

# **CITY OF WOODINVILLE**

## **TREE BOARD PACKET**

**July 24, 2013**

*CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
17301 133<sup>RD</sup> AVENUE NE  
WOODINVILLE, WASHINGTON 98072*



CITY OF WOODINVILLE  
TREE BOARD AGENDA  
REGULAR MEETING WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 2013 5:30 PM

DK



• Jey Manickam • Thomas L Quigley • Michael Munniks • Paula Waters • Steve Yabroff

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5:30 CALL TO ORDER

5:31 ROLL CALL

5:33 APPROVE AGENDA IN CONTENT & ORDER

5:35 PUBLIC COMMENTS

**BUSINESS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**

5:40 1. Approval of May 22, 2013 Minutes

5:45 2. Review of Tree Regulations and Proposed Recommendations

6:20 PUBLIC COMMENTS

6:25 DIRECTOR'S REPORT

6:30 ADJOURNMENT

(Note: The agenda may be rearranged or changed at the beginning of the meeting, with a consensus of Tree Board members present.)

**Issue Date: July 18, 2013**

**Staff Contact: Sarah Ruether, Planner**

Faxed to: News Media  
E-mailed to: Tree Board  
Publish: Not published  
Post: 1) In-House, 2) Post Office & 3) Website

CITY OF WOODINVILLE, CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
17301 133RD AVE. NE, WOODINVILLE, WA 98072

NEXT REGULAR MEETING AUGUST 28, 2013, 5:30 PM

# **AGENDA ITEM 1**



City of Woodinville, Washington

**TREE BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 22, 2013**

Woodinville City Hall City Council Chambers, 17301 133rd Avenue NE, Woodinville, WA

<p><b><u>CALL TO ORDER</u></b></p>	<p>The regular meeting for the Woodinville Tree Board was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chair Quigley.</p>
<p><b><u>ROLL CALL</u></b></p>	<p><u>Tree Board Present:</u> Chair Quigley, Board Member Waters, and Board Member Yabroff.</p> <p><u>Absent:</u> Board Member Manickam and Board Member Munniks.</p> <p><u>City Staff Present:</u> David Kuhl, Development Services Director, and Sandy Guinn, Sr. Administrative Assistant</p> <p><b>MAIN MOTION: to excuse Board Members Manickam and Munniks.</b></p> <p><b>Motion by: Board Member Waters</b></p> <p><b>Second by: Board Member Yabroff</b></p> <p><b>Action for the Main Motion: PASSED 3 - 0</b></p> <p><b>Vote: Ayes: Chair Quigley and Board Members Waters and Yabroff</b></p> <p><b>Nays: None.</b></p> <p><b>Abstain: None.</b></p>
<p><b><u>APPROVAL OF AGENDA ORDER AND CONTENT</u></b></p>	<p>Chair Quigley noted there was concensus to make no changes</p>
<p><b><u>PUBLIC COMMENTS</u></b></p>	<p>Eli Kunzmann commented that the City would be well served to run our platform on ARC GIS and to enter tree information, including areas of known diseased trees (e.g. caused by Armillaria). The general public should have access to the information in ARC GIS. Mr. Kunzmann offered a 30 minute tour to the Tree Board Members, where he would identify the the root rot centers (Armillaria), which grow in concentric circles. He advised there is no benefit to what the City is presently doing.</p> <p>Mr. Kunzman expressed many citizens are not complying with the tree regulations, as they are complex and costly to the citizen. He estimated it could cost an extra \$1,000 to his client for a \$600 job, due to the added time of obtaining a permit for his client and the cost of a certified arborist report. Removing 2 trees per year does not work for any of his clients.</p> <p>Mr. Kunzmann recommended a change to code so that the 2 trees per year that could be removed without a permit be allowed to accrue over five years (if no trees are removed). He suggested that the regulations meet the citizens half way; otherwise, there may be a backlash from citizens and the 40% may not be achieved. He, also, recommended that the City (1) hire someone to see where the disease centers are, (2) provide citizens</p>

