

Proposal for Japanese Lantern Memorial* - 4/29/18

Goal: commission, oversee and dedicate a *Tōrō* or stone lantern in the Lithia Park Japanese garden.

Exact location and general design to be subject to Ashland Parks & Recreation approval.

Artistic design and creation the lantern to be done by Wataru Sugiyama, long-time local artist, SOU graduate. There are several traditional forms for the Japanese lantern, made both of stone and bronze. Generally the lanterns are place along paths, next to water and near buildings.



Sonnenberg Gardens, NY

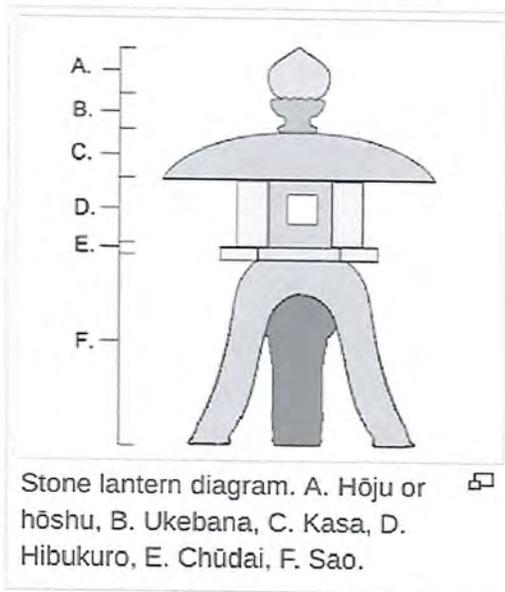


Chiyemi

Design to be traditional. Japanese lanterns are an element of Japanese gardens along with bridges, paths, trees & plants, water, stone basins, tea houses, etc.



Kasuga Temple**, Nara Japan



Yukimi-doro



Kasuga-doro

The proposed lantern would be appropriate for any Japanese garden, anywhere.

** (春日大社 *Kasuga-taisha* - UNESCO World Heritage Site)

If the redesign and refashioning of the Japanese garden in Lithia Park takes place after the lantern is completed, it could be moved and repositioned in the redesigned garden.

Stone lanterns [\[edit \]](#)



Tachi-dōrō of the *kasuga-dōrō* type



A *kirishitan-dōrō*



Ikekomi-dōrō of the *Kirishitan-dōrō* type



An *oki-dōrō*

Bronze lanterns [\[edit \]](#)



Bronze lantern at [Hōryū-ji](#)



Bronze lantern at Tōdai-ji (National Treasure)



Bronze lantern at [Nikkō Tōshō-gū](#)



Bronze lantern at [Itsukushima Shrine](#)

Yukimi-dōrō variants [\[edit \]](#)



Four-legged *yukimi-dōrō*



Three legged *yukimi-dōrō*. One leg rests on ground, two in water.



Two-legged *yukimi-dōrō*



One-legged *yukimi-dōrō*



*Chiyemi Katsuyoshi Doyle lived in Ashland for 28 years, married 48 years, worked at SOU in International Programs. Born in Tule Lake Japanese Internment camp June 19, 1945, she passed March 6, 2018 at University of California San Francisco Medical Center. Contact info: Terry Doyle - 462 Allison St. - 541-890-2924

Michael Oxman

Professional Tree Surgeon

ISA Certified Arborist #PN-0756A

TRAQ Tree Risk Assessment Qualified

10236 37th PL SW, Seattle WA 98146

(206) 949-8733 www.treedr.com michaeloxman@comcast.net

Michael Black
Ashland Parks & Rec
340 S. Pioneer St
Ashland, OR 97520
(541) 552-2251

1-18-2019

Arborist Report and Risk Assessment of 2 Douglas Fir trees at the Japanese Garden.

Date of inspection: January 17, 2019

Species: Douglas Fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*)

Height: 120'-130 tall

Trunk diameter measured: Tree #1: 53"; Tree #2: 46".

