

SEATTLE GREEN SPACES COALITION

Keeping Public Lands in Public Hands for Public Benefit

A small group of local residents started **Seattle Green Spaces Coalition** in 2014, to keep city-owned green space land in public hands for public benefit. The City of Seattle and its departments owned more than 200 acres of forests, wetlands and open spaces they had declared “surplus,” and SGSC advocated for communities to tell the city how they wanted those green spaces to be used – for P-Patches, pocket parks, forested urban spaces, solar farms, low-income housing & parks. Since then, SGSC has expanded its scope to include all city green spaces. At a time when Seattle has one of America’s 10 worst heat islands, its 6th worst traffic congestion and pollution, and is losing tree canopy every year, we need to reverse that trend now, to keep Seattle sustainable, equitable and livable.



Here’s What SGSC is Accomplishing for Public Benefit:

Delridge Wetland: SGSC helped the Delridge Neighborhoods Development Association acquire and restore the Delridge Wetlands, a former Seattle City Light substation, as a nature area that benefits neighbors and Seattle’s STEM public schools.

Five-Acre Woods: SGSC partnered with the Lake Forest Park Stewardship Foundation, King County, local citizens and Lake Forest Park City Council members, to make this surplus Seattle Public Utilities forest & wetland into a park for Lake Forest Park.

Myers Parcels: SGSC helped rally thousands of Seattle people in 2015-16, and convinced Mayor Murray’s administration to keep the 33-acre Myers Parcels in West Seattle. Today, this forest & wetland area is “land banked” for a future Seattle park.

Apples and Plums: SGSC discovered a historic International District fruit orchard on surplus land, and worked with the housing developer to graft tree cuttings, and replant new apple and plum trees on their historic site in the new building’s landscape.



Urban Homestead: SGSC supports the Urban Homestead Foundation’s work to purchase and transform City Light’s former Dakota substation into a nature and education park for youth activities, neighbors and Seattle schools.

\$2-\$3 Billion in Green Value: Seattle’s natural capital – its trees, wetlands, water and green spaces – deliver \$2-\$3 billion worth of benefits and savings to our city every year, and mitigate the effects of climate change. SGSC is helping the City assess this value, account for it as a city asset, and use it in its policy analyses, law-making and operations.

2035 Comprehensive Plan: SGSC is working with the Mayor, City Council and other leaders to treat green space as an asset, and keep green space metrics in the 2035 Plan.

SGSC Supports:

- **Letting communities choose** how surplus city lands get used
- **Expanding Seattle’s green spaces**, watersheds and wetlands
- **Treating Seattle’s natural capital as a asset** on the city’s books
- **Passing an updated Tree Ordinance**, using Urban Forestry Commission recommendations
- **Promoting Seattle’s Equity & Environment Action Agenda**

Help SGSC engage with our neighbors and communities to keep our city livable, equitable, sustainable and livable!

SGSC is a 501c3 non-profit. Learn more, participate, and donate at www.seattlegreenspacescoalition.org



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