	<p>with a list of trees that do not require permits for tree removal (e.g. alder if diseased, cottonwood, and willow), (3) trees greater than 36" and less than 12" be removed without counting towards tree credits as long as leave retained as habitat snag for 5 or 10 years. With these recommendations in place, make the penalties more stiff.</p> <p>Director Kuhl advised that if trees are removed without a permit the code requires the citizen would need to either replace trees according to code or contribute to the tree fund. He further added that we require an Arborist report to identify dangerous or diseased trees when trees are taken down without a permit.</p>
<p><b><u>BUSINESS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS</u></b></p>	
<p><i>Approval of April 17, 2013 Special Tree Board Minutes</i></p>	<p><u>1. Approval of April 17, 2013 Special Tree Board Meeting Minutes</u></p> <p>Tree Board approved the special meeting minutes of April 17, 2013, as presented.</p> <p><b>MAIN MOTION: to approve the special meeting minutes of April 17, 2013, as presented.</b></p> <p><b>Motion by: Board Member Waters</b>  <b>Second by: Board Member Yabroff</b>  <b>Action for the Main Motion: PASSED 3 - 0</b>  <b>Vote: Ayes: Chair Quigley and Board Members Waters and Yabroff</b>  <b>Nayes: None.</b>  <b>Abstain: None.</b></p>
<p><i>Discussion and Review of Tree Regulations and Proposed Recommendations</i></p>	<p><u>2. Discussion &amp; Review of Tree Regulations and Proposed Recommendations</u></p> <p>The Tree Board discussed the 40% tree canopy coverage, if the City was achieving this goal, why the canopy is beneficial, if the quality of the tree canopy should be considered, if the City should develop new tree credit standards, the complexity of the tree regulations and the lack of compliance from citizens if regulations are too onerous. Chair Quigley expressed tree removal is site specific, as each site is different, and exceptions should be granted with a certified arborist's report.</p> <p>Board members felt that the Board should focus on regulations that accomplish the 40% coverage and wanted to know if the City was meeting this goal. Director Kuhl suggested that for future work the landscaping code could be used to require 15% of a commercial or industrial site to be landscaped and tree credits and formulas would not be needed on these types of sites.</p> <p>Also, discussed were some of the benefits that the trees provide, including clean, cool water (which benefits salmon), wildlife corridors, and quality</p>

	<p>of life. Having a Tree Board is one of the requirements for Woodinville's designation as Tree City USA.</p> <p>There was consensus to modify the proposed tree credits required under the DRAFT Tree Removal Tiered System as follows:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Size of Lot:</td> <td>Current Code:</td> <td>Proposed:</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10,001-20,000</td> <td>60</td> <td>45 40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20,001-30,000</td> <td>60</td> <td><del>60</del> 50</td> </tr> </table> <p>Staff was requested to bring back for the next Tree Board meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What was the genesis/rational for the 40% tree canopy?</li> <li>2. In the long term, do our regulations adequately implement the 40% tree canopy coverage or will the City end with less or more than 40% tree canopy coverage?</li> <li>3. Ideas on how to simplify landscaping requirements</li> <li>4. Path for homeowners</li> <li>5. Tree removal in a NGPE area -- are there special requirements?</li> </ol>	Size of Lot:	Current Code:	Proposed:	10,001-20,000	60	45 40	20,001-30,000	60	<del>60</del> 50
Size of Lot:	Current Code:	Proposed:								
10,001-20,000	60	45 40								
20,001-30,000	60	<del>60</del> 50								
<b><u>PUBLIC COMMENTS</u></b>	Eli Kunzmann – See above									
<b><u>DIRECTOR'S REPORT</u></b>	None.									
<b><u>ADJOURNMENT</u></b>	<p>Chair Quigley called the meeting adjourned.</p> <p>The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.</p>									

**Sandy Guinn**  
**Sr. Administrative Assistant**

# **AGENDA ITEM 2**



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**To:** Tree Board **Date:** July 24, 2013  
**From:** Dave Kuhl, Development Services Director *DK*  
**By:** Sarah Ruether, Planner *SR*  
**Subject:** Review of Tree Regulations and Proposed Recommendations

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**ISSUE:** Shall the Tree Board review the Current Tree Code and Proposed Recommendations for Changes to the Code?

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** To review and consider proposed changes as part of the Tree Board work plan for 2013.

**POLICY DECISION:** The Tree Board provides an advisory role to the City Council on matters of trees and urban forestry.

**BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:**

American Forests, the nation's oldest nonprofit citizens' conservation organization, recommends a 40 percent tree canopy coverage for healthy cities. According to Linden Lampan, who is the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Tree City USA liaison for the City, the DNR does not have one specific tree canopy coverage recommendation for all cities. Instead, they recommend that each jurisdiction come up with their own tree canopy coverage goals based on a local tree canopy assessment. The DNR recommends doing a tree canopy coverage analysis and then using that data to create custom tree canopy coverage goals. With that in mind, a review of the tree canopy coverage study done in 2009 would be a good basis to come up with reasonable tree canopy coverage goals for the City.

**Woodinville Tree Canopy Coverage Study 2009**

A group of students from the University of Washington volunteered to take on the project of measuring the City of Woodinville's tree canopy coverage for their 2009 class project. To measure the City's tree canopy coverage, the students took a 2007 aerial photograph of Woodinville and digitized it for analysis. Digitizing was accomplished by overlaying a grid of uniform square cells onto the photograph. Within each cell, tree cover percentage was evaluated and assigned a numerical value. The resulting layer in the GIS software calculated the tree coverage within the city limits boundary at 36%. To further analyze tree coverage for specific areas of the city, the primary grid was subdivided into smaller assessment grids. The subdivided grids included eleven well-defined neighborhoods and four zoning districts. The maps resulting from these assessments can be found in Attachment A. The tree types for the entire city were analyzed and the graphs showing the tree type percentages can be found in Attachment B. The project deliverables included maps, charts tables and a written report. If any of the tree board members would like a copy of the entire report, it is available on request.

