

SEATTLE URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION

Leif Fixen, Chair • Tom Early, Vice-Chair

Gordon Bradley • Donna Kostka • Richard Martin • Joanna Nelson de Flores • Jeff Reibman • Erik Rundell • Steve Zemke

The Urban Forestry Commission 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

August 5, 2015

Meeting Notes

Seattle Municipal Tower, Room 2750 (27th floor)

700 5th Avenue, Seattle

Attending

Commissioners

Leif Fixen - chair
Tom Early – vice chair
Donna Kostka
Erik Rundell
Steve Zemke

Staff

Sandra Pinto de Bader - OSE
Gabriela Vega - SDOT
Ian Macek - SDOT

Guests:

Catherine Morrison (City Fruit)

Absent- Excused

Gordon Bradley
Richard Martin
Joanna Nelson de Flores
Jeff Reibman

Public

Linda Murtfeldt (Seattle Audubon)

NOTE: Meeting notes are not exhaustive. For more details listen to the digital recording of the meeting at: <http://www.seattle.gov/urbanforestrycommission/meetingdocs.htm>

Call to order

Leif called the meeting to order and read the UFC mission and agenda.
Donna asked for a follow up item on the agenda to discuss next steps regarding Parks' Supplemental Use Guidelines.

Public comment

Linda Murtfeldt (Seattle Audubon)– Would like to voice a concern about the Freight Master Plan. The document doesn't seem to cover rail transportation. Seattle Audubon is concerned about spills from trains and coal pollution. Regarding City Fruit she would like to know if the group uses pesticides and herbicides and what's considered safe regarding impacts on pollinators.

Adoption of July 1 and July 8 meeting notes

ACTION: A motion to approve the July 1 meeting notes as amended was made, seconded, and approved.

ACTION: A motion to approve the July 8 meeting notes as amended was made, seconded, and approved.

Freight Master Plan – Gabriela Vega and Ian Macek (SDOT)

The Freight Master Plan (FMP) is geared towards SDOT's freight improvements in the city's roads (because that's where the city has jurisdiction). They will be looking at how rail impacts transportation.

UFC Comment – might be a good idea to change the name to Roads Freight Master Plan. There is also rail freight so changing the name of the plan will avoid confusion.

Answer: This will be an educational piece with the goal to clarify that there is a larger context around freight which includes more than large semi-trucks.

The FMP's purpose is to improve goods movement while sustaining Seattle's quality of life and maintaining economic competitiveness.

Project Structure: SDOT is working with an advisory committee. The committee will advise the SDOT project team during the development of the FMP. It's comprised of freight industry, City Boards and Commissions, and community representatives.

Project scope:

- Public outreach and stakeholder engagement
- Existing conditions
- Policy framework
- Evaluation of future conditions
- Updated freight network (map)
- Freight improvements and design guidelines
- Implementation strategy
- Final plan

Existing conditions:

- 142 miles of major truck streets
- Oversize load routes
- Port of Seattle facilities
- Intermodal rail facilities
- King County international Airport

Policy framework:

- Vision themes:
 - o Vibrant City of Seattle
 - o Thriving economy
 - o Connecting people and products
- Goal themes:
 - o Economy
 - o Safety
 - o Mobility
 - o State of good repair
 - o Equity
 - o Environment

UFC question: how do you define "truck?"

Answer: there are 14 classifications of trucks. SDOT is considering larger than regular trucks to semis. The plan includes school buses and 40 ft trucks. They are counting from category 4 and up. From u-haul to semi.

UFC comment: part of the goals should be emergency response.

Answer: there will be a separate document and protocol for emergency situations. They are also working with WSDOT.

Draft FMP Vision Statement

A high-quality and aspiring statement that will help articulate the desired end state of the FMP.

Proposed vision: a vibrant city and thriving economy connecting people and products within Seattle and to regional and international markets.

UFC comment: perhaps include something about protecting the environment and overall quality of life to reach balance.

Answer: The vision statement could include that. This proposed vision right now was presented to stakeholders. One thing that was important to them was the environmental component as being part of the goal.

