Trees for Seattle 2022 Work Plan

Background: Seattle updated its Urban Forest Management Plan in 2020-21. The outcomes and strategies identified in this update are below:

UFMP outcomes

1. Racial and social equity. Urban forestry benefits and responsibilities are shared fairly across communities, community trust is built, and decisions are guided by diverse perspectives, including those of environmental justice priority communities.

2. Ecosystems and human health. The urban forest improves air quality, human well-being, public health and water quality; provides beauty, environmental and economic benefits, fish and wildlife habitat, food, outdoor fun; and helps store rainwater.

3. Human safety and property protection. In implementing the work, urban forestry teams use up-to-date practices to protect the safety of the public and staff.

4. Climate change. Urban forestry work helps people, and urban trees and vegetation adapt to, recover from, and mitigate the impacts of climate change.

5. Community care. The Seattle community, including all people, organizations, institutions, and businesses, works together to appreciate and care for the urban forest and to understand tree protection regulations.

6. Balance competing priorities. City government will work to grow, maintain, preserve, enhance, and restore Seattle's urban forest as it meets other priorities. Urban forestry practices and policies work with and support other City and community goals including access to spaces, climate action, culturally appropriate resource provision, economic development, environmental protection, social justice, food and medicine production, housing, balancing tree shade with light, public safety, recreation, transportation, and utility provision.

UFMP strategies

In order to meet the outcomes of this plan, seven overarching strategies were developed that represent a comprehensive approach to mobilizing informed and effective action. These strategies were used to develop the specific actions included in the action agenda.

1. Consider the needs of environmental justice priority communities in all urban forestry actions.

2. Identify and implement management actions that increase the urban forest's resilience to potential impacts, including climate change.

3. Understand the condition and complexity of the urban forest resource, how it was different in the past and how it may change in the future.

4. Coordinate communication, cooperation, and decisions within the City and with other agencies.

5. Inspire, inform, and work with the community to help care for Seattle's urban forest.

6. Preserve, restore, and enhance the urban forest on City property and rights-of-way.

7. Provide support to the community, via incentives and regulations, for keeping, removing, replacing, and planting trees.

Given these outcomes and strategies, an Action Agenda was developed to outline the steps that the City and community partners will take to implement the UFMP. Annual work plans will then outline work conducted to implement the Action Agenda on an annual basis.

2022 Work Plan: Each year the Urban Forestry Core Team creates a work plan based on the actions identified in the Urban Forest Management Plan. These plans summarize the actions the City has prioritized for implementation in a given year, and encompass work of the UF Core Team as well as work coordinated between departments and individual department work highlights that inform the broader city effort. The worksheets in this document include ongoing work described generally in the Action Agenda, worksheets that outline the tasks for the Action Agenda actions that are identified for 2022, and a tracker for the UFMP Action Agenda as a whole to show which areas are seeing work now as part of this work plan, which areas departments are working on outside of the work plan, and which actions are not yet seeing work. These are arranged in the following sections:

> **Ongoing work**
>
> **2022 UFMP Action Agenda work:**
> Strategy 1
> Strategy 2
> Strategy 3
> Strategy 4
> Strategy 5
> Strategy 7
>
> **UFMP Action Agenda Tracker**

Ongoing Departmental Work

Ongoing Work							
Action	**Lead Department**	**2022 Tasks**	**Core Team engagement?**	**Status**			
				Q1	**Q2**	**Q3**	**Q4**
Planting trees throughout Seattle and complying with the City's Two-for-One tree replacement policy.		Accomplish departmental work plans related to planting		Patti to fill in once Q1 numbers are collected			
Developing plans and strategies to manage the urban forest on City natural landscapes and properties.							
Removing invasive plants from Seattle's forested parklands.	SPR	Complete GSP 2022 restoration work plan					
Coordinating departmental work and collaborating on urban forestry citywide efforts.		Review Trees for Seattle charter; determine whether updates are necessary (see AA Strategy 4)	✓				
Updating initiatives and regulations in support of our Seattle's urban forest.		Update tree protection regulations (see AA strategy 7)					

Note: actions highlighted in red are actions prioritized in the UFMP as a result of input from community, the Urban Forestry Commission, and staff teams