While the data collected for this analysis is based on 2007 aerial photographs, it is good at showing where the City has adequate tree coverage and what areas of the city lack tree canopy coverage. It, also, shows how important residential tree canopy coverage is to the City as the combined residential tree canopy coverage is 50%. The requirement for an increased number

combined residential tree canopy coverage is 50%. The requirement for an increased number of tree credits in residential properties aims to protect the large amount of tree canopy coverage that currently exists. The goal of the tree regulations are to protect this existing tree canopy coverage and encourage more canopy coverage. This report will provide a baseline to measure whether tree regulations are helping to increase and maintain the city's tree canopy coverage and can be used to inform canopy coverage policy objectives.

**Tree Removal in Native Growth Protection Area**

Tree removal is permitted in the native growth protection areas with some restrictions. The tree removed in a critical area (a native growth protection area is considered a critical area) must either be turned into a snag or left as a felled tree. Additionally, the removal of a tree in a critical area requires the planting of an equivalent number of tree credits. If an arborist's report shows that a lesser amount of tree credits will provide the same functionality as the removed tree, the minimum replanting of 50% of the tree credits may be permitted with the Tree Official's approval, per WMC 21.15.060.

**DRAFT Tree Removal Tiered System**

Per the Tree Board's recommendation, the proposed number of tree credits required has been modified below.

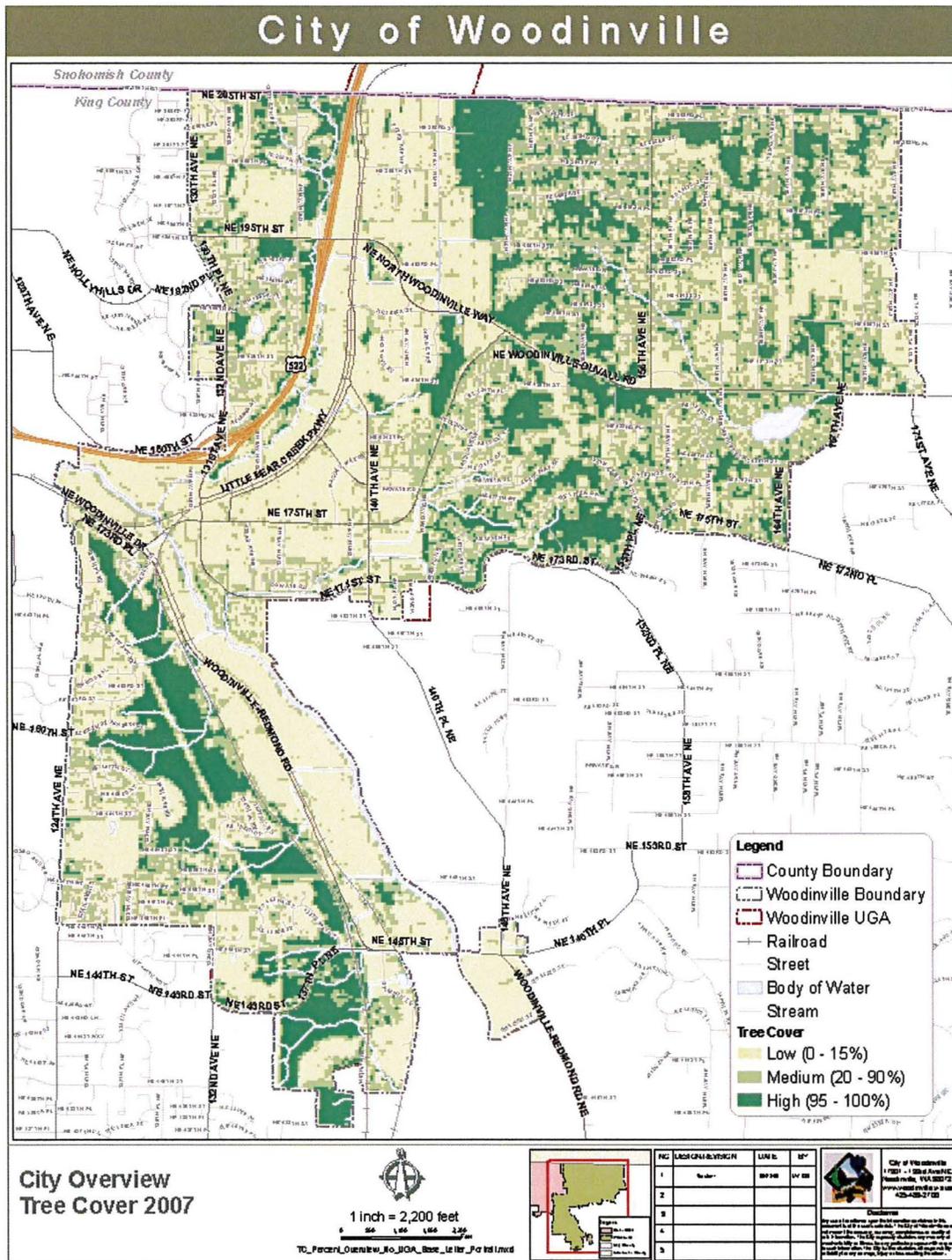
<b>Size of Lot</b>	<b>CURRENT CODE Tree Credits Required</b>	<b>PROPOSED Tree Credits Required</b>	<b>CURRENT CODE Number of healthy trees per year that may be removed</b>	<b>PROPOSED Number of healthy trees per year that may be removed</b>
7,200 sf or less	30	20	2	1
7,201 – 10,000	60	30	2	1
10,001-20,000	60	<del>45</del> <b>40</b>	2	2
20,001-30,000	60	<del>60</del> <b>50</b>	2	3
30,001-40,000	60	60	2	4
40,001-50,000	60	60	2	5
50,001-60,00	60	60	2	6