Draft FMP goals:

- Economy – provide a freight network that supports a growing economy for Seattle and the region.
- Safety – improve safety and the predictable movement of goods and people.
- Mobility – reliably connect manufacturing/industrial center and business districts with the local, state and international freight networks.
- State of good repair – maintain and improve the freight transportation network to ensure safe and efficient operations.
- Equity – benefit residents and businesses of Seattle through equity in freight investments and improve the health of communities impacted by freight movement.
- Environment – improve freight operations in Seattle and the region by making goods movement more efficient and reducing its environmental footprint.

One of the deliverables was to produce a supply chain infographic.

Future conditions:

- 2035 truck flow map
- Create districts for analysis
- Employment industries: retail, wholesale, and manufacturing
- Develop growth factors and apply to districts
- Calibrate future volumes against other projects

Seattle's draft truck street designation:

- Freight goes everywhere
- Need to recognize different levels of freight movement and needs
- Need for context sensitivity

They are proposing a tiered system considering:

- Land use
- Functional classification
- Truck volume
- Physical roadway characteristics
- Connectivity

The proposed designations are:

- Limited access facility: provides main connections between the city, industrial centers and the rest of the region.

- Major truck street: provides main connections between highest freight generating land uses, including MIC, Urban Centers, and intermodal terminals.
- Minor truck street: provides secondary connections between highest freight generating land uses. Provides access to destinations along corridors.
- First and last mile connectors: corridors focus on access to industrial uses.

Next steps:

Summer – prepare and refine draft freight network map; identify improvements and design guidelines.

Fall – public review of freight network map; develop implementation strategy.

December: release public review of draft plan.

Winter: recommended Freight Master Plan

UFC comment: important to understand the difference in impacts of through traffic vs. local traffic such as garbage trucks.

Answer: The two categories we can count are single units and double units. We are working on design guidelines to address issues with trees in major truck streets. The guidelines would recommend what size trees are recommended for those streets (similar to transit).

UFC comment – there are opportunities to plant trees in SODO. Would like to see the FMP inform the guidelines and standard specs for SODOT to be able to articulate which sites are available for tree planting... would like the team to be working with Shane DeWald, SDOT landscape architect.

City Fruit update – Catherine Morrison (City Fruit)

With UFC support City Fruit has grown substantially. City Fruit promotes the cultivation of urban fruit in order to nourish people, build community, and protect the climate. They help tree owners grow healthy fruit, provide assistance in harvesting and preserving fruit, promote the sharing of extra fruit, and work to protect urban fruit trees.

To date they have harvested 80,000 pounds of fruit. Work with 50 partner programs and brought 6 orchards back to productivity.

As of July 28, City Fruit has harvested over 9,000 pounds of fruit and donated to ten programs around the city. Use paid harvesters to collect the food so delivery can be done just-in-time to accommodate the needs of food banks.

Orchard stewards support the care and maintenance of fruit trees in parks throughout Seattle, including:

- Amy Yee Tennis Center
- Bradner Gardens
- Burke-Gilman Trail
- Jose Rizal
- Martha Washington
- Meadowbrook, and
- Meridian Playground.

In 2015, City Fruit has hosted 34 work parties, gathered nearly 500 volunteers, contributing 1,760 hours valued at nearly \$35,000, to the Orchard Stewards Program.

Pruning Program:

Pruning is essential for fruit trees. In 2015, City Fruit launched a new series of pruning classes and work parties to improve the health and productivity of fruit trees. They use a skilled set of instructions and Master Fruit Tree Stewards to prune fruit trees on both public and private property.

The value to the City is significant: if Seattle hired a professional contractor to prune fruit trees, it would cost in excess of \$23,000.

Their goal is to use as much of the trees as possible. Their pruning program diverted over 300 pounds of apple and pear branches to local animal owners, including a rabbit rescue center!

Apple trees in Seattle tend to be vulnerable to pests. City Fruit encourages people to use organic pest prevention (can be very time consuming). Placed 30,000 pest barriers this year (provided them for free – they are compostable).

City Fruit offers a variety of educational opportunities.

