

SEATTLE URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION

Weston Brinkley (Position #3 – University), Chair • Steve Zemke (Position #1 – Wildlife Biologist), Vice-Chair
Elby Jones (Position #2 – Urban Ecologist) • Sarah Rehder (Position #4 – Hydrologist)
Stuart Niven (Position #5 – Arborist – ISA) • Michael Walton (Position #6 – Landscape Architect – ISA)
Joshua Morris (Position #7 – NGO) • Steven Fry (Position #8 – Development)
Blake Voorhees (Position #9 – Realtor) • Neeyati Johnson (Position #10 – Get Engaged)
Whit Bouton (Position #11 – Environmental Justice)
Jessica Jones (Position #12 – Public Health) • Shari Selch (Position #13 – Community/Neighborhood)

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

December 4, 2019

Meeting Notes

Seattle Municipal Tower, Room 2750 (27th floor)
700 5th Avenue, Seattle

Attending

Commissioners

Weston Brinkley – Chair
Steve Zemke – Vice-Chair
Steven Fry
Neeyati Johnson
Elby Jones
Josh Morris
Sarah Rehder
Blake Voorhees
Michael Walton

Staff

Sandra Pinto de Bader - OSE

Guests

Ryan Moore – Seattle Housing Authority
Toby Thaler – CM Pedersen’s office

Public

Elaine Ike
Michael Oxman
Martin Westerman

Absent- Excused

Whit Bouton
Jessica Jones
Stuart Niven
Shari Selch

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

Weston called the meeting to order and gave an update on the deliberative session commissioners had with SDCI. Weston, Steve, Stuart, and Whit participated in a discussion about the Exceptional Trees Director’s Rule. The topics discussed included Exceptional tree designation, significant trees, and groves. The UFC is proposing the City designate trees as exceptional at 24” instead of 30”. It’s quite difficult in practice to deal with grove protection with the current code. The group also discussed the term and opportunities to better protect more trees.

The UFC wants to thank SDCI for keeping the UFC involved and taking advantage of their expertise.

Public comment

None

Adoption of November 6 and November 13 meeting notes

ACTION: A motion to approve the November 6 meeting notes as written was made, seconded, and approved.

ACTION: A motion to approve the November 13 meeting notes as amended was made, seconded, and approved.

Yesler Terrace briefing – Ryan Moore (Seattle Housing Authority)

Ryan has updated the UFC in the past about this project. He gave a quick overview of the Seattle Housing Authority (SHA) and the work they do. As part of the Yesler Terrace redevelopment project they are replacing all the affordable units on the site and in order to do that they have sold parts of the site for market development.

Progress to date:

- 380 units of replacement housing complete or under construction
- 421 units of income-restricted housing complete, in development, or under construction
- 1,213 units of market rate housing complete, in development, or under construction
- Majority of new parks, roads, and utilities substantially complete or in progress

There are three pocket parks to be owned by the Yesler Terrace Homeowners Association. Among the parks' amenities are several outdoor exercise stations. Yesler Terrace Park sits in the center of the site. The property was owned by SHA and was donated to Seattle Parks & Recreation. They are committed to providing one acre of P-patch for the development.

Planned Action Ordinance (PAO) – is the environmental review for the project. It's a state planning tool for large, phased development; covers 20-year timeline, and considers impacts & establishes mitigation cumulatively. The area studied included 11 high-risers. There currently are only three high-rises. The major impacts initially considered didn't materialize as expected.

Tree preservation portion of the PAO:

- Previous/existing conditions: high canopy cover due to small footprint of buildings.
- 40+ exceptional or valuable trees initially identified. Several had been damaged or were in poor health as of 2010.
- Planned Action Ordinance categorized trees as:
 - o Tier 1 – similar to Exceptional trees – 32 trees total
 - o Tier 2 (low preservation value/candidates for removal, 346 trees)
 - o Replaced at either 1:10 for Tier 1 or 1:1 for Tier 2 trees
 - o Canopy potential at least equal to that of the tree that was removed

Tree preservation, removal and replacement

- 111 trees preserved out of 378 included in Tree Protection Plan
- Planted 468 trees as mitigation for the removal of 246
- Replaced 342,354 sf of canopy out of 358,843 sf removed so far

SHA hasn't clarified when project developers are supposed to stop caring for the trees. The ordinance is vague. Some people might say that when they develop the last parcel, then they are no longer responsible. There are adjacent sites being developed. The tree preservation, removal and replacement numbers are:

- 116 trees preserved out of 394

- Planted 533 trees as mitigation for removal of 257
- Replaced 381,859 sf of canopy out of 367,908 sf removed so far

Proposed legislative change

- Update PAO tree protection plan maps to reflect existing conditions and correct errors.
- Clarify timing for reporting on replacement/mitigation – will occur at the completion of the redevelopment
- Create option to mitigate/plant off-site and, if allowed by SMC 25-11, use fee-in-lieu of replanting
- Revise Tier 1 tree designations in Block 7 to correspond to plat approval
 - o Tier 1 tree designation based in part on site/parcel location (perimeter of site or in pocket park)
 - Minimize conflicts w/development potential
 - So as not to be compromised by adjacent structure
- Reclassify three Tier 2 trees as Tier 1 in the pocket park and reclassify two Tier 1 trees as Tier 2 to make it feasible to replace on site.

To get the details of the UFC questions and SHA answers, please listen to the meeting [digital recording](#) under the meeting date.

Keeping Public Land in Public Hands - Seattle Green Space Coalition (SGSC) presentation

Michael Oxman, representing the Seattle Green Space Coalition (SGSC), provided a description of SGSC and their work. SGSC began around the time SCL started working to sell surplus substations. They are committed to keep public land in public hands. They are supporting the Natural Capital Assessment that Council has funded for next year.

Martin Westerman gave more details about the City's surplus properties that the group would like to see remain in public hands and reiterated the group's focus to keep green space in Seattle.

They believe that, taken together, just Seattle City Light surplus spaces add up to 5 acres, and all of the City's surplus spaces add up to dozens more acres, which is significant natural capital. Since its inception, the group has been able to retain 40 acres of land for green space, including:

- Delridge Wetland
- Five-Acre Woods, and
- Myers Parcels

Other accomplishments include working with a housing developer in the International District to graft tree cuttings and replant apple and plum trees discovered in a historic fruit orchard; working with the City to treat green space as an asset in the 2035 comprehensive plan, keep green space metrics, and use them in policy analysis, law-making, and operations; supporting the Urban Homestead Foundation's work to purchase and transform City Light's surplus Dakota substation into a nature and education park for neighbors and Seattle schools.

The Trust for Public Land performed an assessment of Seattle Parks and Recreation's park assets in 2011, which valued ecosystem services at \$500 million a year. Back in 2015, Council asked staff to explore the value of natural capital and received a response from the Seattle Department of Finance and Administrative Services. As part of this year's budget process, Council allocated \$35K to hire a consultant and perform a natural capital assessment.

SGSC strongly support the UFC agenda. SGSC also supports:

- Treating Seattle's natural capital as a book asset

- Updating Seattle's tree ordinance and have Council Staff, not SDCI, write the ordinance
- Centralizing City tree protection and management in OSE
- Supplementing LiDAR surveys with on-the-ground tree counts by departments, agencies, and volunteers.

Elaine Ike made the case for protection of the Myers Parcels. It's the last large (33 acres) parcel of open space in Seattle. South Park and White Center are experiencing poor air quality and keeping open space in this area is an equity issue. The City will be transferring ownership of this parcel to Seattle Parks and Recreation. SGSC shared an Oregon report showing that outdoor recreation activities save Oregon \$1.4 billion annually in health care costs. In 2016, Earth Economics valued Washington's recreation lands at \$218 billion annually. SGSC believes that if we have data then we can take action. The City needs to understand the tree resource to determine management needs.

SGSC's ask for UFC:

- Urge mayor to honor 2016 Murray pledge to transfer Myers Parcels from the Department of Finance and Administrative Services and Seattle Parks and Recreation.
- Monitor and encourage natural capital assessment process in City departments
- Keep publicly owned, surplus, green space lands in public hands for public benefit, and/or retain green space with low income housing development.
- Support the 2020 Earth Day youth tree count.

