February 6, 2019.

MHA Council Committee
City Hall
600 4th Ave
Seattle, WA 98124

RE: Follow-up to Amendments to MHA Ordinance – Amending SMC 25.11.090

Dear Councilmembers,

As Seattle City Council considers amendments to MHA Ordinance the Urban Forestry Commission (UFC) recommends amending SMC 25.11.090 as part of this effort.

The MHA EIS explicitly mentioned tree mitigation and included Mayor Burgess’ Tree Protection Executive Order (EO 2017-11).

Based on feedback from City Council, the UFC would like to offer the following amended language that could be implemented immediately as part of the MHA ordinance:

SMC 25.11.090 - Tree replacement and site restoration. A. Each exceptional and tree over two (2) feet that is removed in association with development in all zones shall be replaced by one or more new trees, the size and species of which shall be determined by the Director; the tree replacement required shall be designed to result, upon maturity, in 20 years in a canopy cover volume that is at least equal to the canopy cover volume prior to tree removal. Preference shall be given to on-site replacement. When on-site replacement cannot be achieved, or is not appropriate as determined by the Director, preference for off-site replacement shall be on public property a fee-in-lieu shall be paid to the City to replace and maintain the tree or trees in the neighborhood where they were removed or elsewhere as needed in the city. The City shall enter all significant trees on the site, trees removed, and trees replaced into SDCI’s current database system; noting tree species, common name, DBH, height, condition and location.

It is the UFC’s view that these proposed changes are within the scope of the MHA EIS section on mitigation (3.6.3 Mitigation Measures in the MHA Final EIS Nov 2017 Biological Resources Section).
Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Weston Brinkley, Chair

Steve Zemke

cc: Mayor Durkan, Nathan Torgelson, Samuel Assefa, Jessica Finn Coven, Michelle Caulfield, David Driskell, Mike Podowski, Maggie Glowacki, Art Pederson, Clayton Antieau, Deborah Brown-McGarry, Chanda Emery, Brennon Staley, Vera Giampietro, Urban Forestry Management Team, Urban Forestry Core Team, Sara Maxana, Aaron Blumenthal, Eric McConaghy, Yolanda Ho, Amanda Hohlfeld

Sandra Pinto de Bader, Urban Forestry Commission Coordinator
City of Seattle, Office of Sustainability & Environment
PO Box 94729 Seattle, WA 98124-4729 Tel: 206-684-3194 Fax: 206-684-3013
www.seattle.gov/UrbanForestryCommission