

# SEATTLE URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION

Weston Brinkley (Position #3 – University), Chair • Sarah Rehder (Position #4 – Hydrologist), Vice-chair
 Julia Michalak (Position #1 – Wildlife Biologist) • Elby Jones (Position #2 – Urban Ecologist - ISA)
 Stuart Niven (Position #5 – Arborist – ISA) • Michael Walton (Position #6 – Landscape Architect – ISA)
 Joshua Morris (Position #7 – NGO) • Blake Voorhees (Position #9 – Realtor)
 Elena Arakaki (Position #10 – Get Engaged)
 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

Meeting notes May 12, 2021, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Via Webex call (206) 207-1700 Meeting number: 146 164 0354 Meeting password: 1234

In-person meeting are not being held at this time due to the pandemic. Meeting participation is limited to access by joining the meeting through a computer or telephone conference line.

#### Attending

<u>Commissioners</u> Weston Brinkley – Chair Elena Arakaki Julia Michalak David Moehring Josh Morris Shari Selch Blake Voorhees Michael Walton

<u>Absent- Excused</u> Sarah Rehder - Vice-Chair Elby Jones Jessica Jones Stuart Niven <u>Staff</u> Sandra Pinto Urrutia - OSE Toby Thaler – CM Pedersen's office

<u>Public</u> Katey Bean Tom Wilcox Steve Zemke

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

Call to order: Weston called the meeting to order and did the land acknowledgement.

Public comment:

Steve Zemke: The draft letter on SDCI's tree tracking that the UFC will be discussing today was not posted in order to allow for informed public comment. Maybe this is something that the UFC Administrative Committee can work on to provide more timely documents to be posted online. In terms of the City's structure for urban forestry work, he wants to reiterate that SDCI has no urban forestry group or division, so it's difficult for the public to know where to go regarding tree questions and issues. He has been doing research about what's possible in terms of options for a tree ordinance. Some municipalities don't have an ordinance. Tacoma has its urban forestry program under their department of Environment and Sustainability. He thinks the City should bring an independent party to support the response to Council's urban forestry consolidation Statement of Legislative Intent. Don't just look at the issue of consolidation but rather what efficiencies can be gained and redundancies to be eliminated. Look at how the City functions, for example, different departments have arborists. SDCI is the issue at stake with 10 years gone by and no updated tree ordinance yet.

## Chair, Committees, and Coordinator report:

This report item on the agenda is something we are trying to formalize. This is time for the coordinator report to share the knowledge and wisdom that comes from staff. It will also be a time for committees to report. Coordinator report:

- OSE is expecting to make a job offer for the Out-of-class (OOC) position that will be taking over Sandra's role in the next week or so. We are hoping the new person will come onboard on 5/26. This will give Sandra to fully transition her workplan.
- Scheduled interviews for Position #11 Environmental Justice representative. The interview panel will interview candidates this Friday and expects to make a recommendation to Council for this appointment early next week.

Do you envision an introduction via email to the OOC person? Sandra will have the OOC person do job shadowing with Sandra running the June 2 meeting and then supporting the OOC as they take over the UFC support role.

Sandra also will be available on a part time basis in June/early July to continue to support the transition.

Weston reminded commissioners that June 2 will be the annual working meeting of the UFC and the City's urban forestry interdepartmental team. This is an opportunity for members of both groups to interact. Historically this has been an in-person event that has taken place at Camp Long and also has included field trips. This year it will be an online training on equity and urban forestry. It will be from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. This will be an open public meeting that is open to the public.

