**The Problem**

**Managing Trees is Complex**
Nine different city departments manage trees, and it’s often confusing as to who does what and when a permit is needed. And there’s a need for better data to account for changes to our tree canopy.

**Lack of Environmental Equity**
Wealthy, white neighborhoods are more likely to have tree-lined streets than poor neighborhoods or neighborhoods of color.

**The Solution**

Councilmember Johnson’s proposed framework would create stronger stewardship of the trees we have, allow our canopy to keep pace with growth and greater density, and plant more trees in neighborhoods that lack them: poor areas and communities of color.

**Benefits**

- **A Cleaner Environment**
  Improved water quality and cleaner air

- **A More Resilient Environment**
  A more robust ecosystem responsive to climate change

- **A More Beautiful City**
  Increased natural beauty & better connection to nature

- **A Healthier City**
  Better mental & physical health for everyone

- **A More Equitable City**
  More trees will be planted in areas without them

**How It Works**

**STEP 1**
Create a One-Stop Online Portal for Tree Permits
A new citywide website would be created for tree permits, making it simple for the public to get what they need.

**STEP 2**
Require a Permit for Cutting Down Trees
Any tree over 12” in diameter or trees designated to have special value would require a permit for removal.

**STEP 3**
- **Plant a New Tree(s) Somewhere Else**
  You can replace the lost canopy by planting a new tree(s) on your property or nearby.
- **Pay into a “Tree Offset” Fund**
  If you don’t want to replace the tree onsite, you can pay an in lieu fee and the city will plant tree(s) elsewhere.

**Get Involved**

- **Become a Tree Ambassador**
  Volunteer to become a steward of Seattle’s trees!

- **Plant a FREE Tree**
  Contact Trees for Neighborhoods to increase the canopy in your own yard

- **Track the Process**
  The first conversation will be at the City Council on 5/16 @ 9:30am

- **More Information**
  seattle.gov/trees

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