Tree data road map project

Photo by John Skelton

Seattle Department of Construction & Inspections

Urban Forestry Commission
Charlie Spear I May 6, 2020

SDCI PURPOSE AND VALUES

Our Purpose

Helping people build a safe, livable, and inclusive Seattle.

Our Values

- Equity
- Respect
- Quality
- Integrity
- Service

BACKGROUND ASSUMPTIONS

- The City needs reliable data to manage, enforce, evaluate and communicate urban forestry regulations, policies, status and successes.

- SDCI is a key player because most trees are located on private property.

- Several City departments have, or are developing, tree data sets.

- Adding data sources such as lidar and aerial photography to these departmental data sets could enhance their usefulness.

- A Citywide picture could create opportunities for interdepartmental synergy.

- Studying leading practices inside and outside City government could highlight opportunities for all concerned.

OBJECTIVES/DELIVERABLES

- Strategic road map for urban forestry data and systems to:
  - Enable SDCI legislative, regulatory and process improvements
  - Evaluate the benefits and challenges of SDCI laws, regulations and actions, including impact on tree canopy, environmental justice concerns, and other priorities.
  - Support administration and enforcement of SDCI tree protection policies and regulations.
  - Communicate progress, status and successes of SDCI urban forestry efforts

- Data and technology guidance for drafting workable, effective urban forestry policies and regulations related to private property.

- Outline potential opportunities for departmental collaboration around systems, data enhancements, and acquisition of lidar and other data sets.

PROPOSED TASK SEQUENCE

- Complete leading practices study

- Summarize and review study findings

- Perform stakeholder interviews

- Draft SDCI road map document

- Draft executive summary

- Draft SDCI legislative guidance document

- Draft SDCI business case(s)/options analysis(es)

- Complete second drafts

- Complete final drafts

WORK TO DATE

- Completed project charter and rough project plan

- Compiled list of sites to interview for leading practices

- Interviewed 7 sites

- Interviewed Nature Conservancy, Arbor Day Foundation, Forterra

QUESTIONS?

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