Weston asked Sandra if there is a date for staff to return to the Seattle Municipal Tower. Sandra mentioned that last year the Mayor had instructed staff to continue working remotely through July 5. She expects updated direction will be provided. There is currently an effort to figure out the best approach to live meetings. Sandra expects direction for in person meetings for Boards and Commissions would follow direction for staff. She also knows that there have been discussions about Commissions using a hybrid model moving forward that might provide more flexibility. The caveat is that the infrastructure in the SMT might still need to be upgraded for a seamless transition. Also, the UFC has discussed the possibility of adding flexibility for community to attend its meetings by meeting sometimes in the evening or maybe rotating locations in the city. She will keep the UFC posted. The OOC will keep the UFC informed on progress and changes. There is also the possibility of doing a community event once a year (similar to the annual meeting with the IDT) in a public venue, or events that people already attend (such as street fairs) for the UFC to interact with the public and allow for more diverse participation that remote meetings might allow for.

#### SDCI tree tracking sheet letter discussion

David and Josh walked the group through the draft letter. Commissioners discussed, provided input, and adopted a letter of recommendation. For details on this discussion please listen to the digital recording posted under the May 12 meeting documents section: http://www.seattle.gov/urbanforestrycommission/meetingdocs.htm

# ACTION: A motion to approve the tree tracking sheet letter of recommendation as amended was made, seconded, and approved.

#### Council's <u>SLI-MO-001-A-002</u> on urban forestry consolidation – initial discussion

Weston introduced the discussion on Council's statement of legislative intent about urban forest management in the City of Seattle. He also emphasized the challenge ahead of Seattle to move from 28% canopy cover to the 30% goal. It's not just 2%; it's a large part of the city that needs to grow canopy. It's 1.6 square miles of canopy that we need to accomplish our goal. Sandra added that canopy cover is a snapshot in time (a big storm could affect a large part of this canopy). She also mentioned the importance of the upcoming 2021 canopy cover assessment. Back in 2015 a consultant did an analysis of the canopy cover using satellite data and said that Seattle might be on a downward trend. So, actually determining the canopy cover change over time with new Lidar data will be key.

Weston also mentioned that the UFC will need to determine what recommendations to issue in case that the city actually accomplishes the 30% canopy cover goal. Including canopy volume will be important.

Weston provided some background on the 2009 City Auditor's <u>report</u> on Management of City trees. The report identified efficiencies that could be achieved in the delivery of urban forestry services citywide. The summary of the report outlines three recommendations to some extent the first and third have to do with the IDT and more actionable items that, to some degree, have already happened. The second recommendation is a much larger one in scope and that is the focus of Council's request with the SLI. This was something that was put out by Council last fall, it specifically calls out the UFC to work, along with the Executive and the IDT, to take a look at urban forest management structures that is related to recommendation #2 of the Report. The SLI doesn't specifically calls out OSE as the Auditor's report does. The report provides information and the SLI is the task at hand.

Sandra brought to the UFC's attention that the report doesn't specifically calls for consolidation of urban forestry work in OSE. She acknowledges that language can be interpreted in different ways, but she wanted to offer the perspective, that when you read recommendation #2 of the report it doesn't necessarily says that OSE should be the UF department. Rather it recommends having a single mission through clear leadership and giving OSE clear authority to coordinate UF work. Weston agreed that the framing is more about leadership and management in perhaps a different way.

The task at hand does talk specifically about consolidation. The SLI reduces the question and asks to look at two departments: SDOT and SDCI and how the functions of both departments can be better served. Sandra would like to encourage the UFC to look at the current structure, there is a critical department that was left out of this request that has regulatory authority and that is Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR). Sandra would like to encourage the UFC to look at the current urban forestry structure more wholistically and consider whether it would make sense, for example, to include SPR in the discussion. Weston also mentioned the importance Seattle City Light has in the maintenance of trees.

The UFC has discussed this in different ways but it has not weighed-in formally about this. The UFC has referred to the 2009 report in the context of other recommendations. The UFC has a blank slate and has the flexibility to approach this work as it feels it will be the most helpful.

This work is due on September 15. Weston would be in favor of putting a letter to the Executive and the City's UF team, sooner rather than later, expressing the UFC's intent to work on this and offer support and help. Concurrently, work over the next couple of months putting together the UFC's recommendation. It would be nice if the UFC, the Executive, and the UF team could put out consistent, coherent, and maybe unified recommendations to the Council.

