

## Heritage Tree Program Updates

2/3/2024

Good morning Beverly. This is great.

1. I think the first priority would be to create a program and work to get a list and a plan for the HTs on VOM land. I expect there are a lot of HTs in the VOM.
2. I have not seen any decent forms for nomination but will continue to look.
3. Oregon seems to have a significant state program and puts up plaques for special trees. Such a plaque program might be of interest to the VOM and residents.
4. While the VOM may have control over maintenance of its own trees, I think an HTP within that might be valuable and could be publicized.
5. According to a survey I have, the large oak on my property on S Barry is on VOM ROW property. I am concerned about this tree as it is on bedrock and I am not sure how to assess its future. This is the one I wrote you previously had been called a Heritage Oak by the folks that fertilized it years ago – it must have been directed by the VOM. Any thoughts you have would be greatly appreciated.
6. The concept of a private HT being protected from development, as you write below: I did not mean to suggest that these would alter development and, you are of course right, it would be a mess legally. I meant VOM HTs in the ROW, which may be covered anyway (for example my oak if the MBYC was to run a sewer line up to the junction near your house as had been discussed at one point.

Please LMK if and how I can help.

THANKS!

Chris

2/6/2024

Thank you again Chris! I will be taking these documents and suggestions into tomorrow's meeting. Although some of it is way beyond our current limited status with an HT program, reading about it will be a good beginning for thinking in an organized way.

I think you are right, our first step should be identifying trees on village property, since we can protect and maintain those trees. A contest for nominations is a great idea. Not only will it likely identify many more trees than we currently know about, it will also start people thinking about them and considering trees they know on private property.

Promoting the contest in the schools is probably the most effective way to start. I will see if anyone on the committee would like to design a flyer, including the criteria you set forth (but excluding invasive species such as the Bartlett pear described in the Fabio article) If I get a volunteer may I put him/her in touch with you about it?

I do appreciate what you're doing with this

Beverley

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2/6/2024

Hi Beverly. This is all great! Yes, I would be happy to work with a volunteer. I have been working a bit more on it. DO you have access to a VOM map that shows the ROW for each street/area? I haven't been able to find, and it seems like its key in order to figure out what HTs are on what/whose property, etc. THANKS! Chris

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2/6/2024

So far as I have ever been able to learn — and I've been asking about ROWs for 12 years — each one is unique to each property and the only way to determine it is by looking at the individual deeds. In other words, there's not a global solution.

I usually estimate it as the first 5' from the street but it's only an estimate and of course is affected by how wide or narrow the streets are.

The practical solution may be first to identify trees that may be in the ROW and then check those deeds. Given how large HTs generally are, it's likely that some will be on both public and private land. The village has been pretty good about taking responsibility for those trees, but give the recent changes, I don't know what will happen in those cases going forward. We'll have to anticipate questions.

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