SCOPE

I was asked by Parks Superintendant Mike Oxendine to examine 2 fir trees and give my opinion of their stability. I was told a proposed remodel design of the Japanese Garden included a proposal to expand the size of the garden and place a bamboo garden where the 2 trees are located. The assignment requires completion of the attached International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Basic Tree Risk Assessment protocol checklists to determine a rating of potential risk in case structural failure causes the trees to break apart or fall over.

METHOD OF INSPECTION

I used only my eyes to visually examine the site from the ground. No off-site assessment, document review, tools, measuring devices, digging, drilling, or climbing techniques were used to determine conditions.

Photographs were taken, which are attached to email.

FINDINGS

Lithia Park is a century-old garden 100 acres in size. It is in a sloping ravine where Ashland Creek flows north. The Japanese Garden within the park is located between Winburn Way and Granite Street. It is on the west side of the creek, and the ground slopes east towards the creek. An entry path leads up a set of stone steps from Winburn Way, thru a Torii gate, and meets another path that runs parallel to the street. The Japanese Garden's current location is uphill, west of the 2 fir trees that are the subject of this report .

The 2 Douglas Fir trees are at the northwest corner of the junction of these 2 paths. The 2 trees are the southernmost members of a linear grove of 12 Douglas Fir trees. The 200' long grove is composed of 12 Douglas Fir trees lining the path that runs parallel to the street. The individual trees in the grove are closely spaced from each other, ranging from 8 feet apart to 20' feet apart. Length of lower limbs is about 30', which means dripline width of Tree #1 and #2 is about 60'.

Tree #1 is the dominant end tree of the grove, and Tree #2 is slightly suppressed in size, about 12' away, to the north. The remaining trees in the grove are separated from Tree #1 and Tree #2 by a gap of about 20', and have smaller trunks, The height of all the trees range from about 110' to 125'. There are many other trees of similar height and age close by.

Tree #1 has a canopy that wraps around the trunk on 3 sides. No limbs grow directly towards the stem of Tree #2. The assymetrical canopy receives afternoon sunlight primarily from the south and west, because other trees block morning sunlight from the east and north. The tree has a slight lean towards the south-southwest where it can capture the most sunlight. The weight of the foliage contributes to this lean, which is not of concern. The form of the trunk tapers evenly from the ground to the top. No cavities or other defects in the wood are evident. Tip growth is short, which is typical of trees of this age. Many dry cones are still attached at the top of the tree. The base of the tree and visible root collar appear sound.

Tree #2 has a smaller trunk and canopy that contains less cubic volume. No limbs grow directly towards the stem of Tree #1. The assymetrical canopy receives afternoon sunlight primarily from the west, because other trees block morning sunlight, and Tree #1 blocks afternoon sun from the south. The tree has a slight lean towards the southwest where it can capture the most sunlight. The weight of the foliage contributes to this lean, which is not of concern. The form of the trunk tapers evenly from the ground to the top. The base of the tree and visible root collar appear sound. No cavities or other defects

in the wood are evident. Tip growth is short, which is typical of trees of this age. Many dry cones are still attached at the top of the tree. The base of the tree and visible root collar appear sound.

A few days prior to my inspection, the site within the dripline of the grove had been cleared of all understory plants and trees, such as Ash and Madrone. The stumps and roots of these trees were still present.

An air pressure gun called an Air Spade had been used to blast away soil from the root crowns of all 12 trees in the grove. This is a low-impact investigative technique that exposes the upper part of the woody roots near the trunk for examination. I performed a root crown inspection of the portions of roots that were made visible by removal of the good quality sandy loam soil. The trunks of the trees flare out in size at the base of the trees for extra stability. The buttress points where each root is attached to the trunk were found to be sound. The bark on top of some of the shallower surface roots has rough texture from soil disturbance, and was found to be growing very fast as a growth response. There are places where roots had grafted onto each other. The stumps and roots of the understory trees that had been removed were visible, and were found to have wrapped around encircled the roots and trunks of other trees in the grove.

The metabolic condition of the trees is healthy. These trees are growing well, and becoming larger each year. The trunks appear to be clear of limbs for about 30' above the ground. The faint appearance of limb scars from clearance pruning indicates the lower limbs have been gone at least a decade. No tree removal history or stumps are visible that would indicate recent stand thinning maintenance.