Sandra is recommending having deliberative sessions with the UFC around the SLI response. This is something that has been done for the UFMP update and Tree Regulations update processes. Weston agreed that a request for deliberative sessions would be part of the initial letter pointing to process and an offer to work together.

Some of the SLI elements such as timeline, code amendments, costs associated with a potential consolidation are outside the UFC's expertise and most likely would be a request of staff. The UFC could do a survey of management structures out there and request that staff do the same. Weston will get started with a draft letter. Josh volunteered to look into other national/international management structures.

Weston invited Toby Thaler (CM Pedersen's staff) to weigh in. Toby said he would appreciate being kept in the loop of dates when the UFC will be discussing the SLI so he can attend meetings. Toby offered to provide the URL for the session with Council where City of Portland staff provided comments to the way they work on urban forestry and the payment in lieu strategy.

## 2021 UFC Work Plan review – moved to June 9 meeting.

**Public comment:** Steve Zemke: Agrees with what the UFC said. Don't just look at the issue as consolidation. Look at how the City functions and find ways to increase efficiencies and reduce redundancies, for example, SDOT and Parks having arborists. SCL hiring arborists to do the work. Look particularly at SDCI as the issue with having 12 years and no updated tree ordinance. They don't have an urban forestry office and that's a problem with accountability. It also has to be an office that has independence and authority to make decisions for tree protection.

Adjourn: Weston adjourned the meeting.

#### **Meeting Chat:**

from Katey Bean to everyone: 3:01 PM I'm here just to listen as a member of the public. Hope that's okay! from Steve Zemke to everyone: 3:36 PM add quarterly reporting as other city deptarments are required to do from Steve Zemke to everyone: 3:38 PM need to track what number of trees and what species are being replanted from Steve Zemke to everyone: 3:38 PM SMC 25.11 says replace all exceptional trees and trees over 24" DBH from Joshua Morris to everyone: 3:39 PM Thanks, Steve, good call, I forgot that some exceptional treees would be under 24" DBH from Steve Zemke to everyone: 3:39 PM Should include condition of trees from Steve Zemke to everyone: 3:41 PM require devlopers to submit information in excell data format like Portland so city employees are not doing work. from Steve Zemke to everyone: 3:44 PM Suggest you get timeframe for this data you analyzed before you send this letter. from Steve Zemke to everyone: 3:47 PM

The data you refer to in the letter needs a timeframe - is it for 3 months, 6 months or a year? Timeframe is imporant to know magnitude of tree loss.

from Steve Zemke to everyone: 3:50 PM

Loss of tree numbers does not give a loss of canopy unles you include that as someting to track.

from Steve Zemke to everyone: 3:53 PM

Good point Julia, it should show number of trees retained and information on them/ All trees 6"DBH are required to be on site plans so it is easy to add that information

from Steve Zemke to everyone: 3:58 PM

Replacement trees should be retained and not part of trees that can be removed by new property owners from Steve Zemke to everyone: 4:00 PM

Did you add tracking number of trees being retained and information on them being tallied. All trees 6"DBH are required to be on site plans.?

from Steve Zemke to everyone: 4:03 PM

By getting diameter of all trees on site before removal and then tracking removal you can get a % of tree removed from site

from Steve Zemke to everyone: 4:06 PM

You should feel free to ask for what you think is necessary for good analysis moving forward if they have not provided the data think is necessary

from Blake Voorhees to everyone: 4:10 PM

I wonder if it would be beneficial to have this tree data specific to the property recorded with the property so changes can be tracked and all subsequent owners are kept up to date on the history of trees on their property.

from David Moehring to everyone: 4:14 PM

Referencing the SDCI GIS about property information including tree canopy: here is the link:

from David Moehring to everyone: 4:14 PM

https://seattlecitygis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=f822b2c6498c4163b0cf908e2241 e9c2

from Blake Voorhees to everyone: 4:21 PM

Which is sort of the reason behind my pondered idea to record the tree capture data-to push this data out into the public sphere rather than need the public to drill into to find the data. If we can push quarterly? Semi-annually? I know this has associated tax, but that can be captured in property taxes.