In the next meeting, a discussion of how to use the landscaping code to meet tree density requirements for commercial property will be discussed, and what amount of landscaping requirements are needed to meet tree canopy coverage goals for different areas of the City.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:  
REVIEW PROPOSED OPTIONS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS**

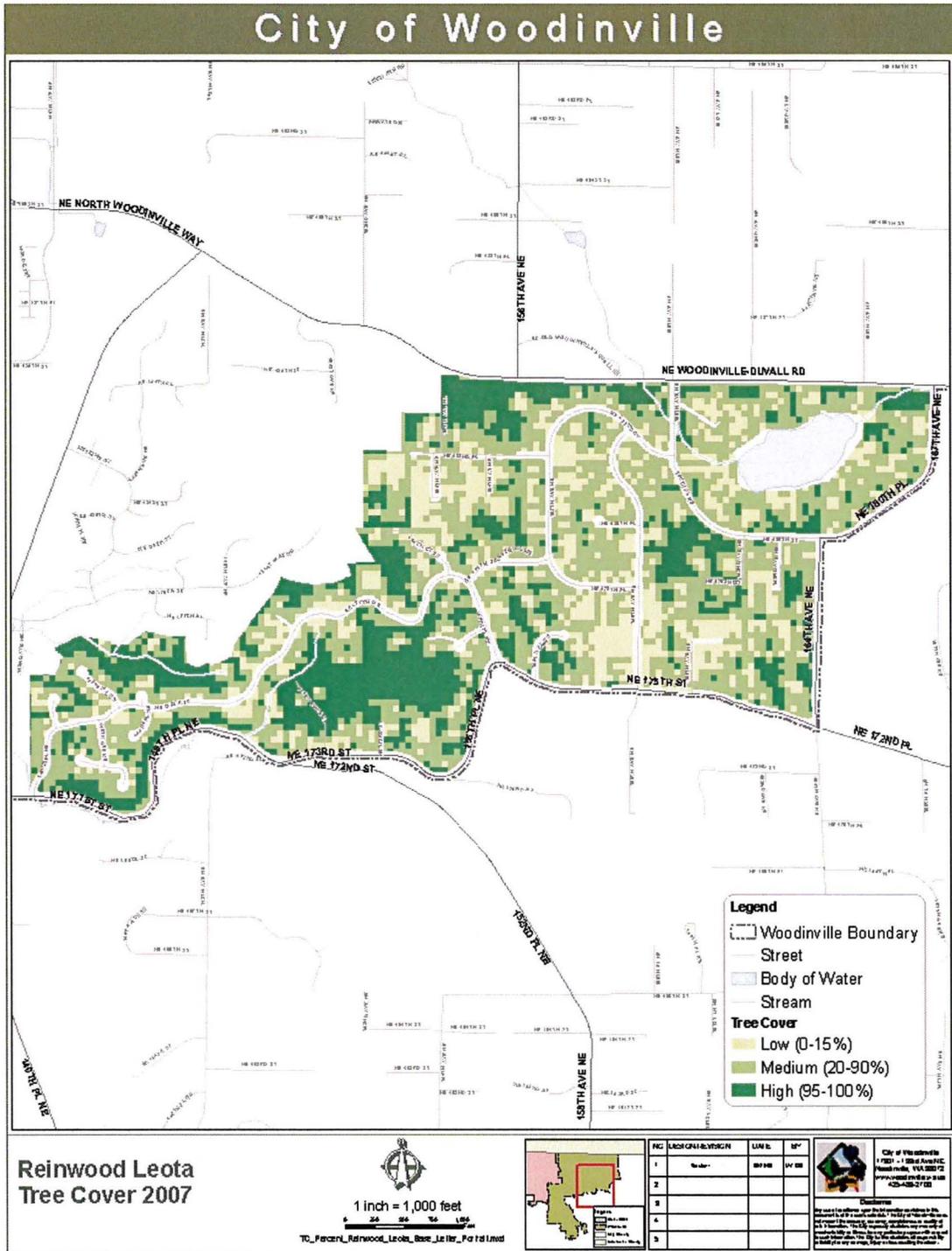
Attachment A: : Maps from 2009 Tree Canopy Coverage Report  
Attachment B: Graphs and Charts to show Composition of Tree Canopy Species

