Urban Forest Management Plan Overview

Seattle's urban forest is a thriving and sustainable mix of tree species and ages that creates a contiguous and healthy ecosystem that is valued by the City and all of its citizens as an essential environmental, economic, and community asset.

Urban Forest Management Plan (April 2007)
- City's first strategic plan for managing the urban forest
- Establishes goal of 30% canopy cover in 30 years
- Considers issues/opportunities based on different land uses and establishes specific goals
- Lays out the short-, mid- and long-term actions needed to meet the goals

Inspire/Inform	Preserve	Plant	Maintain	Restore

Inspire/Inform

Seattle reLeaf – Community outreach campaign

- Website
- Brochures, poster, bus ads, radio promos,
- Earned media
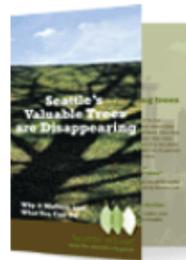- Community events
- Strategic Partnerships

Preserve

Regulatory Update
- During development
- Outside of development
- Street trees

Department of Planning & Development

Department of Transportation

Community Partner

Plant

City Property

City 2 for 1 Tree Replacement Policy-
    Parks, SDOT, Zoo
    Seattle Center, FFD

In the Community
- DON Tree Fund
- Neighborhood Trees Program
- Bridging the Gap Tree Planting
- City Light Tree Replacement Program

Maintain

City Tree Maintenance
- Parks
- SDOT
- Seattle Center
- FFD
- Zoo

Power line clearance
City Light

Restore

Green Seattle Partnership
Restoring 2500 acres of forested lands by 2025

Community Partners

City-Owned Trees

- Plant thousands of trees each year
  - Enhancement
  - Construction projects
  - Tree replacement
  - Restoration activities
- Maintain hundreds of thousands of trees
  - 90,000 trees in developed parklands
  - 38,000 of the 133,000 street trees
  - >500,000 trees in natural areas
  - Utility line safety & reliability

City's Role in Private Trees

- Education
  - Outreach, brochures, website, events etc.
- Incentives
  - Neighborhood tree planting programs
  - Business district enhancement programs
- Regulatory Protection
  - During development
  - Outside of development
  - Street trees
  - Environmentally critical areas

Urban Forest Management Plan

- Adopted April 2007
- Developed by Urban Forest IDT
  - 9 departments (Parks, SDOT, DPD, OSE, SCL, SPU, Seattle Center, DON, FFD)
- Organization – based on an established model for urban forest planning
  - Tree Resource
  - Management Framework
  - Community Framework

Tree Resource	Management Framework	Community Framework
Understand the characteristics and complexity of Seattle's urban forest Maintain trees to promote health and longevity Maximize canopy cover and optimize age and species diversity Maximize the ecological and environmental benefits of the urban forest	Facilitate interdepartmental communication and cooperation to provide decision-makers the information they need to support the UFMP Develop and implement resource management tools Preserve and protect existing trees, and encourage new tree planting throughout the city by improving management of trees on private property Model good stewardship in City practices	Enhance public awareness of the urban forest as a community resource Engage the community in active stewardship of the urban forest Promote citizen-government-business partnerships

Canopy Cover Goals

- Establishes 30% canopy goal citywide
- Why we need goals
  - Provide a clear set of agreed targets
  - Help prioritize planning and budget
- Management Units
  - Unique land uses provide unique opportunities & challenges
  - Based on City's land use classifications

Canopy Cover Assessment

Goals

- Prioritize City investments to create greatest tree canopy gain

- Evaluate current canopy cover and recent trends in canopy gain and loss

- Understand impacts of development

- Assess planting potential

- Create baseline to monitor progress toward 30% canopy cover goal

Canopy Cover Assessment

Methods

- High resolution satellite data
- Advanced data extraction & analysis techniques
- Data from 2002/03 and 2007 (summer)

Parameters

- Citywide
- Land Use Categories: single-family, multi-family, manufacturing/industrial, downtown, developed parks, parks natural areas, commercial/mixed use, institutional
  - ROW and Private Property
  - Community Reporting Areas (CRAs)
  - Urban Villages

Canopy Cover Assessment

Results:

- Citywide canopy cover in 2007 was about 23%

- Canopy cover citywide increased slightly with gains balancing losses

- ROW tree cover is increasing more quickly than non-ROW property

- Canopy loss occurs during redevelopment

- We need to more than double the acres of canopy increase each year to meet the UFMP 30% goal by 2037

Land Use Category	2002 Canopy Cover	2007 Canopy Cover	Goal Canopy Cover
Commercial/ Mixed Use	8.4%	9.7%	15%
Developed Park or Boulevard	25.9%	25.5%	25%
Downtown	4.2%	4.7%	12%
Major Institution	18.4%	19.4%	20%
Manufacturing/ Industrial	3.8%	4.3%	10%
Multi-Family	16.6%	17.1%	20%
Parks Natural Area	82.5%	80.4%	80%
Single Family	25.2%	25.7%	33%
Total	22.5%	22.9%	30%

Canopy Cover Assessment

Community Reporting Areas (53 CRAs)

- Canopy in less developed areas tended to decrease
  - 6 CRAs had a 3% or greater decline; all south of downtown
  - Significant areas of remaining forest land in SF zones were redeveloped in these areas
- Canopy in fully developed areas tended to increase
  - 8 CRA's had a 3% or greater increase; all north of downtown

Canopy Cover Assessment

Application of Data

- Targeting programs to low canopy areas
- Parcel and neighborhood canopy cover available to public online
- Projection of future canopy trends
- Tracking progress towards canopy cover goals

	UFMP Canopy Goal (total trees)	2007 Canopy	Total additional trees needed to meet goal in 28 years	Total additional trees/ year needed	Total tree increase 03-07	Average trees/yr increase 03-07	Trees per year not happening at status quo	Cost of trees requiring additional incentives	Add'l trees/ acre needed (goal trees/acre)
Downtown	12% (13,572)	4.7%	8,224	294	591	148	**146**	$102,200 ($700/tree)	10.1 (16.6)
Institutional	20% (19,552)	19.4%	557	20	1,008	252	-	-	.5 (17.8)
Manufacturing Industrial	10% (85,882)	4.3%	48,777	1,742	4,411	1,103	**639**	$319,500 ($500/tree)	8.0 (13.9)
Multi-Family	20% (156,635)	17.1%	22,971	820	3,855	964	-	-	4.1 (27.7)
Commercial	15% (94,103)	9.7%	33,415	1,193	7,779	1,945	-	-	7.4 (20.8)
Single Family	33% (876,567)	25.7%	192,869	6,888	13,941	3,485	**3,403**	$680,600 ($200/tree)	6.4 (29.3)
Parks Developed	25% (52,283)	25.5%			(974)				(22.2)
Citywide	30% (1,298,594)	22.9%	306,813	10,957	31,585	7,897	**4,188 (3,060[1])**	$1,102,300	6.2 (24)
ROW	24% (225,265)	17.6%	81,831	2,922	12,460	3,115	-	-	5.6