from Steve Zemke to everyone: 4:22 PM

You cab

from Steve Zemke to everyone: 4:25 PM

You can get a estimate of impact by total diameter of trees on lot minus diameter of trees removed will give give you an estimate canopy loss.

from David Moehring to everyone: 4:27 PM

Another option; but only recorded for street trees: https://www.seattle.gov/trees/management/canopy-cover

from David Moehring to everyone: 4:31 PM

Thank you, Weston!

from David Moehring to everyone: 4:33 PM

28% x 1.07 = 30%

from David Moehring to everyone: 4:37 PM

Thank you, Sandra, for including the volume of canopy in the discusssion

from Steve Zemke to everyone: 4:44 PM

One problem with current structure is that IDT does not hold public meetings so it is hard for the public to know what they are doing.

from Steve Zemke to everyone: 4:52 PM

Maybe ask Toby if he has any comments?

#### Public input: (see next page and posted notes)

From: Mary Keeler <mkeeler@uw.edu>
Sent: Sunday, May 16, 2021 8:33 PM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Keep Seattle Livable!

#### **CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

It's time to end the delay by the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI) on presenting the Seattle City Council with an updated draft Tree and Urban Forest Protection Ordinance. Over the last 12 years, the City Council has repeatedly asked SDCI for an updated workable and effective ordinance draft to consider and it is obvious SDCI is not responding as requested. In its recent Resolution 31902, the Council gave specific issues for SDCI to address.

If SDCI cannot respond in a timely manner, please remove tree and urban forestry protection from their Department. As the City Auditor proposed in 2009, transfer tree and urban forestry oversight and authority to the Office of Sustainability and the Environment. SDCI has a conflict of interest in tree oversight – their priority mission has been to help developers build, not protect trees. Years of inaction on effective oversight and protection of trees by SDCI demands that a separate entity like OSE take over the city's responsibility to protect and enhance our urban forest.

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:

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.
 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.

# Mary Keeler <u>mkeeler@uw.edu</u> 1102 NW 83rd St Seattle, Washington 98117

From: Jennifer Mannheim <jennifer@mannheim.us>
Sent: Sunday, May 16, 2021 10:18 PM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Strengthen Seattle's Tree Ordinance

**CAUTION: External Email** 

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# Jennifer Mannheim jennifer@mannheim.us

1203, NW 83rd St Seattle, Washington 98117

From: Susan Scanlon <scanlons4@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, May 17, 2021 10:02 AM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Save our Trees!

#### **CAUTION: External Email**

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Susan Scanlon scanlons4@comcast.net 8021 11th Ave NW Seattle, Washington 98117

From: Mary McDaniel <m3@pacifichearingconservation.com>
Sent: Monday, May 17, 2021 7:08 PM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Strengthen Seattle's Tree Ordinance

#### **CAUTION: External Email**

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

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

Mary McDaniel <u>m3@pacifichearingconservation.com</u> 8043 11th Ave NW Seattle , Washington 98117

From: Christy Avery <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 19, 2021 3:28 PM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Please adopt, with amendments, SDCl's Director's Rule 13-2020

#### **CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

I just watched as the landlord behind me needlessly cut a 55' fir, full of nesting birds, for no reason. It was the only large tree for half a block. The tree service did NOT check for bird nests as required. The arborist used was self-certified over the internet. There is NOTHING more important than the environment as we face climate change. Please adopt, with the amendments recommended by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission, SDCI's Director's Rule 13-2020 (Designation of Exceptional and Significant Trees, Tree Protection, Retention, and Tree Removal during land division, including tree service provider requirements). Seattle must move forward now, without the delay urged by some, in adopting this updated Director's Rule with the amendments proposed below. This process of increasing protection for our urban forest was first proposed by the Seattle City Council 12 years ago and is long overdue.