- Resources and factsheets (www.cityfruit.com/grow-fruit)
- Master Fruit Tree Steward Program
 - o 18 individuals trained in fruit tree care and maintenance over seven month program
 - o Participants will partner with tree owners to share new knowledge
- Classes, Workshops, and lectures
 - o Second Sunday class series at City People's Garden Store
 - o Winter and summer pruning series

With increased funding, City Fruit has grown more professional and efficient:

- Increased capacity – through new education programs, they are developing trained experts who can help with sophisticated tasks such as pruning.
- Increase programming – in 2015, they offered their first winter pruning series and launched the Save Seattle's Apples campaign.
- Putting the entire fruit tree to work – They are increasing their diversion efforts, so that more of the tree is used – either for donation, value-add products, or animals.

Would like the UFC's assistance to increase 2016 funding from \$28K to \$81K. With currently planned 2016 funding (\$28K – from Parks) they would have to cut Orchard Stewardship Program.

They work at the intersection of food insecurity, food access, and obesity issues.

UFC question: what are the funding sources?

Answer: City funding, grants, donations, and events. There is always a need for fresh produce at food banks. This year there will be a City Fruit cider and are looking at creating value-add products such as apple sauce. They are also working with fare start.

Kate is requesting a letter of support for full funding at \$81K level for 2016.

They have a move-a-tree, plant-a-tree campaign. They work on rescuing trees planted in the wrong place.

Maintained 375 trees in public property

Rescued 58 in 2015

Facilitated planting of 620 trees – bare root trees worked with City People's and Swanson's this year (new private).

Follow up items:

- **Arboretum Botanic Garden Commission letter of response RE: Arboretum Multi-use Trail – response to invitation for a working meeting and tour. – LEIF AND TOM TO ATTEND. SANDRA WILL ORGANIZE JOINT MEETING IF THERE IS INTEREST.**
- **Right-of-way Improvement Manual – UFC participation update - Jeff - ON HOLD**
- **UFC comments to ECA and LID updates – UFC WILL WAIT UNTIL REGS COME OUT.**
- **Parks Supplemental Use Guidelines for Natural Areas/Greenbelts. – Donna recommends following up with a second letter to the Mayor. CHECK REVISED POLICY SENT TO ME BY DONNA. The Commission will discuss at next week’s meeting.**

Initial draft of updated Comprehensive Plan – discussion

Move to next week

New business and announcements

Steve – TreePAC and other groups are working on September 16 a forum with Council candidates. Center for Urban Horticulture 7-9 p.m. Wednesday September 16. Tree forum for Council candidates.

Adjourn

Public Input

From: Cass Turnbull [<mailto:cassturnbull@comcast.net>]

Sent: Friday, August 07, 2015 10:20 AM

To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra; o.rhyan@gmail.com; 'Amber Vora'; 'Andrea Okomski'; 'Andrew Kirsh'; 'Armando Paz'; 'Barbara O'Halloran'; 'Becky Chaney'; Bradburd, Bill; 'Bonnie Miller'; 'Brian Ramey'; Bultmann, Jan; 'Cheryl Trivison'; Clifthorne, Evan; 'Crescent Calimpong'; 'David Miller'; 'Elizabeth Campbell'; 'Eric Carlson'; 'Heidi Siegelbaum'; Murphy-Ouellette, Jeanie; 'JeanieMurphy'; 'John Dixon'; 'Kathy Colombo'; 'Kathy Holzer'; 'Kay Shoudy'; 'Ken Yocom'; 'Kyle Stetler'; larrylange36@comcast.net; 'Lauren Urgenson'; 'Linda Murtfeldt'; 'Liz Kearns'; 'Manly Norris'; 'Margaret Thouless'; 'Mark Ahlness'; 'Mary Fleck'; 'Matt Lee'; maxsilver@gmail.com; McConaghy, Eric; 'Melissa Poe'; 'Michael Oxman'; 'Mike Ruby'; 'Paige Hulsey'; 'Pat Naumann'; 'Pat Whempner'; 'Patrick Mann'; 'Richard Ellison'; 'Rory Denovan'; 'Ruth Williams'; 'Sara Welch'; 'Shelly Leonard'; 'Siegelbaum, Heidi'; 'Stephen Schreck'; 'Steve Zemke'; 'Susan North'; 'Susan Zeman'; 'Tatiana Choulika'; 'Toby Thaler'; 'Vera Giampietro'; 'Wallis Bolz'

Subject: It's the beginning of effective coalition

So many Seattle green groups are acting independently that their message is often lost on the decision makers. In order to coordinate and focus the efforts of these groups TreePAC was formed. Our mission is to increase funding, laws and enforcement for the Urban Forest and Seattle’s Green spaces.