Strategy 1: Consider first the needs of environmental justice communities in all urban forestry actions									
Action	Lead Department	2022 Tasks	Already underway by Department?	Core Team engagement?	Status				Notes
					Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
1. Create a program to improve access for people in environmental equity priority communities to internships, apprenticeships, and jobs in urban forestry		Notes: this is one where we need to work in partnership, work with the private arborist industry							Core Team should identify gaps where this is not being addressed/accomplished
	TBD	Identify gaps in department work that are needed to accomplish this - work on definition of workforce development for UF, what success looks like, then what are the gaps and opportunities	N	✓	Core Team will work in monthly meetings and/or sub-group meetings to develop a plan for framing this body of work				Define workforce development, what do we mean by that? There are many variations, determine what CT wants to focus on; remaining work: determine resources and next steps, develop plan to implement
	SPR	Provide on-the-job training for seasonal and existing employees, without prior experience in green industry, to diversify work force and create career paths	Y		Targets: 8,000 hrs Results:	Targets: 8,000 hrs Results:	Targets: 8,000 hrs Results:	Targets: 8,000 hrs Results:	Lots of training comes with that. Using that training to help build resumes (use equipment, etc to help them pursue other jobs). May expand through parntership with Friends of Olmsted Parks.
	SPU	RainCity Program pilot to include introductory urban tree care training as part of green stormwater infrastructure stewardship	Y		In progress; details being developed				Focus is on urban nature with some tree work along riparian corridors. Jobs training/equity focused program. $15M over 5 years.
	SPR	Green Seattle Partnership will engage partner organizations to provide paid participation opportunities, building new systems for measuring participation, framing common skill targets, and linking participants to job opportunities	Y		Targets: Make data tracking inprovments in CEDAR Results:	Targets: Provide at least 30 paid participant opportunities Results:	Targets: Provide an additional 30 paid participant opportunities Results:	Targets: Finalize common skills document for job training programs	GSP strategic plan includes this goal/outcome; check with team on 2022 actions on this
	SDCI	Align the development of the tree care provider list with this action	N						SDCI has +/- potential 325 TSPs. SDOT (Nolan) said they have +/- 95 TSPs registered. If CB 120207 passes late Feb/early March (to be heard Feb 9 LU Committee, Feb 23 Full Council), then SDCI would like to help with this action.
	SDOT	Determine if there are there connection points related to SDOT tree care provider list	TBD						
2. Focus tree planting in environmental equity priority communities		How does the departments separate work all fit together?							
	SPR, SDOT	Focus department planting programs in these communities (SPR 2:1 tree replacement, SDOT street tree planting)	Y		SPR Targets: Results:	Targets: Results:	Targets: Results:	Targets: Results:	
					SDOT Targets: Results:	Targets: Results:	Targets: Results:	Targets: Results:	
	SPU	Focus Trees for Neighboorhoods tree distribution efforts on residents in these communities	Y					Targets: Results:	
3. Focus tree, landscape, and natural area maintenance in environmental equity priority communities	TBD	Identify gaps and resources needed to fill them (e.g. SPR UF crews to focus on preventive care); provide advocacy as needed	N	✓					
Prioritize these communities in developing GSP annual restoration work plan	SPR	GSP continues to prioritize on ecological repair and building relationships with the land in equity priority communtes in our annual restoration work plan	Y		Targets: CEDAR demograhic data collection improvements Results:	Targets: Continue to broaden our inlusiveness in our community engagement Results:	Targets: Continue to broaden our inlusiveness in our community engagement Results:	Targets: Results:	
	SPR	Provide CPTED pruning and 200' of trailhead improvements at 10 sites in environmental equity priority areas.	Y		Targets: 10 sites in 2022 Results: 6 sites completed	Targets: 10 sites in 2022 Results:	Targets: 10 sites in 2022 Results:	Targets: 10 sites in 2022 Results:	
	SPU	Focus new restoration areas in equity priority areas.	Y						

UFMP Action Agenda Strategy 2

Note: actions highlighted in red are actions prioritized in the UFMP as a result of input from community, the Urban Forestry Commission, and staff teams

