

Seattle Urban Forestry Commission

Leif Fixen, Chair • Tom Early, Vice-Chair

Gordon Bradley • Donna Kostka • Joanna Nelson de Flores • Jeff Reibman • Erik Rundell • Peg Staeheli • Steve Zemke

September 2, 2015

Jesús Aguirre, Superintendent
Seattle Parks and Recreation
100 Dexter Ave N
Seattle, WA 98109

Dear Superintendent Aguirre,

The Urban Forestry Commission would like to welcome you to Seattle and congratulate you on your appointment to lead Seattle Parks and Recreation (Parks).

The Commission was established in 2009 to advise the Mayor and City Council concerning the establishment of policy and regulations governing the protection, management, and conservation of trees and vegetation in the City of Seattle.

The Commission along with Parks, OSE, other City agencies and City Council, actively participated in the production of the 2013 Urban Forest Stewardship Plan (UFSP) which sets a canopy cover goal of 80% for Park's Natural Areas and 25% for Developed Parks, which represent 7% and 4% of Seattle's land area respectively. The UFSP citywide canopy cover goal is 30%.

The Commission has been involved in Parks' important work in support of our urban forest, including:

- City Fruit's stewardship of Seattle's public orchards
- Cheasty Greenspace Mountain Bike Pilot Project
- Green Seattle Partnership
- Parks' Supplemental Use Guidelines for Natural Areas/Greenbelts.
- Pruning of public trees to accommodate private views
- Seattle's Parks District
- Two-for-one Tree Replacement Policy
- Washington Park Arboretum Multi-use Trail, and

Moving forward, the Commission is especially interested in maintaining Developed Parks and Natural Areas/Greenbelts canopy as a way to provide access to nature in Seattle while also mitigating pollution, and providing wildlife habitat.

The Commission is excited to work with you on efforts to support Seattle's urban forest. We invite you to attend one of our meetings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Leif Fixen".

Leif Fixen, Chair

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tom Early".

Tom Early

Cc: Jessica Finn Coven, Christopher Williams, Dan Johnson, Doug Critchfield, Jon Jainga, Susanne Rockwell, Deborah Brown, Erick McConaghy

Sandra Pinto de Bader, Urban Forestry Commission Coordinator
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