In the remainder of trees in the grove, there was only one apparent recent failure, located at the northernmost Douglas Fir tree in the grove. A 4" diameter limb about 40' above the ground broke off at its attachment point on the trunk on the north end of the canopy. The stub of the limb appears freshly broken, with no evident decay or structural weakness at the fracture point. This may mean that very high wind caused the breakage of 1 limb out of hundreds of limbs in the grove. This limb stub can be seen in the photograph.

CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

The metabolic condition of the 2 trees is healthy and sound. The uniform taper of the trunks and lack of cavities or seams indicates strong wood. The asymmetry of the canopy indicates mature stand conditions resulting from close spacing of trees. The excavation of the root crown to inspection confirms soil quality is good, and there is no decay of structural roots.

The consequences of removal of the 2 largest trees in the grove could have adverse side effects. The remaining trees have developed qualities of resisting stress from wind and other conditions within the protected shelter of Tree #1 and Tree #2. The edge effect of newly exposed trees that were previously shielded could promote unanticipated breakage and tree failure.

The accompanying forms list relevant factors in assessing risk for each tree. They tabulate a numerical score which rates trees with multiple obvious defects as being the most prone to failure. Trees #1 and

#2 have a low risk rating because they do not have such defects, and have a long life expectancy. The life expectancy of this grove may be at least 20 years.

Attachment III

January 23, 2019

Chair Mike Gardiner
Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission
340 South Pioneer Street
Ashland, OR 97520

Re: Lithia Park Japanese Garden

Dear Mr. Gardiner,

The Ashland Parks Foundation (*APF*) has been presented with a gift in the form of funding that will allow for the transformation of the existing “Japanese Style Garden” in Lithia Park to an authentic Japanese Garden. APF has worked with Toru Tanaka, a nationally recognized designer, who has prepared the attached Japanese Garden plan (The “*Plan*”). The Plan is very specific to the space that already exists for the current garden and includes a modest expansion on both the north and south side of the garden to accommodate the Plan.

The Plan calls for the reorganization of the garden and the introduction of new elements, such as a koi pond, moss gardens, sand and stone garden, a significant increase in the number of trees and ADA accessible walking paths, in order to meet the following goals:

1. Ensure accessibility in the garden for all users
2. Create a design that allows for nodes, alcoves and sitting along paths
3. Incorporate authentic elements into the plan
4. Ensure garden is protected from outside elements via appropriate fencing or barrier
5. Create an immersive Japanese Garden experience
6. Honor the history of the garden in the larger Lithia Park

The current garden property is owned by Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission (*APRC*) and is part of Lithia Park. The board of directors of the APF are presenting the attached plan for the consideration of APRC and we recommend that the Commissioners vote on the plan as it is presented.

Background

The design of the Garden began with the Lithia Park Master Plan (*LPMP*) site analysis process. During this process the LPMP team reviewed the site and determined that a modest increase in the size of the Japanese Garden would not be detrimental to the LPMP. In fact, it was commented on by the team that the addition of the enhanced garden to the park would be a significant element to the longevity and viability of the park, in general.

When it was determined that the LPMP planning process and the garden design process were not disadvantageous to each other, the process began to move forward with garden design. Toru Tanaka, a former director of the Portland Japanese Garden, was selected to complete the design and he began work on the design in late Summer – early Fall of 2018. While Mr. Tanaka was busy preparing a

On the outskirts of the existing Japanese Garden is a grove of twelve significantly sized Douglas Fir trees. On the leading southern edge of the grove are two of the largest trees of the group that fall within the proposed boundary of the new Japanese Garden. APF acknowledges that these trees are healthy; however, their location in the garden is not consistent with the proposed plan and we recommend that those two trees be removed. The wood from the trees could potentially be milled to provide materials for the new Japanese Garden for fencing, benches and so on.. The two large trees in question were planted with the grove of twelve in 1924 by the Boy Scouts of America.

Recommendation

Attached to this letter, you will find a professionally designed Plan for the renovation of the existing Japanese Style Garden in Lithia Park. A generous donation has made this design possible and the same donation will cover the expenses of the construction of the project. The APF wishes to gift this plan to APRC with the funds to complete the construction. In addition, the donor, through the APF, is also dedicating a yearly stipend of \$60,000 for the increased maintenance cost of the garden.