Introduction of Toby Thaler

Alex Pedersen ran on a platform to get a new tree ordinance. City Council committees will expire at the end of 2019, so he doesn't know what the committees will be next year. Current PLUZ committee has jurisdiction over the tree ordinance. Toby wants to work with UFC to put together the content of a meeting on December 18.

Chair and Vice-Chair nominees

Individuals are running unopposed. Weston encouraged people to put their name in the hat.

Initial review of draft 2019 Annual Report

Commissioners gave initial feedback on the annual report. A second draft will be discussed at the 12/11 meeting.

2020 Work Plan discussion continues

Commissioners were encouraged to review the work plan and let Sandra know if there are items they would like to be involved in.

Public comment

Michael Oxman – reviewed public disclosure request from City departments related to tree loss and replacement. They received documents from SDOT, OPCD, and SDCI. Some of the documents were all blacked out. He asked for a list of all urban forestry staff and the number of hours they worked on urban forestry and has received no response.

New Business

None

Adjourn

Public input:

(see next page and posted notes)

From: David Moehring <dmoehring@consultant.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2019 7:16 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>; seattle-tree-ordinance-working-group@lists.riseup.net
Cc: Weston Brinkley <weston@streetsoundsecology.com>; DOT_SeattleTrees <Seattle.Trees@seattle.gov>
Subject: Magnificent, "Exceptional Trees" Destroyed- Throughout Seattle - Due to Lack of Code Enforcement

CAUTION: External Email

A neighbor to a 44-inch DBH 60-foot dripline Exceptional tulip tree located within the center of Queen Anne states below why and how this irreplaceable urban tree could be saved for the mayor and the city council.

The City's response? 🐦 🐦

Why are some exceptional trees retained while others are clearcut with the rest of the trees on the site?

Seattle staff deems the tree protections code as voluntary. With 3 City Council being re-elected and 4 new City Council joining on, it's time for better policies and enforcement. Support this plea for a stronger Seattle tree ordinance!

Use this link to contact all our City Representatives:
<https://www.dontclearcutseattle.org/about-us/>

> From: "Sharon LeVine" <sweetumsseattle@yahoo.com>
> Date: November 12, 2019 at 6:29 PM
> To: "council@seattle.gov" <council@seattle.gov>, "Jenny Durkan" <jenny.durkan@seattle.gov>
> Cc: "qamagnewsnwlink.com" <qamagnews@nwlink.com>, "editor@crosscut.com" <editor@crosscut.com>, "jmartin@seattletimes.com" <jmartin@seattletimes.com>, "editor@thestranger.com" <editor@thestranger.com>, "rrivera@seattletimes.com" <rrivera@seattletimes.com>
> Subject: Magnificent, "Exceptional Trees" Destroyed- Throughout Seattle - Due to Lack of Code Enforcement
>
> "SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF CONSTRUCTION AND INSPECTIONS " (SDCI) DOES NOT ENFORCE SEPA TREE CODES RESULTING IN THE REPREHENSIBLE LOSS OF MANY OF OUR CITY'S OLDEST AND BIGGEST SPECIMEN TREES (such as the superb "Exceptional Tulip Tree" -pictured below- that will soon be destroyed at 2813 4th Avenue West on Queen Anne).
> In a trial with the Seattle Hearing Examiner - initiated by 6 tulip tree neighbors- it was learned that Seattle does not track or collect information to assess the "CUMULATIVE IMPACTS" of the destruction of hundreds of Seattle's oldest, biggest, and most mature trees. Seattle is out of compliance with state environmental codes (SEPA) which require the collection and evaluation of "cumulative impact " data so as to mitigate for environmental effects of "Exceptional Tree" loss.

> Furthermore, state environmental policy requires that " ARCHITECTURAL ALTERNATIVES " be considered in order to ensure the retention and survival of " Exceptional Trees" which are a special class and are considered as historical resources. SDCI decisionmakers have failed to implement " due diligence" in requiring developers to explore multiple, alternative plans for placement of structures when an " Exceptional Tree" grows on a development site.

> Although tulip tree neighbors submitted at least 10, alternative designs (each created by a talented, professional architect) to demonstrate that the "Exceptional Tulip Tree" could be saved, SDCI planners failed to give each " Alternative" consideration and to require the developer to reposition structures on the property to retain the tree.

> Seattle's environmental tree codes require that an objective be stated and that Alternatives be evaluated to ensure the " Exceptional Tree" can be saved - if at all possible - while meeting development criteria/objectives. SDCI is failing to implement codes in many instances and is not using all the authority it has to deny or require changes to a project that are within its purview.

> I - a mature, Seattle citizen - have filed a case in Superior Court to ensure that the City of Seattle implements codes to ensure that its residents will continue to enjoy the many benefits of huge, "Exceptional Trees" for many years to come.

> This process to preserve our environmental resources in general, (and the Exceptional Tulip Tree- in particular) has taken a severe financial and personal toll on me. The City of Seattle makes it so expensive to legally pursue an environmental cause such as this that it is beyond the financial means of the average citizen of Seattle, especially when up against big money developers.

> This tree will be destroyed soon. Time is of the essence! Please contact 206) 285-4883 (any day after 9:30 A.M.) for further details about this story and ways to save hundreds of other magnificent, Seattle trees.

From: Donna Duffey <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2019 10:43 PM

To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>

Subject: Save Our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of

trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
2. Require the replacement of all Significant trees removed with trees that in 25 years will reach equivalent canopy volume – either on site or pay a replacement fee into a City Tree Replacement and Preservation Fund. Allow the Fund to also accept fines, donations, grants and set up easements.
3. Retain current protections for Exceptional Trees and reduce the upper threshold for Exceptional Trees to 24" DBH, protect tree groves and prohibit Significant Trees being removed on undeveloped lots.
4. Allow removal of no more than 2 Significant non-Exceptional Trees in 3 years per lot outside development
5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.
6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Donna Duffey

sahailadance@live.com

3112 NE 18th St

Renton, Washington 98056

From: Allison Howard <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2019 8:53 AM

To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>

Subject: Please Strengthen Seattle's Tree Ordinance

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all

Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.

8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Allison Howard

allison.a.howard@gmail.com

3418 E Howell St

Seattle, Washington 98122

From: Judith Leconte <tbacgster@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2019 8:55 AM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Please Update Seattle's Tree Ordinance

CAUTION: External Email

As requested

All the Best

Judith

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Herbold, Lisa <Lisa.Herbold@seattle.gov>
Date: Wed, Nov 13, 2019, 3:42 PM
Subject: RE: Please Update Seattle's Tree Ordinance
To: tbacgster@gmail.com <tbacgster@gmail.com>

Dear Judith,

Thank you for writing to me about the proposed Tree Legislation. After Rob Johnson left the City Council, Councilmember Bagshaw took the lead on this conversation. As you may know, the Urban Forestry Commission (UFC) [drafted legislation](#), which they proposed the Council introduce. Unfortunately, the Department of Construction and Inspection contends that the UFC proposal is not implementable as it is currently drafted. Since Department of Construction and Inspection will be enforcing any law that the Council passes, it is important to have their staff at the drafting table to ensure strong and enforceable legislation is passed.

That said, Councilmember Bagshaw – in coordination with the Mayor – authored a [resolution](#) that includes a timeline and requests quarterly reporting on the progress of the development of the legislation from the Executive beginning January 31, 2020. In the resolution, the Council also requests that legislation prioritize:

- Retaining protections for exceptional trees and expanding the definition of exceptional trees.
- Adopting a definition of significant trees as trees at least 6 inches in diameter and creating a permitting process for the removal of these trees.
- Adding replacement requirements for significant tree removal.
- Simplifying tree planting and replacement requirements, including consideration of mitigation strategies that allow for infill development while balancing tree planting and replacement goals.
- Reviewing and potentially modifying tree removal limits in single-family zones.
- Establishing an in-lieu fee option for tree planting.
- Tracking tree removal and replacement on both public and private land throughout Seattle.
- Providing adequate funding to administer and enforce tree regulations.
- Requiring all tree service providers operating in Seattle to meet minimum certification and training requirements and register with the City.

