

Milwaukie Tree Board | 6101 SE Johnson Creek Blvd, Milwaukie, OR 97206

**Board Members:** Kathleen Brennan-Hunter (Chair), Ley Garnett (Secretary), Jon Brown, Alexis Barton, Olivia Padilla, Camden Mckone

**Milwaukie Staff**: Katie Gavares, Climate and Natural Resources Manager (staff liaison); Courtney Wilson, Urban Forester

## AGENDA: Feb 19, 2025 | 5:45 – 7:15 p.m. | 6101 SE Johnson Creek Blvd /Online Zoom Meeting

5:45 –5:50	Welcome and Introductions	All
5:50 –5:55	Review minutes from January	All
5:55 –6:00	Public Comments	
6:00 -6:10	Staff Updates	Courtney
6:10-6:20	ODF Urban and Community Forestry grant overview	Katie
6:20 -7:00	Tree Board 2025 Roadmap and Deliverables	All
7:00 –7:15	Vice-Chair selection and new member recruitment	All
7:15	Adjourn	
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#### **Related Meetings and Events:**

- Public Meeting Law Training: March 11 at 2pm, at City Hall
  - Training will cover Oregon's public meetings law that applies to Tree Board meetings. Training is optional but encouraged for all Milwaukie board and committee members.
  - To register, please click the following link: https://forms.office.com/g/e3wiRbqMfH
- City Council Boards and Committee Annual Report Study Session: March 11 at 5:15pm, at City Hall
  - o Tree Board's presentation at approximately 7:45pm
  - Kathleen Brennan-Hunter and Katie Gavares will present to Council Tree Board's accomplishments from 2024, goals for 2025, and then take Council input.



## TREE BOARD MEETING MINUTES 6101 Johnson Creek Blvd. Milwaukie, OR 97206 2.19.2025

Hybrid / In- Person and Zoom Video Conference Meeting

**Board Members Present:** 

Kathleen Hunter-Brenner Camden Mckone Olivia Padilla Jon Brown **Board Members Absent:** 

Alexis Barton Ley Garnett

Guest: None

#### **Staff Members Present:**

Courtney Wilson, Urban Forester Katie Gavares, Climate and Natural Resources Manager

#### **MEETING NOTES**

Tree board did not approve January meeting minnutes, as the secretary was not present.

Courtney Wilson provided the board updates on urban forestry staff projects. The updates included celebrating that Milwaukie recived the Tree City, USA and Growth Awards for 2024, public tree maintenance efforts at Historic City Hall and Ledding Library, and that staff are working with the downtown business community on improving downtown ROW tree maintenance efforts.

Katie Gavares provided an overview of the Oregon Department of Forestry grant recived in Janaury 2025. The goals of the grant are to help the city equitably reach 40% canopy coverage by 2040; implement community responsive urban forestry services; build relationships and trust with residents, improving UF's perception as the tree police; and, build internal capacity and expertise on urban forestry equity. The outcomes of the grant will result in a Urban Foresty Equity Implementation Plan and an updated Branch Out Milwaukie map. The project will consist of significant community engagement over the summer, June-September, and then publish the plan and map in May 2026. Tree board encouraged staff to consider metrics for incremental goals for engagement and tree canopy.

Tree Board reviewed the 2025 roadmap staff put together to highlight how they would advance their identified priorities. Kathleen Brennan-Hunter let the board know that Gina Drake officially stepped off the Tree Board for capacity issues and asked who is interested in serving as Tree Board's Vice-Chair. Tree Board will vote on a new vice-chair in the March meeting. The Tree Board noted they want to do something to thank all of Gina's contributions to Milwaukie's urban forest.

Finally, Tree Board brainstormed talking points for their update to city council on March 11. Brainstormed achievements included the hiring of a new Climate and Natural Resources Manager, new staff liaison, and continuos improvement and implementation of the policies Tree Board has worked on.

The Board meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM.



**Tree Board** February 19, 2025

**Katie Gavares** 

Climate and Natural Resources Manager

Courtney Wilson

**Urban Forester** 



# Agenda

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## Staff Updates

- Tree City USA and Growth Award recipient!
- Public tree maintenance efforts
  - Historic City Hall
  - Library
- Downtown ROW tree trimming
  - Reverting to the code
  - Presenting to Downtown Business Association March 12

## **ODF Grant Overview**

# Received \$100k planning grant from Oregon Department of Forestry

#### Goals

- Equitably reach 40% canopy coverage by 2040
- Implement responsive urban forestry services
- Build relationships and trust with residents, improving UF's perception as the tree police
- Build internal capacity and expertise on urban forestry equity

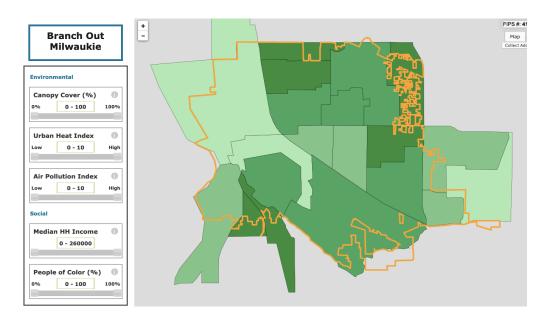
## **ODF Grant- Outcomes**

#### **Equity Implementation Plan**

- Prioritizes planting, preservation and maintenance needs
- Identifies community responsive programing and infrastructure







#### Branch Out Milwaukie 2.0 Map

- Update existing 2014 data
- New: Identifies land available for planting, preservation, and maintenance by zone (residential, industrial, public, etc.)

## ODF Grant- UF Equity Implementation Plan

- Hire a community engagement consultant March 2025
- Develop community engagement plan April 2025
- Community Engagement June- September 2025
  - 6 Listening sessions, 2 Public workshops, 1 Survey
- Analyze feedback and draft Equity Plan
   Oct. 25 April 26
- Publish UF Equity Implementation Plan May 2026

## ODF Grant- Branch Out Milwaukie Update

- Direct appoint CAPA Strategies as consultant May 2025
- Stakeholder Engagement June- September 2025
  - Develop prioritization framework for Branch out Milwaukie
  - 6 Stakeholder roundtables
- Prepare data for map update- November 2025
- Transfer platform to city servers March 2026

## Urban Forestry Grant- Timeline



February - May 2025

Hire consultants and planning



October '25 – April '26

Analyze community feedback and eco-social mapping results

Draft equity plan

Engage Milwaukie community members

Design Branch Out Milwaukie 2.0 Prototype



June - September 2025

Publish Equity Implementation Plan and Branch Out Milwaukie Map



May 2026

## Roadmap for 2025 Priorities

- Outlines the process and timeline to advance the 2025 priorities
- Identifies Tree Board's level of engagement and authority for each priority
- Keeps us on track with the ODF grant timeline

### Seeking feedback on:

- Are these the rights steps?
- What level of engagement and authority do you want for each identified priority?
- What information do you need to make an informed decision on the topic?

# Thank you!

#### **Katie Gavares**

Climate and Natural Resources Manager GavaresK@milwaukieoregon.gov 503-786-7668

#### **Courtney Wilson**

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Learn more at milwaukieoregon.gov/trees

