

Seattle Urban Forestry Commission

Weston Brinkley, Chair • Joanna Nelson de Flores, Vice-Chair
Tom Early • Megan Herzog • Craig Johnson
Sarah Rehder • Sandra Whiting • Andrew Zellers • Steve Zemke

**MATERIAL PREPARED FOR DISCUSSION BY THE URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION.
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DRAFT

January 3, 2017.

Mayor Jenny Durkan and Councilmembers
City Hall
600 Fourth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

RE: Urban Forestry Commission 2017 Annual Report as required by Ordinance 123052

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers,

In 2017 the Urban Forestry Commission focused on the results of a Tree Regulations Research Project, the results of the 2017 Tree Canopy Cover Assessment and providing seven UFC Recommendations. We also continued to build relationships with urban forestry stakeholders including Seattle Audubon, City Fruit and King County Million Trees Campaign.

The composition of the commission has changed to add three new positions in an effort to diversify. The three new positions are environmental justice, public health and community representatives. We are very pleased with the recent addition of a Get Engaged member too. In June, we mourned the death of Donna Kostka; she served on the commission since 2014 and provided thoughtful and practical contributions as an urban ecologist.

The Urban Forestry Commission's primary objectives are:

- To provide a forum for public dialogue to assist the Commission in its advisory role.
- To provide feedback and recommendations to City Council and the Mayor on specific policy actions that will ensure the long-term health and viability of Seattle's urban forest; and
- To support implementation of the Urban Forest Stewardship Plan goals.

We are looking forward to supporting the City's effort to achieve 30 percent canopy cover by 2037 and helping our city reap the many benefits that derive from a healthy urban forest.

Sincerely,