Though I am disappointed that Council action to protect our tree canopy and exceptional trees is not imminent, overall this creates clear guidelines, parameters, and a timeline for which the Council can hold the Executive accountable. The Council voted unanimously to pass this resolution on Monday September 16th.

Thank you,

Lisa Herbold

District 1 Councilmember, Chair Civil Rights, Utilities, Economic Development, and Arts Committee

206-684-8803

lisa.herbold@seattle.gov

P. S. Please feel free to [click on this link](#) to sign up for my weekly blog posts!

From: Joss Steward <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2019 9:45 AM

To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>

Subject: What gives?!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

This can't be the Emerald City without the trees! Protect the environment of our city.

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7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Joss Steward

clearcut@jcs.li

13th Avenue W

Seattle, Washington 98119

From: Lauren Wood <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2019 1:53 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Save our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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Lauren Wood

mcowenl@hotmail.com

14045 Greenwood Ave N, Apt 301

Seattle, Washington 98133

From: Daniel Allgeyer <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2019 1:56 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Save our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

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Daniel Allgeyer

budathia@gmail.com

1625 E Madison Apt 103

Seattle, Washington 98122

From: Margaret Martin <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2019 3:33 PM

To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>

Subject: Please Update Seattle's Tree Ordinance

CAUTION: External Email

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One of the things that makes Seattle such a desirable place is the natural beauty of the gorgeous trees we have here. Once you cut those down they will be gone forever. The more trees that are clear cut the noisier our city becomes. If this clear cutting is not curtailed, the beauty that we all so enjoy will be gone forever to greedy developers.

Margaret Martin
billybobmarg@yahoo.com
1024 NE 127th St
Seattle, Washington 98125-4006

From: snailboatworks@hotmail.com <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2019 3:34 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Save our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

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Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
2. Require the replacement of all Significant trees removed with trees that in 25 years will reach equivalent canopy volume – either on site or pay a replacement fee into a City Tree Replacement and Preservation Fund. Allow the Fund to also accept fines, donations, grants and set up easements.
3. Retain current protections for Exceptional Trees and reduce the upper threshold for Exceptional Trees to 24" DBH, protect tree groves and prohibit Significant Trees being removed on undeveloped lots.
4. Allow removal of no more than 2 Significant non-Exceptional Trees in 3 years per lot outside development
5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.
6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all

Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.

8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Trees make Seattle and the PacNW liveable. Please conserve what is here. Thanks for your attention.

snailboatworks@hotmail.com

2442 NW Market St. #219

Seattle, Washington 98107

From: Michelle Hladek <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2019 8:28 PM

To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>

Subject: Please Strengthen Seattle's Tree Ordinance

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT’s existing tree service provider’s registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Michelle Hladek

pinkwig@gmail.com

4067 Letitia Av S

Seattle, Washington 98118

From: Blazej Neradilek <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2019 9:28 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Protect Seattle’s Trees

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle has been my home for the last 17 years. A major part why I love Seattle are its trees.

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all

Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.

8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Blazej Neradilek

neradilek@gmail.com

631, NW 81st St

Seattle, Washington 98117

From: Kathleen Costinett <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

Sent: Friday, November 15, 2019 3:08 AM

To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>

Subject: Save Our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Kathleen Costinett

jusbcoz@hotmail.com

7543 18TH AVE NE

SEATTLE, Washington 98115

From: Kim Curry <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2019 10:15 AM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Strengthen Seattle's Tree Ordinance

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water

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8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Kim Curry

spiritmedicine007@yahoo.com

7764 13th Ave SW
Seattle, Washington 98106

From: Lori Bellamy <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2019 11:21 AM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Save our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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 7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
 8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.
- This letter says it all. I want to add that in my neighborhood, there is a plan to completely redevelop a residential street and create multi-family buildings. Part of this plan involves cutting down an entire street of mature trees. If we're increasing density to help the environment, we are countering all our good work by getting rid of large, healthy trees. Please increase protection for large, mature trees in Seattle. Thank you.

Lori Bellamy

Lori@LoriBellamy.com

12th Ave NW

Seattle, Washington 98117

From: Meagan Angus <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2019 12:38 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Save our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water

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7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Meagan Angus

exitdomina@gmail.com

1625 E Madison St. 103
Seattle, Washington 98122

From: Sonya Dezarn <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2019 5:09 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Update Seattle's Tree Ordinance

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Sonya Dezarn

sonyabdezarn@gmail.com

1625 E Madison St #106

Seattle, Washington 98122

From: Derek Benedict <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2019 10:46 AM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Update Seattle's Tree Ordinance

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Derek Benedict

dsbened@frontier.com

709 212th PL SW

Lynnwood, Washington 98036

From: Leslie Sacha <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2019 1:51 PM

To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>

Subject: Save Our Trees!

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's elected officials love to claim they are green and worry about climate change. Tragically, it seems elected & their staff refuse to stop an obviously stupid practice of Clearcutting our old specimen trees and allowing our critical tree canopy to be decimated. Some of these trees are 100 years old! You like the fact eagles are here? Yoo hoo! They like to perch on mature giant Douglas Fir trees! why are you letting them cut them down? Why aren't you replanting more?

We need to protect our trees and not just in limited park area. City staff is blatantly ignoring their legal and environmentally ethical mandate to protect our green spaces and critical tree canopy. Our earlier tree removal ordinances have been weakened by the money driven push to turn every last square foot into high density occupied real estate. When was the last time the City assessed a meaningful penalty and Corrective action requirement for illegal removal of trees? Pretty soon only Amazon employees will have access to green space in controlled glass spaces.

You can already tell from the horrific increase in crime rates in Ballard's ever expanding zone of the "New Ballard Chicago Projects" that the social costs of this insane bleak density addiction are already geometrically increasing. Lots of money made but what a travesty! Seattle is looking like no man's land. Our minimal park areas are already swamped by population growth.

It's critical you update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
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5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.
6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.
9. Enforce the law and replant our critical areas!

Leslie Sacha

lesliesacha@comcast.net

502 N 72nd Street

Seattle, Washington 98103

From: Lynlea Oppie <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2019 4:35 PM

To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>

Subject: Trees MUST be PROTECTED

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Dear, Mayor, City Council and Urban Forestry Commission,

Bending to the self serving and destructive desires of land developers only further indicates who you really serve and its not the humble tax payer. We love our neighborhoods with trees and if you have to be told why trees are important and vital to human spaces, then there is no

need to waste time or breath on the matter. If you do know the importance of trees, do more and make sure you are effective in preserving Seattle and its natural habitat.

Or, if you don't respect trees then fell all the trees on your personal properties. Everytime a neighborhood loses a healthy tree in Seattle - you should all sacrifice a tree on your personal property. Maybe then you will wake up and see that a stark habitat creates loss of flora and fauna, wildlife and insects.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

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6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.
9. Create an urgent reporting system and response team to address unethical and unlawful felling of healthy trees.

Lynlea Oppie
lynleawrites@gmail.com
2315 NE 108th St
Seattle, Washington 98125

From: Steve Moore <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2019 9:39 AM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Please, Please Save Our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Steve Moore

s.w.moore@att.net

P.O. Box 1233

Snohomish, Washington 98291

From: urbanmagnolia@pacificwest.com <urbanmagnolia@pacificwest.com>

Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2019 7:16 PM

To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>; info@lewisforseattle.com; info@votefortammy.com; Sawant, Kshama <Kshama.Sawant@seattle.gov>; Herbold, Lisa <Lisa.Herbold@seattle.gov>; info@seattleforstrauss.org; contact@electAlexPedersen.org; Mosqueda, Teresa <Teresa.Mosqueda@seattle.gov>; Juarez, Debora <Debora.Juarez@seattle.gov>; Durkan, Jenny <Jenny.Durkan@seattle.gov>

Cc: DOT_SeattleTrees <Seattle.Trees@seattle.gov>

Subject: What Makes a Boomtoom Livable?