The Urban Forest and Open Space Candidates Forum (below) is a first time event that could make green issues a higher priority among City officials. But a good audience turnout is essential. That’s why you are invited to be there, because I know you care.

TreePAC Event Notice

CANDIDATE FORUM

‘You do not have to like politics to attend. If you care, you will be there!’- Cass Turnbull.

What: Urban Forest and Green Space Forum for Seattle City Council Candidates

When: September 16, 7-9 PM

Where: UWBG Center for Urban Horticulture, 3501 NE 41st Street, Seattle WA

Why: The Urban Forest and Green Spaces Candidates' forum is an educational and non-partisan event. The goal is to provide a platform to present and discuss key issues. Additionally the forum will help the community understand each candidate's vision for forested and open spaces in Seattle, both public and privately owned.

Sponsors: TreePAC, PlantAmnesty, City Fruit, Seattle Green Spaces Coalition, Seattle Nature Alliance, Friends of Seattle's Urban Forest, Thornton Creek Alliance, Nature Consortium, Friends of Seattle's Olmsted Parks, Solid Ground, and GROW.

More information: Questions from individuals and organization should be pre-submitted to the TreePAC by Sept. 10th.

The chosen questions will be posed by a moderator, with live follow up questions from the audience. The evening will be accompanied by a social media event reaching 50,000 people.

The contact for TreePAC is cassturnbull@comcast.net or call 206-783-9093

From: Shanyanika Burton [<mailto:Shanyanika.Burton@SEATTLE.GOV>]

Sent: Tuesday, August 04, 2015 7:42 PM

To: PARKDISTRICTOVERSIGHTCOMMITTEE@TALK2.SEATTLE.GOV

Subject: [PARKDISTRICTOVERSIGHTCOMMITTEE] Park District Oversight Committee Meeting::Tuesday, August 11

You are invited to attend the Park District Oversight Committee meeting on Tuesday, August 11.

The Park District Oversight Committee (DOC) is a newly formed community board that will provide advice to the Mayor, City Council, and Superintendent of Parks and Recreation, related to the Seattle Park District. The August 11 agenda features Race and Social Justice Initiative training.

Meeting Details

Date: July 14, 2015

Time: 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Location: 100 Dexter Ave North in the Park Board Room

Please note that public comments will be taken at the beginning of the meeting. Please find the meeting agenda below or attached in PDF format. We encourage all interested community members to attend.

Warm regards,

Shanyanika Burton
Staff Analyst, Office of the Superintendent
Seattle Parks and Recreation

100 Dexter Ave N, Seattle, WA 98109
206-233-7904 (o)
206-617-8265 (c)
www.seattle.gov/parks

Park District Oversight Committee
Kenneth R. Bounds Boardroom
100 Dexter Avenue N
6:30-9:00 p.m.
Agenda
August 11, 2015

6:30 pm **Welcome - Public Comment**
6:55 **Name Stories Activity**
 Lead: Shanyanika Burton
7:25 **Race and Social Justice Training**
 Lead: Scott Winn
8:55 **Committee Business**

9:00 pm **Adjourn**
Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 8, 6:30 p.m., 100 Dexter Avenue N

From: J.A.H. [mailto:deergrazingbymoonlite@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, August 07, 2015 4:39 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra
Subject: illegal poaching of Maples in Wa. State and issues of trees here in Seattle

I thought you'd be interested in this.

Also, I wish you would take a trip to west seattle and look at that area by the playing field on Fauntleroy Way where they cut down 12 full grown trees, I think maples. You must see it to know the impact. Then you may find more motivation for your work.

Has there been any action to propose that the cutting of multiple trees in seattle needs a committee review first including neighbors that live in the area?

Take a look at the King Co. library website and the new buildings they have put up.

I see online that they must have cut multiple mature trees down. I know here on Vashon our new library has lots more cement and tiny sticks of trees that stand where 6 large maples stood and three fragrant Japanese snowbells just in front that greeted the visitors.

I continue to miss them as I know many do including the librarians there.

Best wishes in your work,

Jo Ann Herbert