The following updates as proposed in the draft Director's Rule are great steps forward:

• Reducing the upper threshold on exceptional trees to 24 inches in diameter at standard height (DSH) from 30 inches

• Designating trees 6 inches DSH and larger as protected trees, starting in the platting and short platting process

• Requiring Tree Care Providers to register with the City as the Seattle Dept. of Transportation already requires

• Continuing protection of tree groves as exceptional trees, even if a tree is removed from the grove

• Making clear that all exceptional trees removed during development must be replaced per SMC 25.11.090

• Tightening tree removal requirements for exceptional trees as hazard trees The following changes to the draft Director's Rule are needed:

• Change Subject Title to remove words "land division" and replace with "Development"

• PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND. add "SMC 23 requires that all trees 6 inches DSH and larger must be indicated on all site plans throughout the platting and sub-platting process, and that projects must be designed to maximize the retention of existing trees. This requirement continues throughout any subsequent development on all lots in all zones in the city."

• SECTION 1. Reduce the number of trees and sizes required to be a tree grove. Kirkland, Woodinville, and Duvall all define a tree grove as "a group of 3 or more significant trees with overlapping or touching crowns." Include street trees in groves.

• Add "Significant trees may become exceptional as they grow in size. They are future replacements in the urban forest for exceptional trees when they die. Development projects must be designed to maximize the retention of both exceptional and significant trees to maintain a diversity of tree species and ages."

• Add "All replacement trees regardless of size are protected trees and can't be removed."

• SECTION 2. Change the heading to "TREE PROTECTION". Remove references to "Exceptional Trees" only and change to "Trees". e.g., change "Exceptional Tree Protection Areas" to "Tree Protection Areas".

• SECTION 4. Add "The Director shall have the authority to allow replacement trees on both public and private property to meet the goals and objectives of race and social justice under Seattle's Equity and Environment Initiative."

• Under SMC 25.11.090 the Director has the authority to require "one or more trees" to be planted as replacement trees for removed exceptional trees during development. The number of trees required should increase with the size of the tree removed, with a goal to achieve equivalent canopy area and volume in 25 years. Any in-lieu fee must also rise as the size of the removed tree increases. The city can not wait 80 years to replace an 80-year-old western red cedar tree and expect to maintain its canopy goals as large exceptional trees are removed during development.

• SECTION 5. SEPA requirements under SMC 25.05.675 N are for protecting special habitats and need to be considered at the beginning of the development process. The language of this

SEPA code section should be included in the Director's Rule to be certain that the code is complied with.

• SECTION 6. SDCI should adopt SDOT's registration process and requirements to assist Tree Care Providers in complying with city code and regulations. Reduce the number of citations that will remove a Tree Care Provider from being registered with the city to no more than 2 per year. Require annual registration same as Seattle business licenses require. Require that Tree Care Provider companies have a WA State contractor's license to ensure they have workers' compensation. Require they have a certificate of insurance that lists the city as an additional insured so the city cannot be sued. Require that all jobs either have a certified arborist on the work site or that they have visited the site and officially sign off on the specific work being done.

Thank you for protecting our urban forest.

Christy Avery <u>christyavery@yahoo.com</u> 705 N 79th St Seattle, Washington 98103-4711

From: Cindy Johnson <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 19, 2021 5:47 PM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Please adopt, with amendments, SDCI's Director's Rule 13-2020

#### CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Please adopt, with the amendments recommended by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission, SDCI's Director's Rule 13-2020 (Designation of Exceptional and Significant Trees, Tree Protection, Retention, and Tree Removal during land division, including tree service provider requirements).

Seattle must move forward now, without the delay urged by some, in adopting this updated Director's Rule with the amendments proposed below. This process of increasing protection for our urban forest was first proposed by the Seattle City Council 12 years ago and is long

overdue.