Importance: High

CAUTION: External Email

Dear City Council of Seattle in 2020,

Thanks for Mayor Durkan for establishing a conversation with Seattleites on Monday titled "*Maintaining Livability in a Boomtown*".

Look around us, and the answer is clearly evident: *Maintaining Livability in Seattle is the Urban Forest!*

Seattle needs your 20/20 visionary leadership in 2020 not only for a stronger tree ordinance (as ordered in 2017 by Mayor Burgess), but also for stronger tree protection enforcement. This means retaining wherever possible large Exceptional trees and tree groves. Replanting is simply not a viable alternative when open space has been written out by legislation. New density levels established for Seattle have significantly reduced open space on private land and simply do not provide the 400 to 600 square foot areas for a new trees to thrive to continue to provide the environment and natural habitats that we have all taken for granted.

Yes, Seattle may have both density and space for medium- and large-sized trees. For example, swing by the 6-rowhouse and two preserved Exceptional trees on a 7,800 square foot parcel within the Ballard Hub at 2000-2006 NW 61st Street.

Unfortunately, there are many more cases where tree retention is shrugged off. There are hundreds of recorded tree removal violations and steep increase in the number of reported 'hazardous tree' (see attached City Records). **What's the right number of trees to lose as we grow? Should we lose 25% aof the Urban Forest** (the approximate rate of loss on developed property) **and not affect Seattle?**

The Emerald City came naturally, but it will take hard work to maintain this livable necessity within our Boomtown.

Thank you,
David Moehring AIA NCARB
Seattle WA, M 312-965-0634
A Board Member of TreePAC

From: Alia Awni <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2019 10:46 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Keep Seattle Livable!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water

runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
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6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Alia Awni

aliaawni0@gmail.com

4517 2nd Ave NE
Seattle, Washington 98105

From: Linda Wiley <wiley2001@live.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2019 6:05 AM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Strengthen Seattle's Tree Ordinance Don't deforest !

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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Linda Wiley

wiley2001@live.com

PO Box 276

North Beach , Maryland 20714

From: Annie Thoe <neighborhoodtreekeepers@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, November 19, 2019 9:08 AM

To: Durkan, Jenny <Jenny.Durkan@seattle.gov>

Cc: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>; DOT_SeattleTrees <Seattle.Trees@seattle.gov>; SCI_Code_Compliance <SCI_Code_Compliance@seattle.gov>; SCI_Code_Compliance <SCI_Code_Compliance@seattle.gov>; Finn Coven, Jessica <Jessica.FinnCoven@seattle.gov>; Bagshaw, Sally <Sally.Bagshaw@seattle.gov>; PRC <PRC@seattle.gov>

Subject: Thank you for your support of Tree Protection Policy in Seattle

CAUTION: External Email

Dear Mayor Durkan,

Thank you so much for meeting with the public at Seattle University tonight with "Livability in Boomtown." You addressed so many important challenges we are facing with rapid growth, development and real sustainability for the future. As technology and development continues to move into our emerald city, I see how much need to ensure protection and space for our trees and green spaces. Trees are our living companions: they give life, sustain our lives and attract a diversity of life. **Without trees, we simply can't survive.** There is no virtual replacement for these life-sustaining friends any more than we can replace our parents and grandparents with buildings and electronic devices for our children.

I'm relieved you **acknowledged the current threat to our urban forest canopy** and also **appreciate the benefits of trees to reduce global warming, improve mental and physical health, decrease crime, pollution, sustain wildlife and provide beauty**. As I mentioned, the asthma rate in our south end is reported five times higher than in the north and has been connected with the lack of trees in that area for cleaning the air and providing fresh oxygen. We need to plant trees in these areas and steward our remaining trees. We sacrifice these benefits to livability every time we cut a mature, healthy tree that might have been saved with better planning or design.

Yes, we will continue to grow in Seattle, and **our development needs to be shaped and designed with tree preservation and benefits of retaining an urban forest for the future**. You talked tonight how making these kinds of policy changes can shift how we plan for the future. Imagine if we set policy that reflects the benefits that trees give us so that apartment complexes, multi-plexus, DADUs where required to retain our tree canopy?

We only have 2 city arborists to manage inspecting and enforcing all the development projects and tree permits in Seattle— this has been inadequate to enforce even our current ordinance. Last night, Steve Zemke of TreePAC stated that for the past 18 years the city has not required developers to replant the carbon footprint they created. More city arborists and inspectors are needed. I trust city employees are doing their best to improve tree protection but without a stronger, clearer policy they simply can't.

Recent Tree Loss Cases in one Seattle neighborhood within the past 5 months (Come look at these cases):

- TODAY: We are at **risk to lose 50 more mature trees** (some 80 to 100 years old) in a proposed development of mini-mansions in two lots in the north end (11344 and 11340 23rd Ave NE). Yet another case among many that is at the chopping block in DCI. This is an environmentally sensitive area with landslides issues, stormwater flooding, inadequate drainage and filtering pollutants nearby watershed and one of the few merlin and owl habitats left in the north end as well.
- MAY: **26 mature trees were clearcut in one lot for building 2 mini-mansions with large garages**, just one block away from the 50 tree lot (11347 20th Ave NE) including a healthy, giant big leaf maple on the property line of the adjacent neighbor's house. The foreman pressured the neighbor that he needed to cut the big maple down now because "the driveway would kill it anyway in two years." When I called DCI to complain about this clearcut, they told me, "Looks like they have permits. Developers here are allowed to make as much money as they can." How can the city afford to allow this?— at what expense to the city, neighbors, our health, wildlife and our urban canopy?
- AUGUST: **21 trees cut on this lot which included 9 Exceptional Trees for 2 mini-mansions** (11347 20th Ave NE). Again, how will we replace these trees and their benefits?
- SEPTEMBER: A giant fir (over 120 feet tall) was being illegally cut/damaged by homeowner on 105th and 17th NE — fortunately stopped by the city after repeated calls from neighbors. Will this tree survive? What is the carbon cost of a tree with this much canopy?
- NOVEMBER: Trench dug by developer damaging the one remaining Madrone tree left on the clearcut lot 11347 20th Ave NE (Cutting the roots will kill this mature tree within one or two years.)

One more example:

- OCTOBER: **Over 50 mature trees (some 80-100+ years old) clearcut on the border of 145th NE and 1st NE (Shoreline)**— this development was upzoned due to its proximity of several blocks from the new light rail. The area is permitted for wall-to-wall townhouses without requiring replacement of trees removed and now endanger a single row of remaining douglas fir trees on the adjacent lot's property line. An arborist who visited the site told me those remaining trees won't survive either. **The foreman of the clearcut site told me, "I hate to see these trees go... The only way you can stop this is through a stronger tree ordinance. Good luck to you."**

As you yourself said tonight, "Developers can't replace these big trees once they are taken out. How is a little sapling a replacement for that?" With upzoning in Seattle, can we make policies to require green designs with more tree retention, particular with mature trees which take 30 years to grow? We don't have 30 years to wait with our climate crisis.

Some cities like Cambridge, Vancouver, BC and Berkeley issued a moratorium on cutting exceptional trees because of the tremendous loss they experienced. Montreal's mayor is pushing to save a swath of land five times the size of Central Park from development to ensure health and livability in their city to combat climate change. Seattle could consider a temporary moratorium on cutting our mature and exceptional trees until we have a stronger ordinance passed with budget and staff trained to enforce it.

The city must respond faster to make and enforce policies through a stronger tree ordinance that guide developers and homeowners to protect mature trees in their plans. Our policies must ensure that future designs reduce carbon footprint and utilize the benefits of trees for climate change and for a more livable Seattle.

I ask you along with my neighbors of Neighborhood Treekeepers to urge the City Council and other departments to act now. Please protect our life-giving resources and cultural gems before they and their benefits for livability are gone.

Thank you so much for your support of trees and your commitment to a stronger tree protection ordinance in Seattle.