The APF is very excited to be able to offer this gift to APRC and the citizens of Ashland. We hope that this letter will solidify the gift that is being proposed and will find favor with the Commissioners. We truly believe that this gift will be enjoyed for more than a century, just as the original plan for Lithia Park – including a Japanese garden – has been enjoyed by residents and visitors alike for more than 100 years.

Thank you again for your consideration and partnership in this endeavor.

Your truly,

The Ashland Parks Foundation

ANALISIS LINDAS BOKI IMPERSONAL LINDAS CINA POKOK



**Julie Norman's Testimony for Parks and Rec Commissioners Meeting
Mon. Jan. 28, 7pm**

Hi, my name is Julie Norman.

Commissioners, thank you for the opportunity to make these suggestions:

1. Honor the primary goal of the Parks Commission.

Your website says: "The goal of the Parks Commission is to provide and promote recreational opportunities and to **preserve and maintain** public lands." Deciding to kill two of the twelve healthy trees in the historic Boy Scout Grove, planted 100 years ago by local Scouts, would conflict with your mission to "preserve and maintain."

2. Take the kind offer from your expert garden designer, Mr. Tanaka, when he said "he could work around" the fir trees.

[Larry Cooper confirms this statement was made recently at the site visit.]

3. Describe the process that Parks and Rec staff went through with the consulting team led by MIG, Inc. and confirm that the garden design was found to be consistent with the guidelines being developed for the Lithia Park Master Plan, as claimed by the Ashland Parks Foundation.

(a) The Ashland Parks Foundation website (<https://www.ashland.or.us/News.asp?NewsID=4070>) states that their Board has worked with MIG, Inc. (Ashland Park's and Rec's team of consultants led by Laurie Matthews) to review the garden design. Mr. Mangin, APF Board Member, is quoted saying, "I wanted to be sure that the Garden dove-tailed with the {Lithia Park Master} Plan, and it does, so we are ready to move ahead with next steps."

Neither Parks Commissioners nor Staff have supplied any details to substantiate this claim, on their website or at public meetings. Consequently, the vote on the proposed design should be delayed until citizens see information about the design review with MIG, Inc., as described by Director Mangin.

(b) The only reference to the Lithia Park Master Plan is on the Parks and Rec website, as follows: "The current Japanese Style garden was evaluated during the Lithia Park Master Plan. During design week in June 2018, it was determined that the [Japanese] garden could potentially be redesigned and even expanded **without negatively affecting the adjoining park spaces.**"

Neither the Parks Commission nor Staff has shared documentation verifying that

their proposed design was found to be consistent with this direction from June 2018. Consequently, the Parks Commission's vote to approve the current garden design must be delayed until documentation is provided.

3. Publicize the third-party arborist's Health Assessment to correct previous misinformation that was distributed by Parks.

A licensed third-party arborist was commissioned by the Parks Director to do a health assessment as part of vetting the conflicting views about the fir trees' health.

The arborist found the two fir trees to be "healthy" and "mature" with "a long life expectancy." Unfortunately, his detailed report was not publicized on the Parks website, until last Thursday, Jan. 24th when it was included in the Director's packet for this meeting tonight. It could have been passed out in hard copy or read in full by the Parks Director at the Listening Session on Jan. 24, but he chose to downplay its contents. This was a great disservice to the public, on both sides of the controversy.

In fact, with diameters of 4 feet, and heights over 130 feet, these firs are large for their age of 100 years. The length of the lower limbs is "about 30 feet," making the width of the dripline "about 60 feet."

Other health indicators the arborist cited include:

"No cavities or other defects in the wood"

"Base of the tree and root collar appear sound."

"No decay of structural roots"

"Metabolic condition is "healthy."

"Growing well and becoming larger each year".

"Strong wood"

"Soil quality is good"

This matches the opinion of the Ashland Tree Commission's inspector.

These trees were alive before any of us were born, and they will likely outlive everyone in this room.