Attachment A: Maps from 2009 Tree Canopy Coverage Report



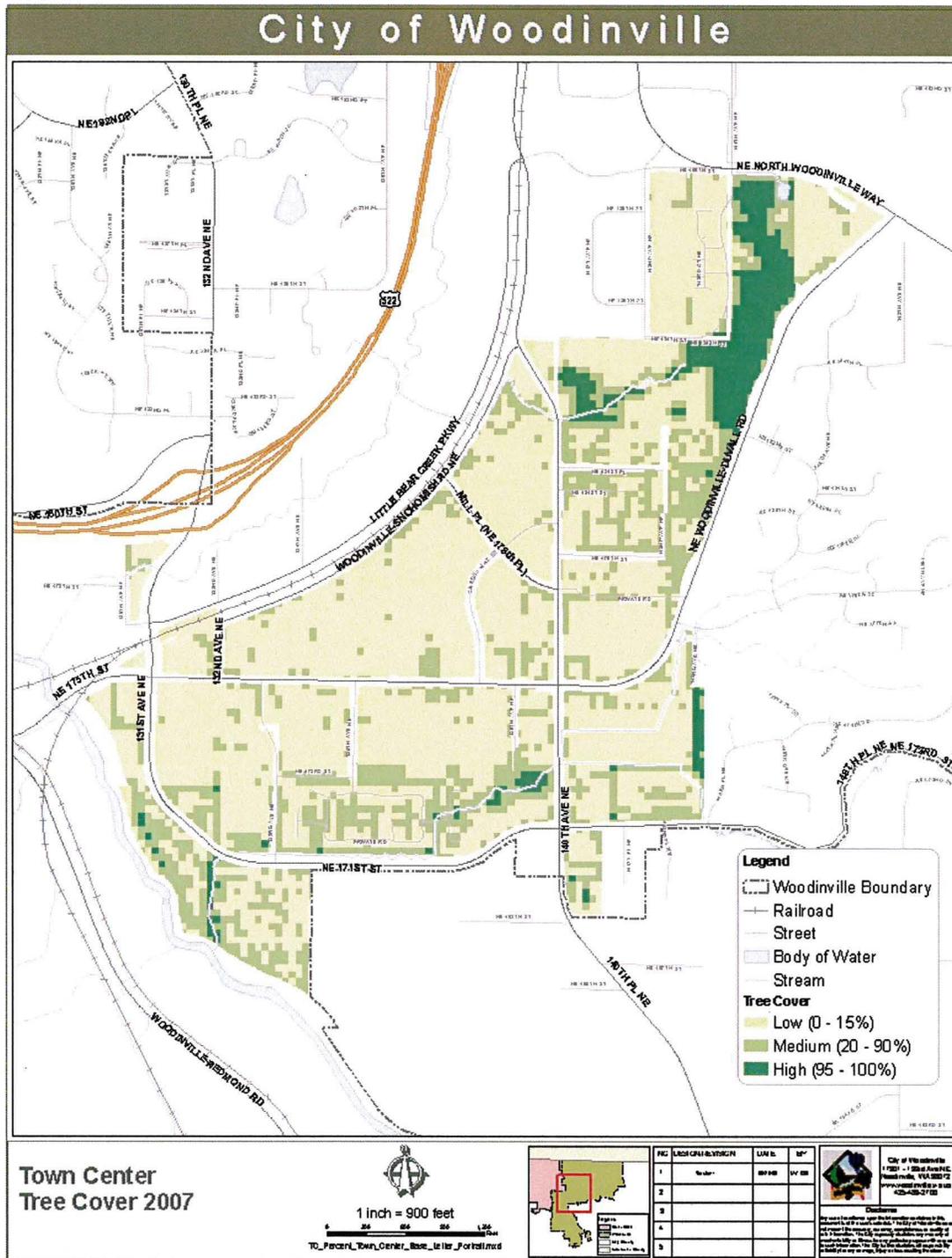
**Plate 3** – City of Woodinville tree canopy overview. This view omits the urban growth area. Dark green again indicates areas of largely continuous tree cover. Tree cover: 36%

