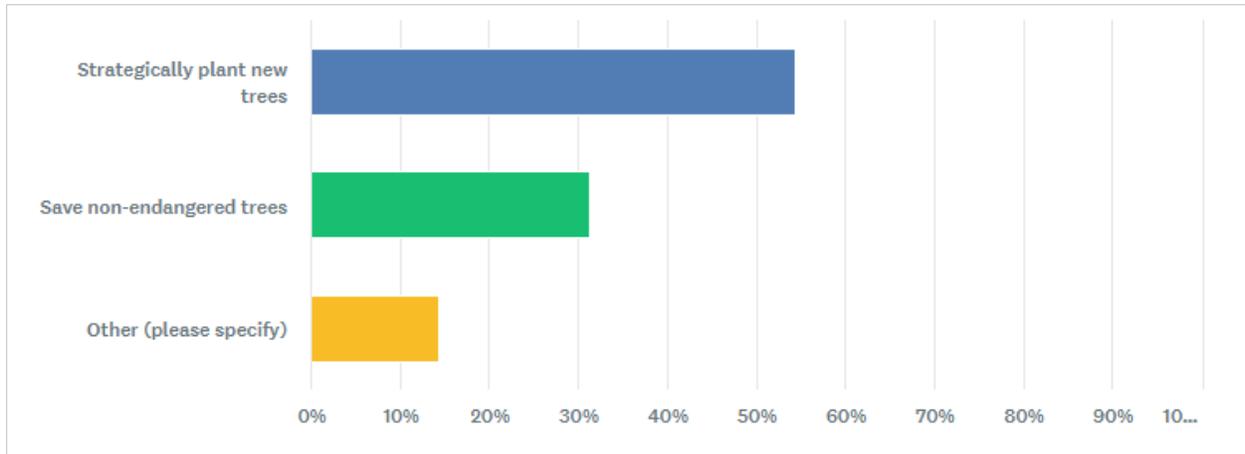
Question #4: Is it more important to regulate the removal of trees on a property, or the amount of tree canopy?



Other: Comments in the 'other' category provided varied responses, which included:

- Regulate both tree canopy and the number of trees
- Depends on the age, type and/or size of trees
- Do not remove any trees
- Each situation is different
- Regulate large or old-growth trees
- Provide incentives to retain trees
- Do not regulate the removal of trees on private property
- Don't know/don't understand the question

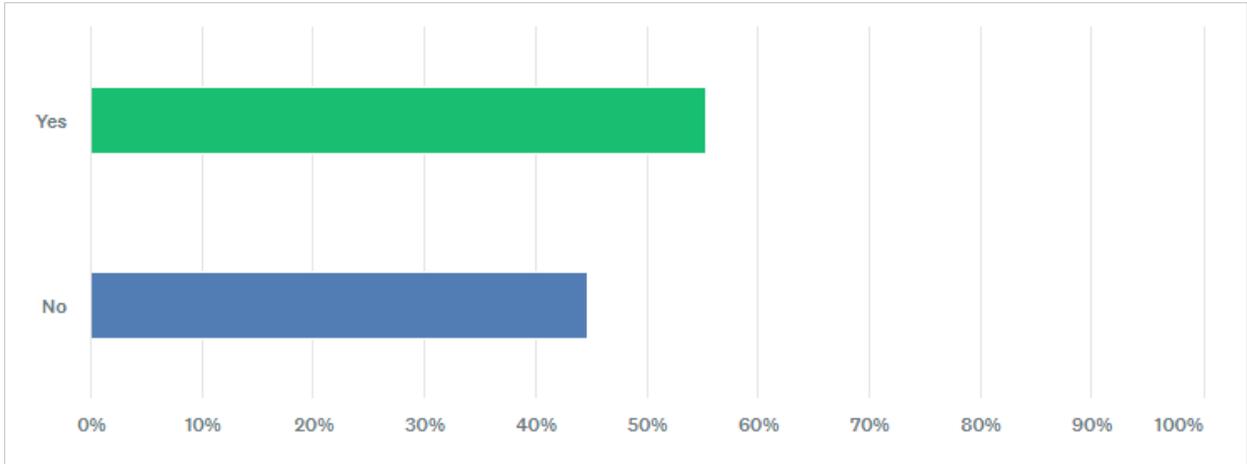
Question #5: Which do you find more important, to save non-endangered trees in their existing location, or strategically plant new trees to replace trees that were removed, such as street trees or trees in an open area?



Other: Comments in the 'other' category provided varied responses, which included:

- Strategically plant new trees and save non-endangered trees
- A combination of old and young trees is best for habitat
- Focus on planting pollinator and wildlife friendly varieties, followed by nut and fruit trees
- Allow the developer to best use their land
- Case by case basis
- Save endangered trees
- It depends on the location and condition of existing trees
- Do not regulate trees
- Prioritize saving native trees
- Take into consideration age of existing trees and their life span
- Plant endangered trees
- Replant trees on public land, such as parks, schools, natural areas

Question #6: If all trees cannot be saved during development of a property, would you support a fee-in-lieu program? The fee would be used to plant trees in parks and along stream banks.



Question #7: What specific goals or results would you like to see accomplished from an update to the Tree Protection standards?

- Focus on old growth trees, native, endangered trees, and trees that create habitat versus replanting new trees
- Plant more street trees
- Focus on value of trees – types that have more value to environment than others
- Public education on preserving trees
- Protect existing trees and add more where possible - focus on a mix of new and old growth
- Plant trees along main roads in Albany
- Enforce removal of trees removed without permits
- Design development that plans around the surrounding environment and existing trees
- Focus on what it means to be a “tree city”
- Remember that regulations are extremely costly to our community. Responsible behavior includes: simplifying regulations, cleaning out the closets (removing outdated/poor regulations), listing the reasons for the goals (Why do we have these goals?), enumerate thoughtful questions to be considered (perhaps with a priority scale) that align with our priorities to encourage thoughtful discourse, and then empower those responsible for managing the area to make decisions that make sense for each situation.
- Regulation of trees shouldn't cause housing developments to fail, shrink, or become more expensive.
- Reduce clear cutting in new neighborhoods and increase canopy throughout the city, not just parks.
- If tree is removed, replant 1:1, 1:2, etc.
- Have clear requirements for tree size, species, and quantity

Capital Projects Report

PROJECT	STATUS	PROJECTED COMPLETION DATE	NOTES
Deerfield Park Playground Replacement	Gravel contract in place and mobilizing in the next few weeks with playground install to follow. Soft opening in the Spring with a ribbon cutting at Fun in the Park in the summer.	Spring 2026	