I am grateful for your service and passion to make Seattle livable for all.

With respect and appreciation,

Annie Thoe
206-271-4270

Neighborhood Treekeepers
www.dontclearcutseattle.org

We neighbors of Seattle know you and other city officials are very busy to visit these areas. Photos give a glimpse but nothing like the visceral loss of life and livability factor. These cases below are also not being replaced with affordable housing.



11347 20th Ave NE



11347 20th Ave NE



105th NE and 17th NE



145th NE and 1st NE- city boundary line up zone area- The back line of trees are now extremely vulnerable.

From: Heidi Madden <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Wednesday, November 20, 2019 9:04 AM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Strengthen Seattle's Tree Ordinance

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

A recent study has found that trees could be the most effective solution to global warming. <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/planting-a-trillion-trees-could-be-the-most-effective-solution-to-climate-change/> Since Seattle prides itself on progressive values, there is no better statement this city can make than to protect its trees and INCREASE the number of trees

planted here. No more excuses, actions speak louder than words. And Seattle can set a world-class example through its actions in protecting its trees.

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7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all

Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.

8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Heidi Madden

heidi_madden_lfs@hotmail.com

9725 12th Avenue Northwest

Seattle, Washington 98117-2238

From: Rebecca Reid <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Wednesday, November 20, 2019 1:19 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Protect Seattle's Trees

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Dear Mayor Durkin, Seattle City Council Members and Urban Forestry Commission,

I have lived in Washington State almost my entire 46 years and in Seattle for nearly 20. One of my favorite parts of our state and Seattle in particular, is the incredible tree canopy that exists throughout our city. From the windows of my home, I can see well over 20 different species of trees, each one providing a different habitat for wildlife, shade of varying degrees, and color throughout the year. These trees improve the quality of life for all residents of Seattle by reducing the negative effects of climate change, providing fruit and nuts to eat, and even the simple pleasure of climbing a tree to get a different perspective of your surroundings. Having lived in or traveled to other parts of our country has helped me to realize how beautiful, enriching and necessary Seattle's urban tree canopy is. Please update the Tree Protection Ordinance with the changes listed below. The time is now.

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8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Reid

Seattle

Rebecca Reid

beckruthreid@gmail.com

12763 39th Ave. NE
Seattle, Washington 98125

From: Lianne Lindeke <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Wednesday, November 20, 2019 4:00 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Strengthen Seattle's Tree Ordinance

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Trees provide vital health benefits to Seattle residents, including removing pollution particulates from the air we breathe and lowering: blood pressure, cortisol levels, anxiety, depression, and mortality from circulatory disease. We care about trees and want our city to preserve and protect them!

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Lianne Lindeke

llindeke@hotmail.com

12003 36th Ave NE

Seattle, Washington 98125

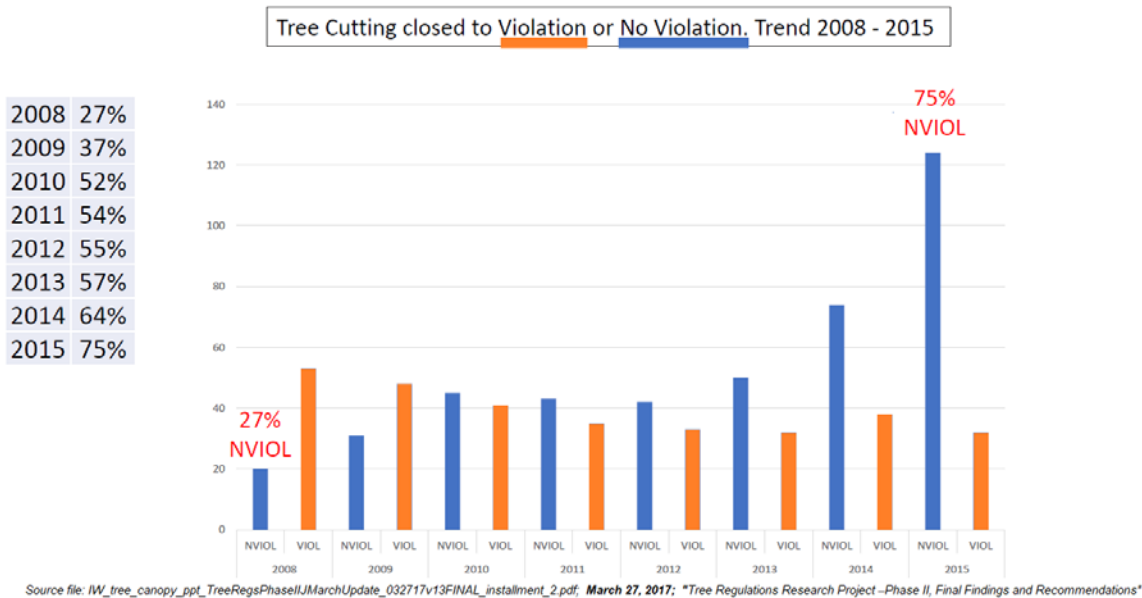


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<https://electalexpedersen.org/> contact@electAlexPedersen.org
<https://www.seattlefordanstrauss.org/> info@seattleforstrauss.org
<https://www.votefortammy.com/> info@votefortammy.com
<https://www.lewisorseattle.com/> info@lewisorseattle.com

=====
Real day example of Seattle residents looking to preserve trees as the city develops:

Mary Jean Gilman
Wa. Landscape Architect #848

8043 Tenth Avenue Northwest
Seattle, Washington 98117
RE: 8332 Thirteenth NW, SDCI



PROJECT 3034797-EG

> > From: Mary Jean Gilman
> > Subject: 8332 Thirteenth NW, PROJECT 3034797-EG
> > Date: October 23, 2019 at 10:45:33 AM PDT
> > To: prc@seattle.gov
> >
> > Attached please find a cover letter detailing the issues with this development and 69 signatures on four sheets from people interested in meeting with the City and developer concerning the issues.
> > Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to hearing from you.
> >
> > Mary Jean Gilman
> > Wa. Landscape Architect #848
> > 8043 Tenth Avenue Northwest
> > Seattle, Washington 98117

From: Nancy Drake <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Wednesday, November 20, 2019 4:21 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Save Our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water

runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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Nancy Drake

Nandrake@gmail.com

2201 NE 120TH ST
Seattle, Washington 98125

From: Kevin Shurtluff <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Thursday, November 21, 2019 7:23 AM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Strengthen Seattle's Tree Ordinance

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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Kevin Shurtluff

spantastico23@hotmail.com

6020 24th Ave S

Seattle, Washington 98108

From: Maura Madden <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Thursday, November 21, 2019 7:51 AM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Strengthen Seattle's Tree Ordinance

CAUTION: External Email

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Maura Madden

m_northen@yahoo.com

7419 32nd Ave

Seattle, Washington 98117

From: Ashlee Owen <info@email.actionnetwork.org>

Sent: Thursday, November 21, 2019 1:18 PM

To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>

Subject: Please Strengthen Seattle's Tree Ordinance

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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Ashlee Owen

ashleelynowen@gmail.com

6251 S 129th St

Seattle, Washington 98178

From: Kent Rhodes <prop@seanet.com>

Sent: Thursday, November 21, 2019 3:35 PM

To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>

Subject: Save Our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Kent Rhodes

prop@seanet.com

530 Melrose AV E, #402

Seattle, Colorado WA 98102

From: Michael Oxman <michaeloxman@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, November 22, 2019 8:18 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Cost of tree tracking

CAUTION: External Email

Please forward to the Urban Forestry Commission

----- Original Message -----

From: Michael Oxman <michaeloxman@comcast.net>
To: sally.bagshaw@seattle.gov, "Herbold, Lisa" <Lisa.Herbold@seattle.gov>, sgsc-board@googlegroups.com, seattleposa@googlegroups.com, Steve Zemke <stevezemke@msn.com>, Michael Oxman <michaeloxman@comcast.net>, "Kevin Orme (via treepac_seattle Mailing List)" <treepac_seattle@lists.riseup.net>, Annie Thoe <neighborhoodtreekeepers@gmail.com>
Date: October 31, 2019 at 5:56 PM
Subject: Cost of tree tracking

Howdy Councilmember Sally Bagshaw,

Thanks for your request for information on how Seattle should allocate it's tree budget.