Attachment A: Maps from 2009 Tree Canopy Coverage Report



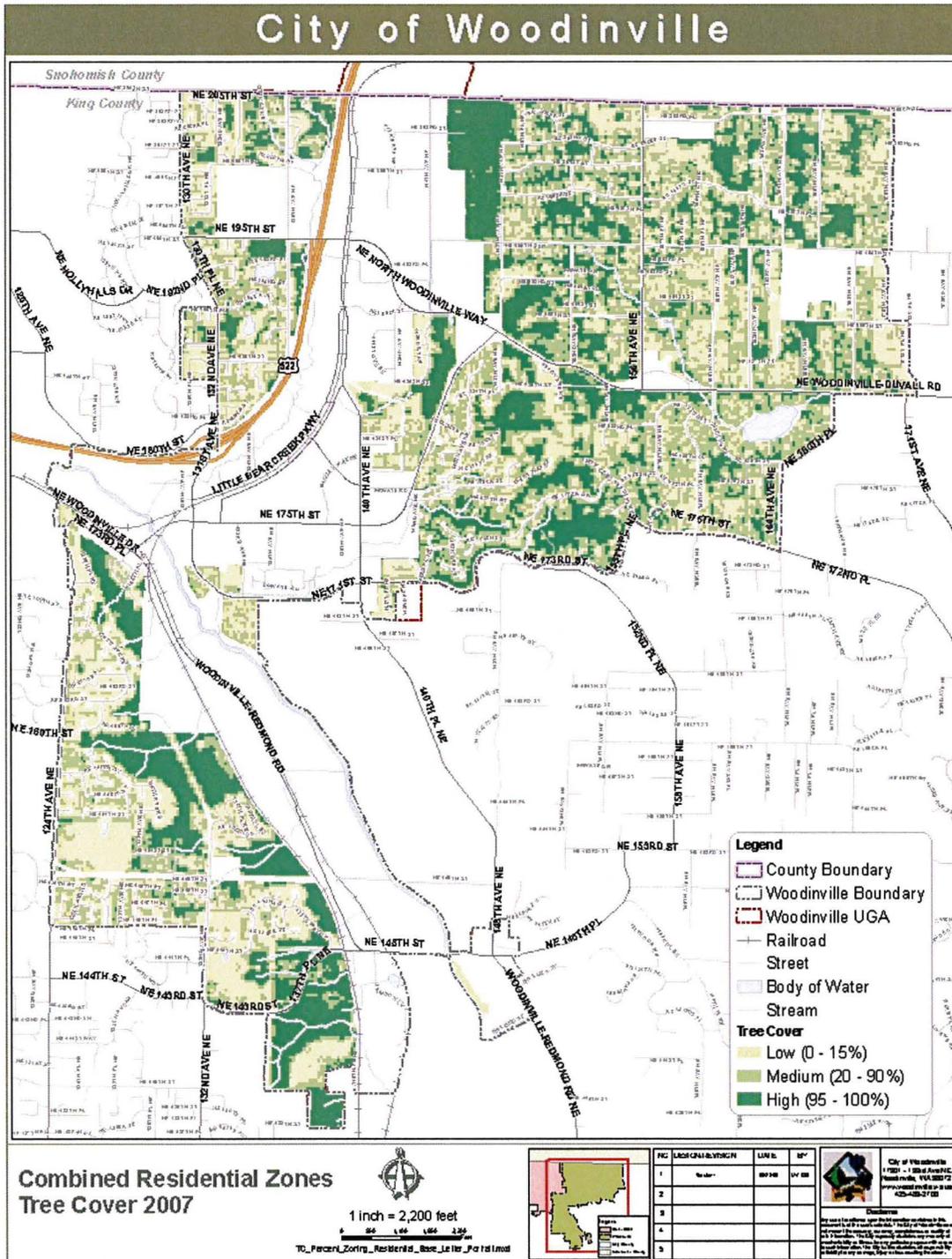
**Plate 4** – City of Woodinville, Reinwood Leota residential neighborhood. Note that the area does not include the street right-of-ways. Tree cover: 57%

Attachment A: Maps from 2009 Tree Canopy Coverage Report



**Plate 5** – City of Woodinville, Town Center neighborhood. This downtown largely commercial district contains sparse tree cover. Tree cover: 19%

