

## UFMP Listening Sessions Feedback Summary Table

Prior to drafting the Urban Forest Management Plan Update, partnered with SPU’s Environmental Justice and Service Equity Division (EJSE) to apply a modified racial equity toolkit for public engagement on this plan. One outcome of that process was the decision to seek input from the community and stakeholders prior to drafting the new plan. Input was sought in three ways: historically under-represented communities were engaged through SPU’s Community Connections Program with support from EJSE, stakeholders were engaged through listening sessions, and an online survey was circulated in multiple languages. This document summarizes the findings of the stakeholder listening sessions.

Symbol / style	Color	Meaning	Symbol / style	Color	Meaning
Bold		Mentioned more than once by that group	O	Red	Outreach / engagement
H	Green	Public health	C	Teal	Climate change
F	Yellow	Management of land as a whole, including trees & understory, groves	M	Brown	Maintenance of existing trees
E	Purple	Equity	R	Silver	Regulations
I	Blue	Integration of City departments			

### Cross-cutting themes:

- Many calls for increased public outreach / engagement / education
  - o Varying ideas as to what that would look like
- Interest in changing existing or better enforcing regulations
  - o Current regulations are cumbersome to understand
  - o Enforcement of current regulations is problematic
  - o Concern that current regulations allow high levels of tree loss during development
- Need for equity lens
- Calls for policies / programs that address land management beyond only trees
  - o Active management of understory, particularly invasive species
- Climate change
  - o Addressing current impacts to urban forest (drought, pests / disease)
  - o Planning for future impacts
- Integration of City urban forestry departments
  - o De-silo City work
  - o Reduce bureaucracy
- Focus on maintenance of existing trees
  - o Increase funding for maintenance
- Maximizing the public health benefits of trees is a priority

Community	Feedback on Draft Values	High Priority Issues	Recommended goals / actions	Common tree issues to be addressed	Ways to work together	Communications / keeping in touch
Government Partner Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Put more emphasis on strong policy development first with regulations tailored to support policy</li> <li>Include commitment to trees, especially large ones, as valuable, vibrant element of community</li> <li>Clearly state how plan accentuates tree benefits, and prioritization of those benefits as a way to focus work efforts</li> <li>Mix of programmatic and urban forestry values is confusing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Human health (H)</b></li> <li><b>Stormwater runoff reduction</b></li> <li><b>Forest structure (mix of ages and species, large trees, tree health) (F)</b></li> <li><b>Focus on groves / clusters rather than overall canopy (F)</b></li> <li>Trees and density</li> <li><b>Air pollution (H)</b></li> <li><b>Equity and canopy distribution (E)</b></li> <li>Restoration (F)</li> <li><b>Focus on maintaining and preserving trees first; enhancing and restoring new trees second (M)</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Get trees into industrial areas</li> <li>Reconfiguring arterials and other streets to support more trees</li> <li><b>Integrate UFMP into other plans such as Comprehensive Plan (I)</b></li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide research agenda with questions that UW students can take on</li> <li>Partner with universities on urban research</li> <li>Partner with King County 30-year plan on developing urban focus</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Share information between agencies</li> <li><b>Make plan update process interesting to public (O)</b></li> <li><b>Share information on benefits of trees (O)</b></li> <li>Model successes from other cities</li> </ul>
Community	Feedback on Draft Values	High Priority Issues	Recommended goals / actions	Common tree issues to be addressed	Ways to work together	Communications / keeping in touch
Interdepartmental Team (City staff)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Include appropriate resource allocation / funding</b></li> <li>Include establishment and care of new trees</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Resource allocation for maintenance (M)</b></li> <li><b>Drought (C)</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>3-5 year establishment period for new trees, including Parks and private property code required trees</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Proper tree planting / knowledge for landscape</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>De-silo urban forestry work (I)</b></li> <li><b>More communication from Core Team</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage the land, not just the trees; they are interconnected (F)</li> <li>• Use plain language (O)</li> <li>• Focus on quality not quantity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to date regulations / code that are flexible and easy to update (R)</li> <li>• Creation of urban forestry manual with all regulations, ordinances, technical assistance, etc (O)</li> <li>• Risk management policies and funding</li> <li>• Need for safe power</li> <li>• Acknowledgement of complexity and uncertainty</li> <li>• Adaptive management</li> <li>• Homelessness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emphasize tree protection; provide examples of successful tree preservation and protection (R)</li> <li>• Establish acceptable solutions for roots / pavement / sidewalk conflicts</li> <li>• Urban forestry apprenticeship / jobs pipeline focused on underserved communities (E)</li> <li>• Active management of private and City owned forested areas (SHA, schools, unimproved ROW, etc) (F)</li> <li>• New private property tree ordinance / requirements enforcement (R)</li> <li>• Preservation of existing healthy trees, soil, water systems (F)</li> <li>• Green Seattle Partnership and ongoing forest restoration work</li> <li>• Power line clearance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• professionals / contractors (O)</li> <li>• Poorly written arborist reports; reports tailored to client wishes</li> <li>• Pests and disease: Root decay, phytophthora, western red cedar decline, maple die-off, Emerald ash borer, Bronze birch borer (C)</li> <li>• Climate change (C)</li> <li>• Maintenance specs for trees beyond CIP projects (M)</li> <li>• Incorrect tree ID on permit applications</li> <li>• Poor pruning</li> <li>• RTRP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• members to IDT members (I)</li> <li>• Correlate UFMP with ROW manual (I)</li> <li>• Simplify paperwork between departments (I)</li> <li>• Learn from other jurisdictions</li> <li>• Streamline the permitting / overview / fees process (R)</li> <li>• Monthly SDOT / SDCI meetings to resolve trees in border areas (I)</li> <li>• Include more front-line staff</li> <li>• Compromise</li> <li>• Boost Trees for Seattle team (O)</li> <li>• IDT field trips</li> </ul>	
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Community	Feedback on Draft Values	High Priority Issues	Recommended goals / actions	Common tree issues to be addressed	Ways to work together	Communications / keeping in touch
Tree Service Providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider landscape / ecosystem beyond only trees (M)</li> <li>• Add outreach to values, education around</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helping the public understand regulations (O)</li> <li>• Trees &amp; views challenges</li> <li>• Current regulations are very difficult to work with (R)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased permitting staff, simpler permitting process (R)</li> <li>• New removal regulations that require replacement with like species (R)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pests / diseases: birch borer, phytophthora (C)</li> <li>• Tree decay (C)</li> <li>• Residents fear of large trees; myth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outreach materials produced by City that private arborists can distribute (O)</li> </ul>	