Opinions by non-experts, that Tree # 1 and #2 are not healthy, are false and have misled many people. Unfortunately the Parks Department spread these opinions (most notably in the minutes of the January 14 Special Meeting with the Tree Commission). And when the report by the licensed arborist was completed (Jan. 18, 2019), the Parks Director did not read them or supply copies (most notably at the Jan. 24th Listening Session for public input.).

has resulted in significant confusion and divisive conflict.

4. Prevent increased risks to the remaining 10 fir trees from high winds. The arborist's report warned that the removal of the fir trees 1 and 2 "could have adverse side effects" on the remaining firs in the Boy Scout Grove. He explained that "edge effects," where "newly exposed trees that were previously shielded" could suffer from "breakage and tree failure."

The current wind resilience in the Boy Scout Grove was demonstrated last summer after a period of powerful, 50 mph winds. JoAnne Eggers and Parks maintenance staff found only one fallen branch in the entire grove.

5. Honor the recommendation of the City of Ashland's Tree Commission, even if you're not legally required to do so.

The City of Ashland's Tree Commission inspected the two firs, found them to be healthy, and declared that removing them would violate Commission's criteria. They unanimously recommended that the trees not be cut down.

Unfortunately Parks Commissioners and Staff claim that the Tree Commission does not have jurisdiction in Lithia Park, and that they are not bound to comply with the Ashland Tree Commission standards.

Nevertheless, back in 2000, Ashland Parks Commissioners voted to manage the Parks according to the same standards as the City of Ashland. That vote should be upheld, not skirted.

6. Acknowledge that these long-lived conifer trees are exactly what we need to meet our City's official goals of counteracting carbon pollution.

7. Adopt a win-win, revised design that incorporates the firs.

You can choose the path of bitter, ongoing conflicts with a broad constituency of Ashlanders who love Nature very deeply, or you can choose the path of reasonable compromise and harmony.

8. Do not rush to judgement by avoiding proper public notification of project planning details and bypassing the process of adding this project to the Parks Strategic Planning Goals.

Acknowledge that tonight's "Japanese Garden" agenda item is not "Unfinished Business" requiring "Action" (a vote on the plan). At the Dec. 10th

Commissioners' meeting last month, there was no "New Business" discussion or documentation of this project as being proposed by the Ashland Parks

Foundation, much less a notice of tonight's vote.

Acknowledge that the Japanese Garden project is so new that it is not listed in the 20 Parks and Rec Strategic Planning Goals for the 2017-2019 biennium.

9. Recognize that there is a conflict of interest resulting from Parks Commissioner Mike Gardiner's overlapping responsibilities to the Parks and Rec Division in the City of Ashland and the Ashland Parks Foundation. Mr. Gardiner's role as a voting Board Member of the APF, a private, non-profit grantmaking organization, conflict with his role as a Parks Commissioner. Commissioner Gardiner does not disclose this conflict in his bio on the Parks and Rec website or in garden project documents. He must recuse himself from this and other financial decision-making processes for projects being promoted by the Ashland Parks Foundation.

10. Lastly, avoid conflict that could taint the Garden Renovation Project. The Garden's annual maintenance costs are projected to jump from \$20,000 to \$80,000 per year. Your project's kind donor made it clear on June 24th that his pledge to make an annual donation of \$60,000 for the increased maintenance will eventually fade away. So this revenue source is not "permanent" as claimed on the Parks website, making it important to cultivate a feeling of community spirit and good will that will encourage other donors to contribute.

I imagine a vibe of harmony is what the donor's beloved Beatrice would value the most.

Thank you for listening.

Collected by:



Ms. Julie Norman

64 Comments

pro-trees

2 comments

anti-trees

January 2019

TO: Ashland Parks and Rec Commissioners
Ashland Parks Foundation Board Members

Re: Public input for Jan. 28 Parks Commission Vote on the proposed expansion and renovation of the Japanese Garden in Lithia Park

I love the prospect of an improved Japanese Garden, but I disagree with your proposal to remove two mature Douglas Fir trees in the north expansion area. Chopping down these healthy trees is not consistent with your June 2018 project design direction: to implement the project "without negatively affecting the adjoining park spaces."

