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Community Planning and Economic Development

Creating Solutions for Our Future

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Updated: June 6, 2022

Subject: Standards for a prairie plant report (survey)

Prairie plant reports shall contain the following information:

- Site info: address, tax parcel number, owner, date of the site visit, project number if available.
- A statement regarding your prairie review method. For example:
The parcel contains soil types associated with prairies as defined in the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (CAO 24.25). Transects were walked throughout the parcel (or at least throughout the building envelope and 50-foot buffer area). A list of plant species encountered during the survey was recorded and CAO target prairie plants were noted.
- Confirmation that CAO prairie plants were surveyed for and either found or not found, prairie criteria met or not met, etc. An example statement of your findings could be:
None of the target prairie plant species identified in the Thurston County CAO were detected on the parcel.
Or
Prairie criteria was not met, but the following CAO-listed prairie plants were found...(description/locations here)
Or
Prairie criteria met (with a description of the locations on the parcel, or a statement of occurrence throughout the parcel.)
- If prairie habitat is identified onsite it is regulated pursuant to Chapter 24.25 of the CAO. Provide either a GPS map or hand-drawn aerial map indicating location of prairie plants on the parcel in relation to the proposed building area.
- A full species list of plants (prairie and non-prairie) found at the time of survey. Attached is a blank checklist and data sheet if you choose to use. Even if no CAO prairie plants were detected, a complete species list of vegetation observed helps characterize site conditions.
- Color photos of plant species encountered.
- Transect map. If done concurrently with gopher review, you can use the same transect map.
- Oregon white oak trees, if observed onsite, must also be documented, mapped, and included in the prairie plant survey. As with prairie plants, provide either a GPS map or hand-drawn aerial map indicating location of oaks on the parcel in relation to the proposed building area.
- Mima mounds, if observed onsite, must also be documented, mapped, and included in the prairie plant survey. Provide either a GPS map or hand-drawn aerial map indicating location of Mima mounds on the parcel in relation to the proposed building area.