The following updates as proposed in the draft Director's Rule are great steps forward:

• Reducing the upper threshold on exceptional trees to 24 inches in diameter at standard height (DSH) from 30 inches

• Designating trees 6 inches DSH and larger as protected trees, starting in the platting and short platting process

• Requiring Tree Care Providers to register with the City as the Seattle Dept. of

Transportation already requires

• Continuing protection of tree groves as exceptional trees, even if a tree is removed from the grove

• Making clear that all exceptional trees removed during development must be replaced per SMC 25.11.090

Tightening tree removal requirements for exceptional trees as hazard trees

The following changes to the draft Director's Rule are needed:

• Change Subject Title to remove words "land division" and replace with "Development"

• PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND. add "SMC 23 requires that all trees 6 inches DSH and larger must be indicated on all site plans throughout the platting and sub-platting process, and that projects must be designed to maximize the retention of existing trees. This requirement continues throughout any subsequent development on all lots in all zones in the city."

• SECTION 1. Reduce the number of trees and sizes required to be a tree grove. Kirkland, Woodinville, and Duvall all define a tree grove as "a group of 3 or more significant trees with overlapping or touching crowns." Include street trees in groves.

• Add "Significant trees may become exceptional as they grow in size. They are future replacements in the urban forest for exceptional trees when they die. Development projects must be designed to maximize the retention of both exceptional and significant trees to maintain a diversity of tree species and ages."

• Add "All replacement trees regardless of size are protected trees and can't be removed."

• SECTION 2. Change the heading to "TREE PROTECTION". Remove references to "Exceptional Trees" only and change to "Trees". e.g., change "Exceptional Tree Protection Areas" to "Tree Protection Areas".

• SECTION 4. Add "The Director shall have the authority to allow replacement trees on both public and private property to meet the goals and objectives of race and social justice under Seattle's Equity and Environment Initiative."

• Under SMC 25.11.090 the Director has the authority to require "one or more trees" to be

planted as replacement trees for removed exceptional trees during development. The number of trees required should increase with the size of the tree removed, with a goal to achieve equivalent canopy area and volume in 25 years. Any in-lieu fee must also rise as the size of the removed tree increases. The city can not wait 80 years to replace an 80-year-old western red cedar tree and expect to maintain its canopy goals as large exceptional trees are removed during development.

• SECTION 5. SEPA requirements under SMC 25.05.675 N are for protecting special habitats and need to be considered at the beginning of the development process. The language of this SEPA code section should be included in the Director's Rule to be certain that the code is complied with.

• SECTION 6. SDCI should adopt SDOT's registration process and requirements to assist Tree Care Providers in complying with city code and regulations. Reduce the number of citations that will remove a Tree Care Provider from being registered with the city to no more than 2 per year. Require annual registration same as Seattle business licenses require. Require that Tree Care Provider companies have a WA State contractor's license to ensure they have workers' compensation. Require they have a certificate of insurance that lists the city as an additional insured so the city cannot be sued. Require that all jobs either have a certified arborist on the work site or that they have visited the site and officially sign off on the specific work being done.

Thank you for protecting our urban forest.

Cindy Johnson britdanhuj@aol.com 5105 1st Ave NW Seattle, Washington 98107

From: Siegelbaum, Heidi <heidi.siegelbaum@wsu.edu>

Sent: Wednesday, May 19, 2021 3:55 PM

**To:** Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>; PCD\_CustomerService <OPCD@seattle.gov>; Torgelson, Nathan <Nathan.Torgelson@seattle.gov>; Mantilla, Andres <Andres.Mantilla@seattle.gov>; Allala, Lylianna <Lylianna.Allala@seattle.gov>

Cc: Siegelbaum, Heidi <heidi.siegelbaum@wsu.edu>

Subject: Valuable document to consider

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Good afternoon,

The attached report has some great findings the city can use as it navigates how to grow healthfully, equitably and with an eye towards good design and biophilia. Please share among your staff and regrets if this is a cross posting.

All the best, Heidi

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