Action	Lead Department	2022 Tasks	Already underway by department?	Core Team engagement?	Status				Notes
					Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
5. Conduct a climate change vulnerability assessment to inform how the City's urban forestry work should respond to a changing climate, including increasing droughts and pests		Notes: the tasks listed below are steps towards gathering the information necessary to understand current status and vulnerabilities, as well as beginning to take steps to increase resilience. These can be used in developing a citywide vulnerability assessment in successive years.							Need to look at connected ecosystem. Then also, who are the people who are impacted (i.e., if there's a maple tree pest) - would include Canopy Cover assessment, health and vulnerability of diffneret species, geography of different species.
	SDOT	Seattle Committee on Invasive Pests work (pest readiness tied to climate change)	Y	✓					One purpose: to see how vulnerable we are to certain insects attacking our trees.
	SCIP (SDOT, SPR, others)	Develop sooty bark disease planning and messaging	Y	✓					
	SCIP (SDOT, SPR, others)	Evaluate needs for spotted latern fly control/tree of heaven removal		✓					
	SCIP (SDOT, SPR, others)	Compile inventory data to look at what we have across the city							
		Use urban heat island study to identify how the forest is part of human resilience and how we can bolster the urban forest's resilience role.							Canopy cover assessment will also give additional detail to overlay with this.
	SCL/SPU	Conduct tree survival planting research work in the Tolt watershed							
	SPR	Identify priority park areas to plant trees (Berger Partnership/Friends of Olmsted Parks), using an equity lens, heat island lens, and other considerations.							Note: the more we can use the same tools, palette, levers, will allow us to maximize what we do, speak as a city. Takes some coordination, but we can do that. This effort is one example. How do we look at our planting efforts and align these types of assessment work. What are we planting, how do we decide where to plant them, how are we going to water them?
	SCL	Conduct conversations with data partners about remote sensing specisization to understand which trees are where (currently focused on transmission ROW out of town)							Could be an opportunity to work on together, build out a citywide tree inventory.

Strategy 2: Identify and implement management actions that increase the urban forest's resilience to potential impacts, including climate change.

UFMP Action Agenda Strategy 3

Note: actions highlighted in red are actions prioritized in the UFMP as a result of input from community, the Urban Forestry Commission, and staff teams

Action	Lead Department	2022 Tasks	Already underway by departmentg?	Core Team engagement? (y/n)	Status				Notes
					Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Strategy 3: Understand the condition and complexity of the urban forest resource, how it was different in the past and how it may change in the future									
8. Perform a citywide canopy cover assessment every five years. Compare the results to previous estimates to understand what has changed				✓					
	OSE	Oversee consultant development of datasets and layers utilizing LiDAR data and ortho imagery	N		Target: datasets developed				
	OSE	Oversee consultant work to perform analyses based on research questions and to develop resulting report	N			Target: analyses performed, report prepared			
	OSE	Distribute report to partners, public, etc.	N						

UFMP Action Agenda Strategy 4

Note: actions highlighted in red are actions prioritized in the UFMP as a result of input from community, the Urban Forestry Commission, and staff teams

Action	Lead Department	2022 Tasks	Core Team engagement? (y/n)	Status				Notes
				Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
9. Continue support of the Urban Forestry Core Team as the key coordination group for Citywide interdepartmental urban forestry work			✓					
	OSE	Conduct quarterly IDT meetings						
	OSE	Conduct monthly Core Team meetings						
	OSE	Conduct quarterly Management Team meetings						
	OSE	Evaluate Trees for Seattle Charter; determine whether updates are necessary			Target: develop plan for this evaluation, conduct initial meetings	Target: conduct additional meetings, evaluation work	Target: finalize recommendations	

The table header reads: **Strategy 4: Coordinate communication, cooperation, and decisions within the City and with other agencies**

UFMP Action Agenda Strategy 5

Note: actions highlighted in red are actions prioritized in the UFMP as a result of input from community, the Urban Forestry Commission, and staff teams

Action	Lead Department	2022 Tasks	Already underway by department?	Core Team engagement? (y/n)	Status				Notes
					Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
11. Create a citywide urban forestry communication strategy that will identify better ways to share information with environmental equity communities about volunteer opportunities, tree care information, regulations, incentives, and winter storms. This strategy should have a special emphasis on Native American communities.									
		Engage with PIOs to plan for development; identify where citywide strategy can/should expand on and improve department communications	N	✓					
		Develop Communications Plan	N	✓					

Strategy 5: Inspire, inform, and work with the community to help care for Seattle's urban forest

UFMP Action Agenda Strategy 7

Note: actions highlighted in red are actions prioritized in the UFMP as a result of input from community, the Urban Forestry Commission, and staff teams

