

Keeping Eugene Green

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## **MEMO**

TO: Zach Galloway and FILE; P:\NaturalResources\Sites\Amazon

Park\LOBR

FROM: Diane Steeck, Wetland Ecologist, City of Eugene, Parks and Open

Space Division

DATE: June 22, 2016

SUBJECT: Presence of Bradshaw's lomatium (Lomatium bradshawii) at Amazon

Park

This memorandum documents the survey for, and location of, the federally endangered Bradshaw's lomatium (*Lomatium bradshawii*) at two specific locations in Amazon Park where planners are considering future EmX bus stop platforms on either side of Amazon Parkway near the Amazon Community Garden. This location is about 400 m north along Amazon Parkway from an existing bus stop and Park and Ride.

The City of Eugene's Amazon Park remnant prairie is the location of one the largest known populations of Bradshaw's lomatium in the Eugene West Recovery Zone. The City of Eugene Parks and Open Space Division monitors this Bradshaw's lomatium population every 5 years to assess its size. It was last monitored in 2015, the 5<sup>th</sup> monitoring period, and is composed of tens of thousands of plants separated by Amazon Parkway. The locations of the largest patches of Bradshaw's lomatium were last mapped in 2010. Bradshaw's lomatium plants also occur outside these large concentrations, sometimes within feet of the trail edge. The Bradshaw's lomatium at Amazon Park occurs in wetland prairie habitat. The cover of native vegetation in the park is highest in vernal pools and where the largest patches of Bradshaw's lomatium are located.

On April 8, 2016 I visited the site with City of Eugene Planner Zach Galloway to identify the closest Bradshaw's lomatium plants to the road edge and to review the composition of the vegetation in the area where platforms may be considered. Planning staff had indicated that platforms could extend in from the road edge 10 feet and along the road edge about 40 ft. I walked larger areas of concern on both sides of the Parkway (see map), visually covering all areas until we came to the nearest Bradshaw's lomatium from the road edge (on the NE side of the Parkway) or until we had covered the area of potential disturbance (on SW side of Parkway). Bradshaw's lomatium are best seen when they're in flower, but larger (not first year) vegetative plants can also be identified in walking surveys, if the surveyor proceeds slowly and is very familiar with the vegetative appearance of the plants. Bradshaw's lomatium was flowering on April 8.



**Results**. NE side of Amazon Parkway: The nearest two Bradshaw's lomatium plants were 21.8 m (71.5 ft) and 23 m (75.5 ft) east of the road curb. The vegetation in the strip along the road edge surveyed is dominated by nonnative grasses with a few nonnative forbs, such as *Lathyrus aphaca* and several nonnative *Vicia* species. Native wetland prairie vegetation becomes more abundant as one moves farther northeast of the road, to the interior of the site.

<u>SW side of Amazon Parkway</u>: No Bradshaw's lomatium plants were found in the survey area, which was dominated by nonnative grasses and included nonnative forbs such as *Vicia*. No native plant species were found in the surveyed area (see map).

In spring 2017, Parks and Open Space staff will do the next update of the boundaries of the Bradshaw's lomatium subpopulation on the SW side of the Parkway.

Qualifications of Surveyor: I have 8 years of experience working with Bradshaw's lomatium in the Eugene area, including overseeing 2 monitorings of the population at Amazon Park (2010, 2015) and leading LCC classes and seasonal staff in surveying for, and monitoring this species at Amazon Park, at the 4J/City site to the north of Amazon Park, and at several sites in West Eugene. I am familiar with Bradshaw's lomatium in all forms from first-year plants to those with mature seed. I have over 20 years experience monitoring vegetation, planning conservation actions for T&E species, and surveying for rare plant species.

## Amazon Park Lomatium bradshawii (Bradshaw's Iomatium; LOBR)