It would be a tragedy to remove these trees, against the official recommendation of the Tree Commission and despite the clean bill of health from the arborist.

Please redesign the Japanese Garden project so these historic trees can be maintained. There is clearly a win-win solution.

Respectfully yours, *There isn't any strong needs for cutting down healthy, mature, beautiful trees! Diane Juggers*

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Respectfully yours, Please leave the trees, there
are other ways to expand that wouldn't include
cutting down trees. Mind.

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Respectfully yours, *Sam Butzer - Ashland resident*
+ frequent park user

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Respectfully yours,

Forest Ezekiel Noreis

677

January 2019

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Respectfully yours,

Sylvia Moore Sny Moore

January 2019

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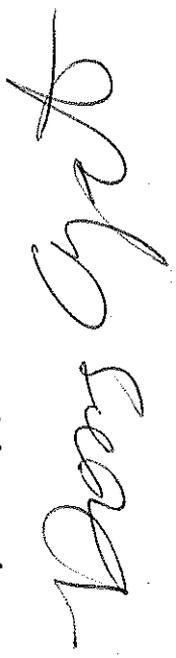
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January 2019

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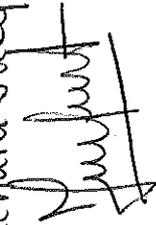
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Respectfully yours,
Richard Jacquot



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Respectfully yours,

Barbara Connor
Ashland Parks

Barbara Connor
Ashland

January 2019

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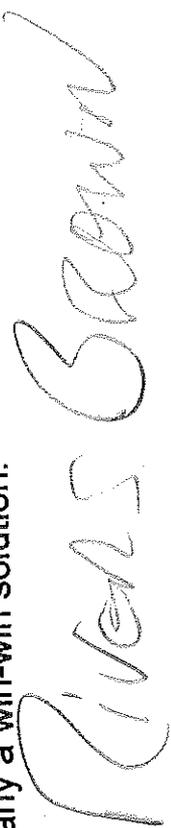
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Respectfully yours,

Paula Sullivan

January 2019

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Respectfully yours,

Brenda Jackson

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Respectfully yours,

Susan Hirth

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Please redesign the Japanese Garden project so these historic trees can be maintained. There is clearly a win-win solution.

Respectfully yours,

19
January 2019 20
21

TO: Ashland Parks and Rec Commissioners
Ashland Parks Foundation Board Members

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Anna, Josh + Kate

January 2019

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KRISTA BAUER

January 2019

TO: Ashland Parks and Rec Commissioners
Ashland Parks Foundation Board Members

Re: Public input for Jan. 28 Parks Commission Vote on the proposed expansion and renovation of the Japanese Garden in Lithia Park

MA Perfecta Sittis!

The Have the prospect of an improved Japanese Garden, but I disagree with your proposal to remove two mature Douglas Fir trees in the north expansion area. Chopping down these healthy trees is not consistent with your June 2018 project design direction: to implement the project "without negatively affecting the adjoining park spaces."

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Respectfully yours, *Suzie Schumacher*



21

January 2019

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Dominique Brown
Dominique F. Brown

January 2019

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TAMM KEMP


January 2019

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Respectfully yours,

John Zuck
HORACE ZUCK

Melanie Mark



TO: Ashland Parks and Rec Commissioners
Ashland Parks Foundation Board Members

January 2019

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Respectfully yours, *Paula Phillips & Mayda Poz*

January 2019

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Ashland Parks Foundation Board Members

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Risa Roberts

January 2019

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K.A. Groove

January 2019

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Respectfully yours,

Please reconsider your current proposal to remove (forever) the 2 Douglas Fir

Karen Correia

frequent visitor to Lithia Ashland

January 2019

36

TO: Ashland Parks and Rec Commissioners
Ashland Parks Foundation Board Members

Re: *Public input for Jan. 28 Parks Commission Vote on the proposed expansion and renovation of the Japanese Garden in Lithia Park*

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Respectfully yours,



January 2019 37434

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Ashland Parks Foundation Board Members

Re: Public input for Jan. 28 Parks Commission Vote on the proposed expansion and renovation of the Japanese Garden in Lithia Park

