

Seattle Urban Forestry Commission

Weston Brinkley, Chair • Joanna Nelson de Flores, Vice-Chair
Tom Early • Megan Herzog • Craig Johnson
Sarah Rehder • Sandra Whiting • Andrew Zellers • Steve Zemke

February 14, 2017.

Mayor Jenny A. Durkan and City Councilmembers
City Hall
600 Fourth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98124

RE: Urban Forestry Commission 2017 Annual Report as required by Ordinance 123052

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers,

The Urban Forestry Commission (UFC) was established 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.

Enclosed is the 2017 annual report which provides a summary of the UFC's activities. In 2017, the UFC focused on the results of the Tree Regulations Research Project produced by OSE and SDCl, the results of the City's 2016 Tree Canopy Cover Assessment, as well as producing several letters of recommendation based on numerous briefings. The UFC also continued to build relationships with urban forestry stakeholders including Seattle Audubon, City Fruit, and King County Million Trees Campaign.

The composition of the UFC has changed. In 2017, the City passed legislation to add three new positions in an effort to diversify the UFC. The three new positions, to be filled in 2018, are Environmental Justice; Public Health; and Community/Neighborhood. The UFC is very pleased with the recent addition of a Get Engaged member too. In June, the UFC mourned the death of Donna Kostka; she served on the UFC since 2014 and provided thoughtful and practical contributions as the urban ecologist.

The UFC is looking forward to supporting the City's effort to achieve 30 percent canopy cover by 2037 and helping Seattle reap the many benefits that derive from a healthy urban forest.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature is cursive and appears to read 'Weston Brinkley'.

Weston Brinkley, Chair

cc: Jessica Finn Coven, Nathan Torgelson, Christopher Williams, Mami Hara, Goran Sparrman, Jim Baggs, Fred Podesta, Samuel Assefa, Robert Nellams, Michelle Caulfield, Mike Podowski, Maggie Glowacki, Art Pederson, Robert Stowers, Jon Jainga, Jana Dilley, Josh Meidav, Darren Morgan, David Bayard, Keiko Nungesser, Stephen Socie, Peter Jeu, Evan Philip, Aaron Blumenthal, Peter Lindsay

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www.seattle.gov/UrbanForestryCommission