	regulations / policies (O)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worker safety is impacted when you are only allowed to remove a tree once it is high risk (R)</li> <li>• Classification of protected trees by diameter / species (exceptional trees) is clunky and hard to figure out (R)</li> <li>• Recent TRAQ changes make it hard for trees to reach high-risk level (R)</li> <li>• Equity (E)</li> <li>• Broken permitting system takes too long (R)</li> <li>• Complexity of different regulations in different jurisdictions (R)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Windstorm prep: quick permit processing to allow necessary removal before storm season (R)</li> <li>• Regulations that allow for removals when tree is wrong species for site but not a hazard (R)</li> <li>• Outreach system to notify arborists when rules change (O)</li> <li>• Licensing / registration system for arborists who work in Seattle to eliminate unskilled companies; ISA bar is too low</li> <li>• Info to homeowners on what to look for when hiring an arborist (O)</li> <li>• Outreach to inspectors to have trees evaluated at time of home purchase (O)</li> </ul>	that smaller trees are easier to maintain		
Community	Feedback on Draft Values	High Priority Issues	Recommended goals / actions	Common tree issues to be addressed	Ways to work together	Communications / keeping in touch
Urban Forestry Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include enforcement of regulations (R)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public health (H)</li> <li>• Education (O)</li> <li>• Keep equity lens throughout (E)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review / adjust canopy cover goals by land use</li> <li>• Create actions around public health (H)</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring appropriate metrics for urban forest beyond canopy cover</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hard to keep up with T4S newsletter and Mayor's Weekly</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use best available science and collect good data regularly</li> <li>Include public health as a value separate from ecosystem health (H)</li> <li>Focus on urban forest equity (E)</li> <li>Focus on economic benefits of trees</li> <li>Be forward / future thinking</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developer benefits to preserve trees by putting \$ value to benefits (R)</li> <li>Prioritization of tree value (native vs non-native, etc)</li> <li>Ecosystems for wildlife</li> <li>Managing understory as well as trees (F)</li> <li>Climate change (C)</li> <li>Strong planting and site selection practices</li> <li>Emphasize biodiversity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update tree regulations (R)</li> <li>Increase funding for urban forestry outreach / engagement (O)</li> <li>Create more snags</li> <li>Find measures to monitor urban forest other than canopy cover</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pass and monitor new tree ordinance (R)</li> <li>Integrate departments (I)</li> <li>Focus on public education around trees (O)</li> <li>UFC to collaborate with other City boards</li> <li>Improve relationships between staff and commission; work as partners</li> <li>Incorporate UFC input early and often in planning processes</li> <li>Draw connections between departments and projects / programs (I)</li> <li>Clarify UFC's role with the public</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Incorporate art / interactive way to present information (O)</li> <li>Education to tree service providers (O)</li> <li>Tree festival (O)</li> <li>Public education around new ordinance (O)</li> <li>Broad distribution of information (O)</li> <li>"hackathon"</li> <li>Events (O)</li> <li>Public evaluation of nursery stock</li> <li>Engage public around policy outside Council chambers (O)</li> <li>Communicate value of trees (O)</li> <li>Engage around benefits, not problems (O)</li> </ul>
Community	Feedback on Draft Values	High Priority Issues	Recommended goals / actions	Common tree issues to be addressed	Ways to work together	Communications / keeping in touch
Freight Advisory Board		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visibility / safety along streets</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Columnar trees for visibility where large vehicles are present</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sight / visibility safety issues with trees in roundabouts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Port of Seattle would like to work on joint maintenance issues</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Board would like to see draft plan when it is available</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce canopy blocking signs</li> <li>• Leaf sweeping / removal for bike safety</li> <li>• Analysis of setbacks on tree planting at freight corridor intersections</li> </ul>			
Community	Feedback on Draft Values	High Priority Issues	Recommended goals / actions	Common tree issues to be addressed	Ways to work together	Communications / keeping in touch