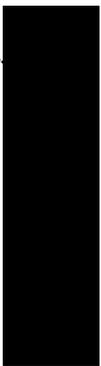
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Respectfully yours,

Fulke and Joseph
Ashland



January 2019

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Respectfully yours,


[REDACTED]

January 2019

yp

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Ashland Parks Foundation Board Members

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Respectfully yours,


Jeffrey Reaman (Jeffrey Reaman)
Cover

January 2019

TO: Ashland Parks and Rec Commissioners
Ashland Parks Foundation Board Members

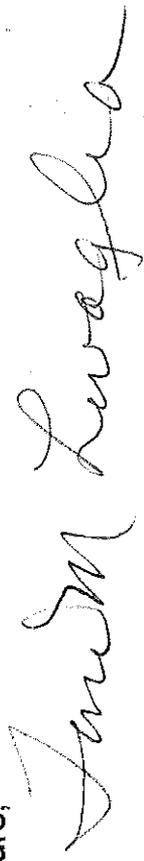
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January 2019

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Please redesign the Japanese Garden project so these historic trees can be maintained. There is clearly a win-win solution.

Respectfully yours, *Not only are these trees a part of our town's history --- They are great oxygen producers!*

M. Baker
↑

43 44
45 46

January 2019

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Ashland Parks Foundation Board Members

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Alison Lyzara Shon Harlio Jan Brown ~~Jake Brown~~

January 2019

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Respectfully yours,

Manisha Tare

*Kathy Friedman
Do not cut healthy trees*

TO: Ashland Parks and Rec Commissioners
Ashland Parks Foundation Board Members

January 2019

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Respectfully yours, *Kimberly Faith - Please respect the life of the trees & work around them.*

50
51

January 2019

TO: Ashland Parks and Rec Commissioners
Ashland Parks Foundation Board Members

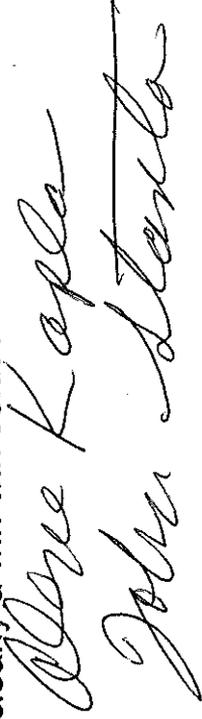
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Respectfully yours, SILVIA KOHEN kohehsil@gmail.com
PLEASE preserve the healthy mature of
OUR TREES

January 2019

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Respectfully yours, Big trees remove CO₂ from the atmosphere!

Jheshana Alexander



January 2019 54

TO: Ashland Parks and Rec Commissioners
Ashland Parks Foundation Board Members

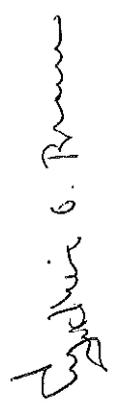
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January 2019

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Respectfully yours, *Stamulore Fleming*

January 2019 58
59

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January 2019 *le*

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Anthony Heard

January 2019

41

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 ERIN PAULSON

 Christy Paulson

62
65

January 2019

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Margaret Maguire

2 ENDORSEMENTS OF DESIGN AS IS

January 2019 |

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Respectfully yours,

*I disagree with your resistance to cutting these
DF's. You are off base. Give it up!*

January 2019

2

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Jeffrey
Jefferson → *See over* →

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January 2019

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Respectfully yours,

I do not believe there has been any thing to the Japanese Garden - besides these are 8 other very fine that will

gave bigger in the same area!!

As seems to me we have an opportunity to enhance our very own Japanese Garden and outgrowndly the Fithia Park with a beautifully designed garden executed by a master of garden design and I can't imagine why we would sacrifice this for a couple of dog pens? Besides, such trees are a dime a dozen in the Pacific Northwest and no one is talking about removing the remaining 8 trees!

Please, for the garden genius John Tanaka work his magic and create something that will bring peace, beauty and peaceful comfort to all who visit. And those two dog pens will be & part of their gates now - about the Peromysci form their.....

M. Tompkins

Bara



Orlando Parks & Rec

541-488-5340

340 S Pioneer