

Seattle Urban Forestry Commission

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September 4, 2013

Honorable Councilmember Richard Conlin
Chair, Planning, Land Use, and Sustainability Committee
Seattle City Hall
600 4th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98124

RE: Recommendation to add new Action Agenda item to UFSP regarding public tree maintenance

Dear Councilmember Conlin,

The Commission reviewed the 8/14/2013 amended Resolution adopting the 2013 Urban Forest Stewardship Plan (UFSP) and the table of Quick Actions to be accomplished by 2015 that accompanies the Resolution's Fiscal Note. We commend City Council's leadership to provide direction to the Departments on specific priority actions.

The Commission believes it's important to address the much needed improvement to city-wide maintenance cycles for public trees. As mentioned on Table 6 of the UFSP, SDOT's and Parks' current pruning cycles are far from the 5-7 year industry standard, with 13.4 and 18 year pruning cycles respectively.

We propose adding a new short-term Action Agenda item #P13 that would be part of the Quick Actions to be accomplished by 2015: P13 - Bring in maintenance cycles for all Seattle public trees to the industry standard of 5-7 years.

Sincerely,



Peg Staeheli



Tom Early

cc: Mayor Mike McGinn, Council President Clark, Councilmember Bagshaw, Councilmember Burgess, Councilmember Godden, Councilmember Harrell, Councilmember Licata, Councilmember Rasmussen, Councilmember O'Brien, Peter Hahn, Christopher Williams, Jill Simmons, Barbara Gray, Darren Morgan, Doug Critchfield, Mark Mead, Phyllis Shulman, Meg Moorehead, Eric McConaghy

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