Attachment A: Maps from 2009 Tree Canopy Coverage Report

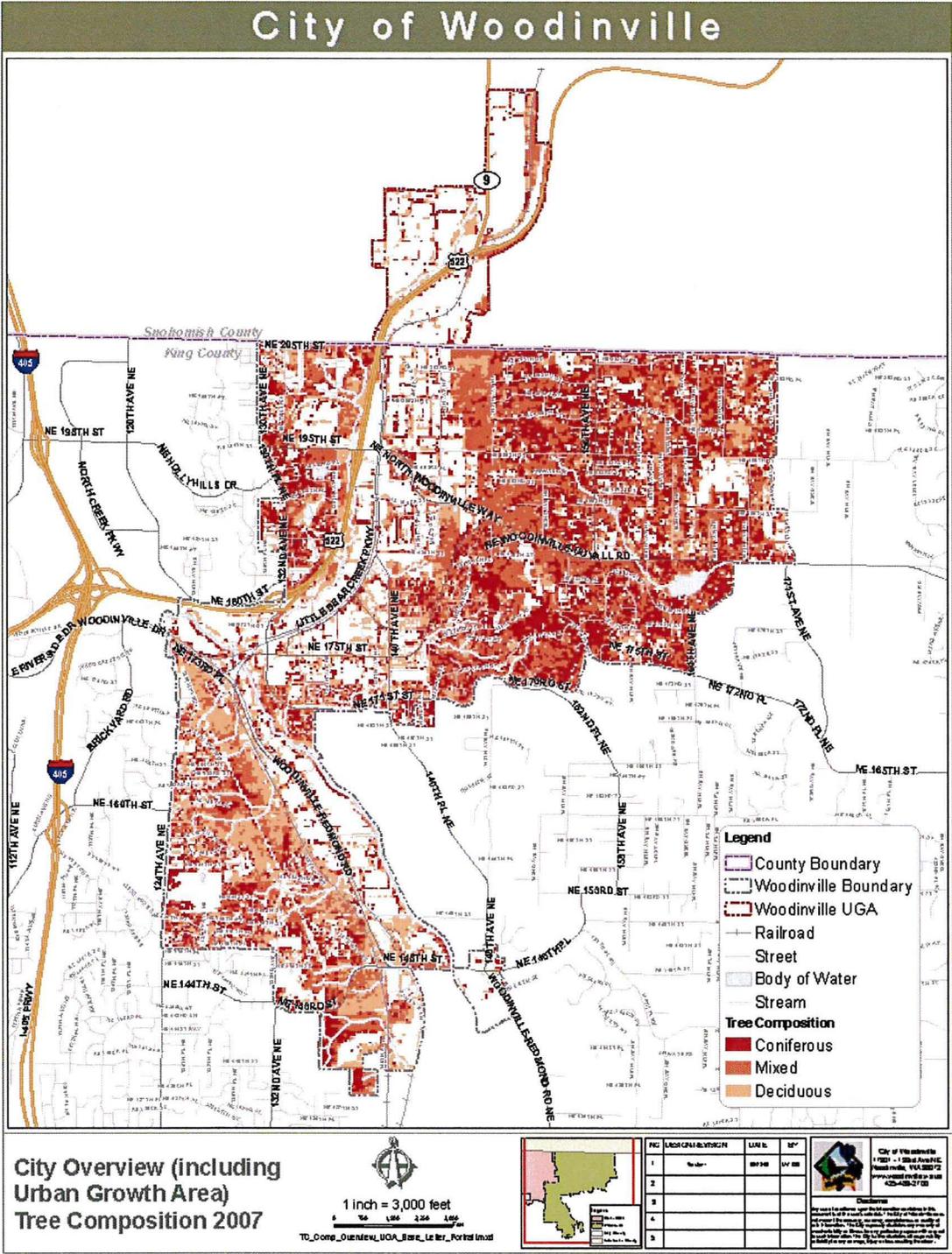


**Plate 6** – City of Woodinville, combined residential zones. This map implies that a majority of the city’s tree cover is contained within private land. Tree cover: 50%