Action	Lead Department	2022 Tasks	Already underway?	Core Team engagement?	Status				Notes
					Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Strategy 7: Provide support to the community, via incentives and regulations, for keeping, removing, replacing, and planting trees									
16. Update the City's tree protection regulations									
	SDCI	Conduct final consultations with staff, partners on strategies being explored	Y		Target: issue draft tree protection proposal				
	SDCI	Finalize and issue recommendations	Y				Target: final recommendatoins to Council		
19. Explore ways to increase canopy (tree) cover in industrial areas									
	OSE	Utilize 2022 budget funds allocated for greening in industrial areas, with a focus on those adjacent to South Park and Georgetown neighborhoods	Y		Target: one planting project completed in each neighborhood				
	OSE	Meet with internal and external partners to identify target areas/properties, and outline best practices	Y			Target:			
	OSE	Implement planting projects on industrial properties	Y				Target:		

UFMP Action Agenda Tracker

Note: actions highlighted in red are actions prioritized in the UFMP as a result of community input and staff team input

Action	2022 Actions?	Status
Strategy 1: Consider first the needs of environmental justice communities in all urban forestry actions		
1. Create a program to improve access for people in environmental equity priority communities to internships, apprenticeships, and jobs in urban forestry	✓	2022 actions: see work plan Strategy 1 worksheet
2. Focus tree planting in environmental equity priority communities	✓	2022 actions: see work plan Strategy 1 worksheet
3. Focus tree, landscape, and natural area maintenance in environmental equity priority communities	✓	2022 actions: see work plan Strategy 1 worksheet
4. Explore ways to support property owners and renters in environmental equity priority communities to plant and care for trees on private property	✓	SPU 2022 action: Focus Trees for Neighborhoods outreach and engagement on residents in these communities
Strategy 2: Identify and implement management actions that increase the urban forest's resilience to potential impacts, including climate change.		
5. Conduct a climate change vulnerability assessment to inform how the City's urban forestry work should respond to a changing climate, including increasing droughts and pests	✓	2022 actions: departments undertaking some actions (listed in Strategy 3 worksheet) that are steps towards gathering information necessary to understand current status and vulnerabilities, as well as beginning to take steps to increase resilience. These can be used in developing a vulnerability assessment in successive years.
6. Develop a list of tree species resilient to climate change and pests	✓	2022 action: Departments considering plants from south/east for drought resistance, conifers (both different varieties and different sourcing - "facilitated migration")
7. Explore ways to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from urban forestry work	x	No actions planned
Strategy 3: Understand the condition and complexity of the urban forest resource, how it was different in the past and how it may change in the future		
8. Perform a citywide canopy cover assessment every five years. Compare the results to previous estimates to understand what has changed	✓	2022 actions: see work plan Strategy 3 worksheet
Strategy 4: Coordinate communication, cooperation, and decisions within the City and with other agencies		
9. Continue support of the Urban Forestry Core Team as the key coordination group for Citywide interdepartmental urban forestry work	✓	2022 actions: see work plan Strategy 4 worksheet
10. Enhance coordination with federal, state, county, and local jurisdictions, and with landowner institutions such as Port of Seattle, Seattle Public Schools, hospitals, and universities	x	No actions planned
Strategy 5: Inspire, inform, and work with the community to help care for Seattle's urban forest		
11. Create a citywide urban forestry communication strategy that will identify better ways to share information with environmental equity communities about volunteer opportunities, tree care information, regulations, incentives, and winter storms. This strategy should have a special emphasis on Native American communities.	✓	2022 actions: see work plan Strategy 5 worksheet
12. Expand volunteer programs focused on elders and children	✓	SPR 2022 action: Continue GSP program youth engagement efforts
13. Explore the impact of trees on allergies and opportunities to reduce tree-produced allergies	x	No actions planned
Strategy 6: Preserve, restore, and enhance the urban forest on City property and the right-of-way		
14. Support citywide efforts to find long-term solutions to homeless encampments in urban forests	x	No actions planned
15. Explore solutions for conflicts between tree roots and sidewalks that support the needs of people with disabilities	x	No actions planned
Strategy 7: Provide support to the community, via incentives and regulations, for keeping, removing, replacing, and planting trees		
16. Update the City's tree protection regulations	✓	2022 actions: see work plan Strategy 7 worksheet
17. Explore ways to help property owners remove invasive plants and pests on private land	x	No actions planned
18. Explore ways to help property owners manage unimproved rights-of-way next to their property	x	No actions planned
19. Explore ways to increase canopy (tree) cover in industrial areas	✓	2022 actions: see work plan Strategy 7 worksheet