Tree Advocates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preservation of large trees and groves for wildlife, particularly birds (F)</li> <li>• Add value about youth / school engagement (O)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate change (C)</li> <li>• Full funding for tree care/ maintenance (M)</li> <li>• Tree inventory</li> <li>• Protection of large tree / groves (F)</li> <li>• Database of large tree / grove locations</li> <li>• Enforcement (R)</li> <li>• Development impact on trees (R)</li> <li>• Tree preservation (R)</li> <li>• Tree planting / establishment practices</li> <li>• Slow tree loss, including large trees (R)</li> <li>• Raise importance of trees as public utility</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update tree code to protect existing trees / groves / large trees (R)</li> <li>• Land acquisition for tree protection / green space</li> <li>• Improve process for protesting large tree removal (R)</li> <li>• Examine City Light pruning practices</li> <li>• Enforce existing and new code (R)</li> <li>• Emphasis on stewardship and partnerships (O)</li> <li>• Improve retail tree stock</li> <li>• Review canopy cover goal</li> <li>• Equity in urban forest access to support human / mental health (E)</li> <li>• Turn City Light substations into green spaces</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to identify tree species that will thrive with climate change (C)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central tree office open 24 hours</li> <li>• Publicize SDOT urban story map more (O)</li> <li>• List community organization on Trees for Seattle website (O)</li> <li>• Engage schools in inventorying (O)</li> <li>• Collaborate with UW on research</li> <li>• Use maps to make emotional connection to large trees (O)</li> <li>• Young tree watering outreach (O)</li> <li>• Equitably recruit volunteers (E)</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Underground utilities</li> <li>Track urban forest values</li> </ul>			
Community	Feedback on Draft Values	High Priority Issues	Recommended goals / actions	Common tree issues to be addressed	Ways to work together	Communications / keeping in touch
Implementation Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Value working with schools</li> <li>Simplify values to make them more accessible</li> <li>Include collaboration, partnership, accountability</li> <li>Livability</li> <li>Say community and environmental health instead of ecosystem and human health; put human health first (H)</li> <li>Include appropriately valuing trees</li> <li>Include professional best management practices for tree crews, arborists</li> <li>Data driven and scientific</li> <li>Equity (E)</li> <li>Include job development and skills development (E)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Job creation (E)</li> <li>Money and resources for maintenance (M)</li> <li>Funding ongoing tree care and volunteer support (M)</li> <li>Connectivity</li> <li>Diversity and resilience of the urban forest</li> <li>Importance of the understory (F)</li> <li>Forest in unimproved right of way (F)</li> <li>Density and green spaces</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Job training (E)</li> <li>Communicating value of trees (O)</li> <li>Supporting residents in creating wildlife habitat on private property</li> <li>Maintain all street trees at same level as Mercer trees (M)</li> <li>Support youth training programs for tree planting (E)</li> <li>Provide long-term paid job skills training (E)</li> <li>Focus on high-quality volunteer programs</li> <li>Build partnerships</li> <li>Create database of green space/ urban forestry non-profits</li> <li>Make plan update fun to best engage public</li> <li>Coordinate with neighboring cities/ engage in regional work</li> <li>Highlight urban forestry projects</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work beyond Seattle borders</li> <li>Work with neighborhoods flyways campaign</li> <li>Regional canopy assessment</li> <li>Support science around trees and mental health (H)</li> <li>Tree planting partnerships</li> <li>Support communities through grants</li> <li>Work together on climate change outreach (C)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make the plan an ongoing tool for neighborhood groups to reinforce City actions</li> <li>Focus messaging on every tree being part of the urban forest (O)</li> <li>Focus messaging on tree benefits (O)</li> <li>Focus on enabling communities to care for trees in their neighborhoods</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide clear plan to accomplish goals and fund plan</li> <li>• Highlight resilience and long-term thinking</li> </ul>					
Urban Forestry Management Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead with ecosystem and human health</li> <li>• Add using BMPs</li> <li>• Add Seattle as an urban forest leader</li> <li>• Include business community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better coordination</li> <li>• Context-sensitive designs for tree planting</li> <li>• Adaptive management for climate change</li> <li>• Budget</li> <li>• BMPs for watering / pruning</li> <li>• Partnerships</li> <li>• Invasive species</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with WSDOT to plan / manage trees in WSDOT ROW</li> </ul>			