Here's a 2014 letter from the Urban Forestry Commission.

http://www.seattle.gov/Documents/Departments/UrbanForestryCommission/2014/2014docs/DRAFTDPDReportingLetterTomv2.pdf?fbclid=IwAR3pQd0teP5gyI5e13An1IKfRI8M8i_DbA3k0XMkhGnYWQPPIoCgA814oxA

Before the Urban Forestry Commission wrote this letter, they thought long & hard about how to track the tree population's ebb & flow. They decided the administrative overhead is worth the effort in precise spending on targeted issues such as de-emphasizing removal of hazard trees, and moving towards proactive maintenance.

For example, pruning, de-staking, watering, & mulching during the first few years can DOUBLE tree lifespans. All of these maintenance operations take only a short amount of time, and just a fraction of the resources as tree removal, which can take a full crew a full day for 1 tree.

I believe the staff should be cross-trained as arborists who integrate updating our database with their ordinary duties of inspecting for tree protection, pruning, & removal applications. This cross-training should occur across departments, and a single department should take the lead, as recommended in the 2009 City Auditors report.

The municipal labor union contracts contain restrictive job classifications that need to be amended to allow staff Tree Trimmers, for example, be required to keep records of which trees they work on.

Currently, Tree Trimmers do not have to write anything down, the Crew Chief holds that responsibility, but this task is NOT currently being performed. The Mayor should check with the department heads on this oversight immediately.

There is diffusion of arborist functions across departments. Citizens deserve to know the total budget for all city operations involving urban forestry.

A flow chart of all City of Seattle Urban Forestry staff should be made available to the citizens, so we can know & trust that our ecology is being properly managed. Currently this information is buried in many departments budgets.

For example, Homelessness functions are scattered across departments inside and outside the city in regional efforts, yet deflecting criticism of government inefficiency can't happen without a single budget being presented with ALL functions accounted for.

Here's a list of some of the approximately 25 Seattle city arborists: Know that they don't know what city tree policy is, and that they don't know what each other are doing.

SDOT's Landscape Architect's office, who inspect for Capital Projects; 2-3 arborists.
SDOT's arborists working on permit applications in the City Arborist office; 5 arborists.
SDOT's tree crew operations working on tree maintenance; There are supposed to be 9 people, but they have several vacancies. This is unfair, because the Parks District property tax (and before that, the Parks & Green Spaces Levy, and before that, the Pro Parks Levy) and the Move Seattle Levy (and the Bridging The Gap Levy prior to that) Property Tax are collecting full rate, as if there were 9 fully staffed tree crew members in each department.

SPU Trees For Seattle (formerly Seattle ReLeaf); 2 arborists.
SPU non-arborists working on creek trees (Deb Heiden), fish biologists;

Parks arborists on tree crews; The same taxation unfairness exists because Human Resources has NEVER employed the full 9 tree crew members at any one time since the Metropolitan Parks District was created.

Parks non-arborists in Natural Areas & Horticulture divisions, such as ecologists;

Seattle Center; 1 arborist.

Finance & Administrative Services non-arborists;

Office of Sustainability & Environment 1 non-arborist;

Seattle City Light; 1 Arboriculturist, and many ecologists, biologists. Dozens of contracted IBEW electrical union tree trimmers.

Department of Construction and Inspections: 2 arborists, who must inspect about \$5 billion dollars worth of building permit applications. 1 of these arborists was hired only this year! Preposterous! Tree authority should be removed from the duties of Mr. Torgeson's department, which is also in charge of giving out tree removal permits. This is a clear conflict of interest.

As an outsider, I would love to see the full list of Seattle employees engaged in urban forestry management.

I would also like to see the vendor contracts in the budget for tree removal, consulting, and all the nursery contracts for the 30,000 plants purchased by the Parks Department, the 2,000 trees purchased by SPU for the Trees For Neighborhoods program, the 2,000 trees purchased by SDOT as street trees. The employee training costs and the equipment purchased for crews, such as trucks, chippers, stump grinders tractors and other equipment needs to be disclosed in this single urban Forestry budget.

I want to see all the legal costs paid by the city of Seattle for litigating all urban forestry issues, please.

Wow, I'm realizing this request for budget information comes very late in the legislative calendar. However, if the Urban Forestry Commission's 2014 letter (above) had been taken seriously, the executive would have already implemented consolidation of services.

Here is the Seattle Times article about the 2009 tree program audit. <https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/seattles-tree-management-needs-revising-the-city-auditor-says/>

Before I go, I wanted to say that TreePac has made a Public Disclosure Request to 3 city departments. We needed the Urban Forestry records so that we could participate in the election and the budget processes, but delays have let that ship sail. Thanks!

Arboreally yours,

Michael Oxman
Board member, Seattle Urban Forest Stakeholders
(206) 949-8733

From: Jay Adams-Feuer <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Sunday, November 24, 2019 6:15 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Keep Seattle Livable!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water

runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

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6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Jay Adams-Feuer

jladamsfeuer@outlook.com

1920 Queen Anne Ave N, Apt 325
Seattle , Tennessee 98109

From: B. Marques <b@marques42.org>
Sent: Monday, November 25, 2019 3:12 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Save Our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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B. Marques

b@marques42.org

701 N 61st St.

Seattle, Washington 98103

From: Christopher Dawe <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2019 11:16 AM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Save Our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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Christopher Dawe

dawecj@gmail.com

764 n 75th street

Seattle, Washington 98103

From: Hilary Specht <info@email.actionnetwork.org>

Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2019 10:58 PM

To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>

Subject: Please Protect Seattle's and Greenwood the next neighborhood ready to be axed with very old trees and no money to protect them Seattle's Trees

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

From my small perspective as a 25 year resident in Greenwood Seattle its huge percentage of Developer/corporate/ big money/ no hand on city of Seattle that we wont interfere to protect our trees in Greenwood Its called Greenwood for a reason!! This is a neighborhood that still has resistsine form many generations i love nect a 4 generation househousl . the poepl who we visit for trickor treating ahev nber soguin this sicne the 50"s as adults is the last frontier Seattle's undeveloped neighborrhoods. gogle grennwod ins singing. its a swamp now is the time to kepp the tree that are here th last bastion of nature the canopy to be preseved. dvelopopers are swopping in and mkin money on this under trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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Hilary Specht

hilary.specht@gmail.com

9702 Palatine Ave N

Seattle, Washington 98103-3022

From: Hilary Specht <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2019 11:03 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Save our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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Hilary Specht

hilary.specht@gmail.com

9702 Palatine Ave N

Seattle, Washington 98103-3022

From: Hilary Specht <info@email.actionnetwork.org>

Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2019 11:36 PM

To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>

Subject: Please Strengthen Seattle's Tree Ordinance from greenwood Seattle 98013

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Greenwood , Seattle, This underdeveloped neighborhood has a wealth of trees and neighbors, who don't know how keep (or promote vocally) the integrity of the neighborhood which is compromised of old trees, local color, and very well established businesses. please bring help to protect these trees, local color, 100 year businesses in a harmonious space we call Greenwood.

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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Hilary Specht & David Coffey

Hilary Specht

hilary.specht@gmail.com

9702 Palatine Ave N

Seattle, Washington 98103-3022

From: isis charest <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2019 8:25 AM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Update Seattle's Tree Ordinance

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable.

We tend to think that man's creations are more important but trees offer a peace that is invisible and without that peace there will be more crime, more homelessness, more arrogance, more brutality, less rain, more fires. The gift of trees needs to have a much larger value to compete with the love of money .. which does not do what Trees do.

Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

isis charest

icharest8@yahoo.com

940 n 163

Shoreline, Washington 98133

From: Roberta DeVore <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2019 1:41 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Keep Seattle Livable!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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Roberta DeVore

bobbie.devore@gmail.com

5740 - 27th Ave NE

Seattle, Washington 98105

From: Donna Lipsky <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, November 29, 2019 4:42 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Strengthen Seattle's Tree Ordinance

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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Donna Lipsky

donnam2l@gmail.com

1210 Alki Avenue SW

Seattle, Washington 98116

From: Kathryn Keller <ktkeller@earthlink.net>

Sent: Friday, November 29, 2019 6:25 PM

To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>

Subject: Save Our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
2. Require the replacement of all Significant trees removed with trees that in 25 years will reach equivalent canopy volume – either on site or pay a replacement fee into a City Tree Replacement and Preservation Fund. Allow the Fund to also accept fines, donations, grants and set up easements.
3. Retain current protections for Exceptional Trees and reduce the upper threshold for Exceptional Trees to 24" DBH, protect tree groves and prohibit Significant Trees being removed on undeveloped lots.
4. Allow removal of no more than 2 Significant non-Exceptional Trees in 3 years per lot outside development
5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.
6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.
9. Ensure the tree plan is submitted and approved BEFORE any permits are issued for demolition or construction.

10. Do not allow occupancy permit without review by inspectors that the plantings are implemented per plan and that the soil is adequate for survival of the trees. Most of the street trees planted by developers on my street are dead or dying.

11. Follow up on compliance to the 'green' wall or 'green' roof proposals after implementation and hold them to it. Better yet allow no replacement of trees and no bonus square footage with a green wall proposal. Those grace our city with dead vines today. But, the green roofs can support small trees and must be maintained if permitted.

12. Please consider investments in the street trees or planting strip trees. Not to let developers off the hook going forward, but we are at a deficit in the planting strips due to past behaviors in front of buildings which will not be torn down for decades. We all deserve tree lines streets. The current program is helpful with a group of motivated neighbors or people with the strength and means to get planting strip trees. Needs to be expanded with the point being to increase tree canopy in planting strips, even if some owners are not motivated.

Kathryn Keller

ktkeller@earthlink.net

1821 27th Ave

Seattle, Washington 98122

From: scott mahood <info@email.actionnetwork.org>

Sent: Friday, November 29, 2019 6:53 PM

To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>

Subject: Save Our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

scott mahood

scottmahood@hotmail.com

3530 se hawthorne blvd

portland, Oregon 97214

From: Tania Maxfield <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2019 9:20 AM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Save our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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Tania Maxfield

taniamaxfield@yahoo.com

2769 73rd Avve SE

Mercer Island, Washington 98040

From: Meredith Foster <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2019 11:00 AM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Protect Seattle's Trees

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Meredith Foster

meredithfosterjo@gmail.com

1011 east terrace street

Seattle , Washington 98122

From: Lisa Barnes <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2019 12:46 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Save Our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Lisa Barnes
aliceblisa@hotmail.com
2451 Thorndyke Ave W
Seattle , Washington 98199

From: I Marlene Sweet <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2019 2:26 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Update Seattle's Tree Ordinance

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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I Marlene Sweet

marlene.sweet@gmail.com

1st PI N E

Lake Stevens , Washington 98258

From: John Thoe <johnthoe@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, December 1, 2019 8:38 PM

To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>

Subject: I'm requesting a town meeting concerning all the trees removed for mega mansions

CAUTION: External Email

I am concerned about the destruction to our neighborhood trees in the Victory Heights neighborhood. I've written before on this subject. This specific developer has moved in and torn up trees for 2, 3 and now 5 mega mansions in this small neighborhood. He's the only one making money and no affordable housing has replaced the small houses he has removed. He's lowered the value of all the other nearby houses.

--

John Thoe

John Thoe Furniture

www.johnthoe.com

206-505-6229

From: Emmanuel Blanc <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Monday, December 2, 2019 8:48 AM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Save Our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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Emmanuel Blanc

eblanc@gmail.com

2222 Nob Hill Ave N

SEATTLE, Washington 98109

From: Meredith Foster <meredithfosterjo@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, December 2, 2019 2:16 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Re: Please Protect Seattle's Trees

CAUTION: External Email

Thank you Sandra! The presence of so many trees makes Seattle a lovely city to live in- especially compared to most American cities. I hope they will be protected and kept top of mind in decision making.

Also, I listened to a podcast recently that talked about the impact of green spaces in cities/ how it leads to stability in neighborhoods. I can't find the exact link, but thought I'd share this as well-

<https://www.citylab.com/solutions/2016/04/vacant-lots-green-space-crime-research-statistics/476040/>

Thanks for your reply and your work with the city. :)

On Mon, Dec 2, 2019, 10:06 AM Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@seattle.gov> wrote:

Thank you for your email, Meredith.

I will include it in the Urban Forestry Commission meeting notes as part of the record.

Thank you,

Sandra Pinto de Bader

She/her/hers

Urban Forestry Commission Coordinator
City of Seattle, [Office of Sustainability & Environment](#)
206.684.3194 | Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@seattle.gov

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Blog](#)

From: David Moehring <dmoehring@consultant.com>

Sent: Wednesday, December 4, 2019 8:39 AM

To: TreesForNeighborhoods <TreesForNeighborhoods@seattle.gov>; PRC <PRC@seattle.gov>

Cc: DOT_SeattleTrees <Seattle.Trees@seattle.gov>; Barbara Bernard via Magnolia Tree Keepers - All messages <magnolia-tree-keepers_all@googlegroups.com>; Magnolia Community Council <magnoliacommunityclub@gmail.com>; Kym Michela <kym@michelacom.com>

Subject: Seattle's "Living Building" pilot potential for living trees incorporated into multi-floor buildings

CAUTION: External Email

Dear PRC,

Please include me (as a member of the Land-use Committee for the Magnolia Community Council) regarding future notices for the redevelopment of **Albertsons/Safeway** at 2550 32ND AVE W in Magnolia.

Magnolia is in need for revitalizing this and other Neighborhood Commercial properties along 32nd Ave W. It is exciting that this development is considering being one of the twenty-or-so pilot projects for **Seattle's "Living Building"** development program! We understand that in exchange for the added cost of qualifying as a "Living Building", the retail and condo building will be allowed to be an additional 12.5 feet in height (or one added floor) and an additional 15 to 18 percent in floor area which potentially may yield about 20 additional market-rate condo units each selling between \$500k and \$1,500k.

What does a "Living Building" mean to Seattleites beyond simply being an energy-efficient building with a pleasing interior decor? Well... there is a wonderful and living example! The link from Dailtkos is an article that really demonstrates what a living building should mean to Seattle. It demonstrates living trees to replace the ecological systems lost in urban development, as well as provide a pleasing environment for those who live within and outside of the building. We hope that Seattle's Living Building challenge makes a bold effort that leaves no doubt that it is indeed a living building contributing back to the environment.

<https://www.dailykos.com/stories/2019/12/2/1903081/-Architect-creates-gorgeous-Vertical-Forest-high-rises-lined-with-215-000-Sq-Ft-of-forest-greenery?detail=emaildkreicyi>

or <https://youtu.be/gqmj9vAw4ao>



compare to Seattle's "Living Building" program

<http://www.seattle.gov/sdci/permits/green-building/living-building-and-2030-challenge-pilots>



[Architect creates gorgeous "Vertical Forest" tree-lined high-rises that absorb 30 tons of CO2 a year](#)

These are amazing! I would love to live in a building like this. Right now these are just in Milan, Italy, but I hope this becomes common throughout the world's cities! In addition to sucking carbon out of the air directly, they also reduce air...

www.dailykos.com

Interesting that in the video, they say the key to the trees surviving is the use of arborists rather than gardeners.

Would love to have more details on just how the trees have enough soil to survive and how the issue of the weight of the soil, biomass, and water are addressed!

=====

Final Note: Please clarify if the "Living Building" pilot allows the circumvention of Seattle Municipal Codes, SMC 23.34.009 - Height limits of the proposed rezone and SMC 25.05.665 - SEPA policies—Overview.