Attachment A: Maps from 2009 Tree Canopy Coverage Report



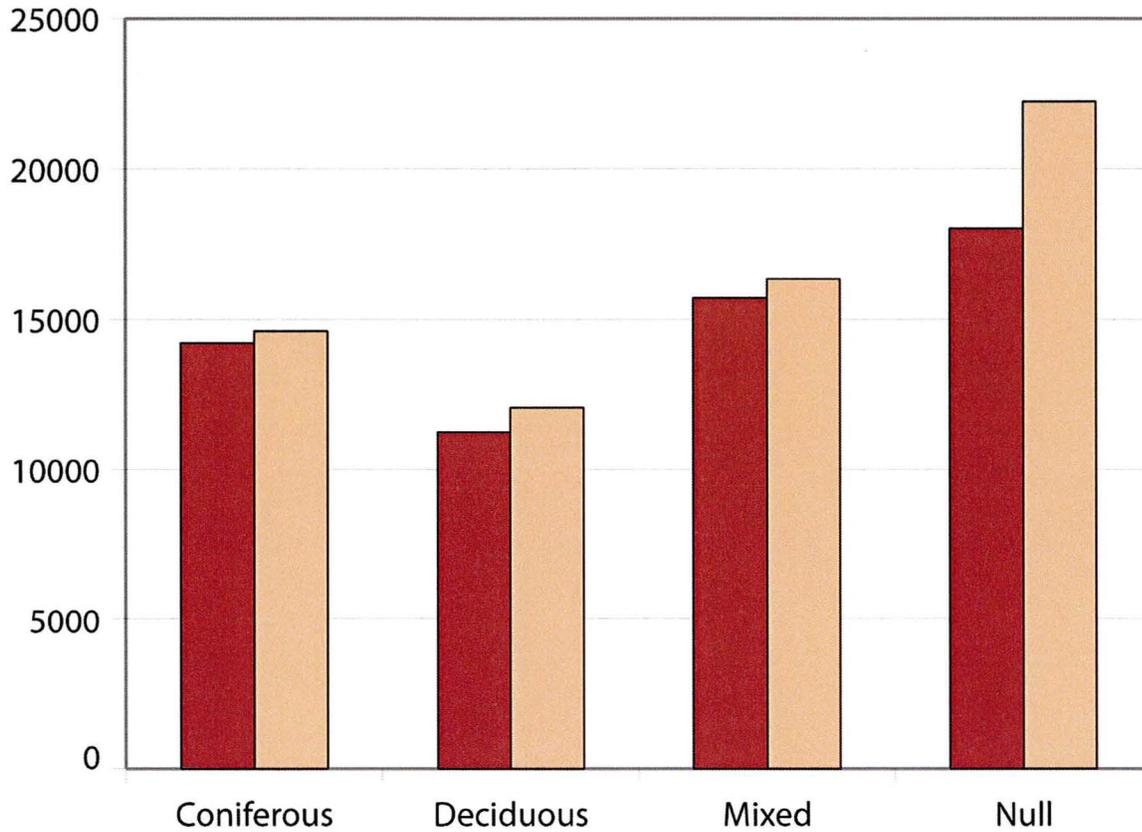
**Plate 7 – City of Woodinville, Industrial Zones.** This area has a very low percentage of trees, many of which are used as property boundary markers or landscape within large paved areas. Tree cover: 13%



**Plate 8** – City of Woodinville tree composition map, including urban growth area. Red color ramp indicates areas of coniferous, deciduous and mixed tree type.

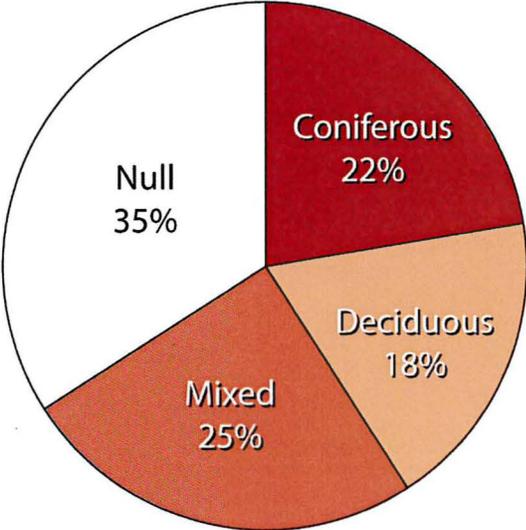
Attachment B: Graphs and Charts to show Composition of Tree Canopy Species

	<b>Coniferous</b>	<b>Deciduous</b>	<b>Mixed</b>	<b>Null</b>
Without UGA	14210	11244	15710	18015
With UGA	14615	12056	16346	22232

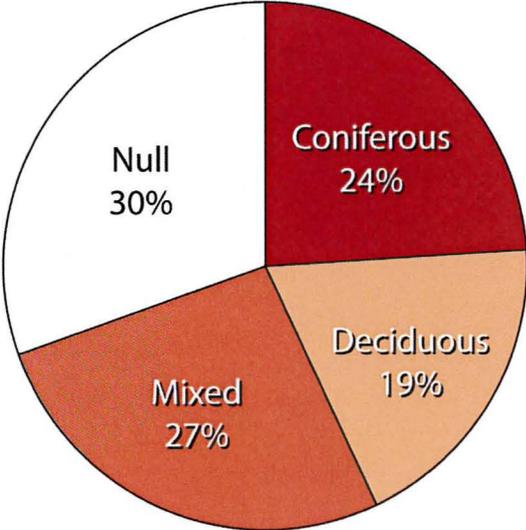


**Figure 3** – Bar graph showing number of cells marked as Coniferous-only, Deciduous-only, and Mixed. Includes with UGA and without UGA. Number of Null cells (no tree cover) shown for comparison.

Tree Composition  
With UGA



Tree Composition  
Without UGA



**Figure 4** – Pie chart showing percentage of cells marked as Coniferous-only, Deciduous-only, and Mixed. Includes with UGA and without UGA. Percentage of Null cells (no tree cover) shown for comparison.