David Moehring AIA NCARB

Member of the Magnolia Community Council

From: ANDREA ALLSOP <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Wednesday, December 4, 2019 8:48 AM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Save Our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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7. Expand SDOT’s existing tree service provider’s registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Thank you for your service!

ANDREA ALLSOP

andreaallsop14@gmail.com

1640 18TH AVE APT 3

SEATTLE, Washington 98122

From: Gymi Slezinger <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Wednesday, December 4, 2019 11:49 AM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Please help us all by helping Seattle's trees

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Our trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. And they're important for people's (and animals') physical and mental health.

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Thank you!

Gymi Slezinger

gymicoco@yahoo.com

1803 25th Ave S

Seattle, Washington 98144

From: Juliane Gust <info@email.actionnetwork.org>

Sent: Thursday, December 5, 2019 8:54 AM

To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>

Subject: Save our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

When we moved into our new house in North Seattle, we were thrilled to have four big Douglas Firs and an ancient sprawling magnolia in our yard. Just a few days after moving in, tree services started knocking on our door offering free estimates on how much it would cost to take down those dougs. We were told that they are sick and unsafe and need to come down. We were skeptical and hired an independent tree assessment, and were told by this expert that the trees were perfectly fine. This was a shocking experience and illustrates the pressures faced even by well meaning people who like trees. It is much too easy to chop down these treasures in our town, and very serious controls need to be put in place.

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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Juliane Gust

julegust@gmail.com

11059 Alton Ave NE

Seattle, Washington 98125

From: Cynthia ROSE <crose1453@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, December 5, 2019 9:35 AM

To: LEG_CouncilMembers <council@seattle.gov>; Durkan, Jenny <Jenny.Durkan@seattle.gov>; Pinto de

Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>; Christine.postlewait@seattle.gov

Subject: 49 trees in danger on 23rd Ave.NE

CAUTION: External Email

Dear City Council members, Mayor Durkan, Ms. Sandra Pinto de Bader, and Ms.Christina Postlewait,

I am writing because of an urgent matter on 23rd Avenue NE, the street where I live. We have had lost large numbers of trees in Victory Heights /Pinehurst since I moved here 3 years ago; usually it has been too late for anyone to try to protect the trees from the developers who clear cut whole lots , saving no trees. This time there are 49 large trees which are in danger of being cut in clear cutting. All are greater than 6" in diameter, and 10 are exceptional in being 40-71" in diameter, and all are located on several lots being listed below for development. We have a tree ordinance to protect exceptional trees , but the tree ordinance is too weak and has not worked to protect trees from developers in a hurry to build large expensive houses. I am writing to ask you to hold a public meeting about these trees.

Please look at the list of lots and trees below and consider what our street would look like without those beautiful large trees.

11340 23rd Ave NE This address is attached to part of a lot boundary adjustment which subdivided one parcel into six – 11350, 11348, 11346, 11344 and 11342 23d Ave NE. Each newly created lot was approved for a single-family home. Anytime a permit to build is submitted, SDCI works to ensure that the plans go through rigorous reviews from not only the physical layout but also looking at trees on the property, potential erosion, draining, geotechnical, and other issues. 11348 23rd Ave NE: At present, only a proposed site plan and request for a pre-application site visit have been submitted. This application is in the very early stages and will go through the process listed above – including looking at trees and possible erosion and draining issues. A preliminary site plan has been submitted and correction requirements issued related to drainage (attached) was issued on 5/31/19. At present the permit for the proposed building has not yet been approve

11344 23rd Ave NE: A permit application has been submitted for this address - At present there are still outstanding corrections we are requiring of the developer and a construction permit has not been issued.

11342 23rd Ave NE: At this time only a request for a pre-application site visit has been asked of SDCI.

Now, please take a look at what is happening with clear cutting trees in 2019 in just our area in Northeast Seattle, as listed below from notes of treekeeper Annie Thoe:

MAY: 26 mature trees were clearcut in one lot for building 2 mini-mansions with large garages, just one block away from the 50 tree lot (11347 20th Ave NE) including a healthy, giant big leaf maple on the property line of the adjacent neighbor's house. The foreman pressured the

neighbor that he needed to cut the big maple down now because "the driveway would kill it anyway in two years." When I called DCI to complain about this clearcut, they told me, "Looks like they have permits. Developers here are allowed to make as much money as they can." How can the city afford to allow this?— at what expense to the city, neighbors, our health, wildlife and our urban canopy?

- AUGUST: **21 trees cut on this lot which included 9 Exceptional Trees for 2 mini-mansions** (11347 20th Ave NE). Again, how will we replace these trees and their benefits?

- SEPTEMBER: A giant fir (over 120 feet tall) was being illegally cut/damaged by homeowner on 105th and 17th NE — fortunately stopped by the city after repeated calls from neighbors. Will this tree survive? What is the carbon cost of a tree with this much canopy?

- NOVEMBER: Trench dug by developer damaging the one remaining Madrone tree left on the clearcut lot 11347 20th Ave NE (Cutting the roots will kill this mature tree within one or two years.)

At this rate there will be no large trees left in an area called Pinehurst with in a year or two. Meanwhile we have a weak do- nothing tree ordinance. Please , please consider a moratorium on cutting large trees as they have done in other large cities in the area(Vancouver, B.C. and Berkeley), please have a public meeting to discuss the current situation with the 49 trees in danger on 23rd AVE NE, and PLEASE STRENGTHEN THE TREE ORDINANCE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE , BEFORE WE LOSE OUR EXCEPTIONAL TREES!

Sincerely yours,
Cindy Rose, resident on 11557 23rd Ave. NE

From: DS Fisher <simfish46@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 5, 2019 10:15 AM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Tree removal for development

CAUTION: External Email

Greetings,

Please see the attached letter regarding the potential clear-cutting of a lot which a developer proposes to subdivide into 6 lots. OK. Build houses. BUT, save a few trees.

Thank you,
Doug Fisher
Bob Gove

To: Debora Juarez
Jenny Durkan
Seattle City Council
Sandra Pinto de Bader
Christina Postlewait

From: Douglass S. Fisher

Robert F. Gove

2205 NE 117th St, Seattle 98125-5226

Re: Severe potential tree cutting in our neighborhood

5 December 2019

In Victory Heights there is a stand of 49 trees (all are greater than 6" in diameter and 10 are exceptional and greater than 40-71" in diameter) located on several lots listed below for development. We live in the neighborhood at the address noted above.

We understand the need to keep building new housing. But in our neighborhood, developers are clear-cutting lots, building 2+ new homes, and leaving little or no room for the planting and growth of new trees.

Please strengthen and enforce the tree ordinance. Make developers work around and salvage at least some of the existing mid to large size trees. Subdividing one lot into six? How about maybe just 5. It sure does look like developers run the city instead of all of you.

These notes were sent to a neighbor from the Seattle Department of Construction and Building Inspection about a month ago:

11340 23rd Ave NE This address is attached to part of a lot boundary adjustment which subdivided one parcel into six – 11350, 11348, 11346, 11344 and 11342 23d Ave NE. Each newly created lot was approved for a single-family home. Anytime a permit to build is submitted, SDCI works to ensure that the plans go through rigorous reviews from not only the physical layout but also looking at trees on the property, potential erosion, draining, geotechnical, and other issues.

11348 23rd Ave NE: At present, only a proposed site plan and request for a pre-application site visit have been submitted. This application is in the very early stages and will go through the process listed above – including looking at trees and possible erosion and draining issues. A preliminary site plan has been submitted and correction requirements issued related to drainage (attached) was issued on 5/31/19. At present the permit for the proposed building has not yet been approved.

11344 23rd Ave NE: A permit application has been submitted for this address - I've attached the correction notice specific to draining issued by SDCI on 7/3/19 and an arborists report for the property. At present there are still outstanding corrections we are requiring of the developer and a construction permit has not been issued.

11342 23rd Ave NE: At this time only a request for a pre-application site visit has been asked of SDCI.

Sincerely,

Douglass Fisher simfish46@hotmail.com 206-455-0633

Bob Gove rbtgove@aol.com 206-420-7915
