

Emails sent by Seattle residents regarding the tree protection ordinance through May 20, 2021

From: Stuart Niven <panorarbor@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 8:39 AM

To: David Moehring <dmoehring@consultant.com>

Cc: PRC <PRC@seattle.gov>; Jeff Laufle <lauflejl@comcast.net>; John Lombard <jlombardwriter@gmail.com>; Ruth Williamson <ruthalice@comcast.net>; Janet at <janetway@yahoo.com>; McGarry, Deborah <Deborah.McGarry@seattle.gov>; Humphries, Paul <Paul.Humphries@seattle.gov>; Emery, Chanda <Chanda.Emery@Seattle.gov>; Torgelson, Nathan <Nathan.Torgelson@seattle.gov>; Pedersen, Alex <Alex.Pedersen@seattle.gov>; Thaler, Toby <Toby.Thaler@seattle.gov>; Juarez, Debora <Debora.Juarez@seattle.gov>; Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>; Josh Morris <Joshm@seattleaudubon.org>; heidi calyxsite.com <heidi@calyxsite.com>; Martha Baskin <mobaskin@earthlink.net>; LEG_CouncilMembers <council@seattle.gov>; Durkan, Jenny <Jenny.Durkan@seattle.gov>

Subject: Re: [TREE LOSS] Public meeting request for 2115 NE 130TH ST

CAUTION: External Email

Thank you David,

I second this request as the approval of a project of this size in an ECA with established tree groves and healthy mature trees, will be yet another significant negative impact on the City's environment, ecology and urban canopy (which the City claims it is trying to protect, enhance and increase) as well as increase the heat island effect, increase air and water pollution, decrease shade (resulting in increased energy use for cooling), decrease mental and physical health and increase illnesses related to stress, anxiety, poor air quality and access to green spaces. This property is currently home to hundreds of birds and other beneficial lifeforms so the loss will be monumental, simply to allow one development company the chance to make a quick profit and never look back to the destruction they have caused.

Thank you and kind regards,

Stuart Niven, BA (Hons)

PanorArborist

www.panorarbor.com

[ISA Certified Arborist PN-7245A & Tree Risk Assessment Qualification \(TRAQ\)](#)

[Arborist on Seattle Audubon Society Conservation Committee](#)

[Arborist on Seattle's Urban Forestry Commission](#)

[Board Member of TreePAC](#)

[WA Lic# PANORL*852P1](#) (Click to link to WA L&I's Verify a Contractor Page)

On Tue, Feb 16, 2021 at 10:02 AM David Moehring <dmoehring@consultant.com> wrote:

With 50 or more requests, please provide an online public meeting for 9 homes and 2 DADU at **2115 NE 130TH ST** 98125 within a Single-Family 7200 zone.

It looks like a residential subdivision on a large ECA lot with creek, significant vegetation and tree groves.

Please provide an arborist assessment (not just inventory) of trees on the site.



2115 NE 130TH STREET LLC
Lot area 94,089 INCLUDING THORNTON CREEK AND WETLANDS
ZONING SF-7200

Project:3037256-LU

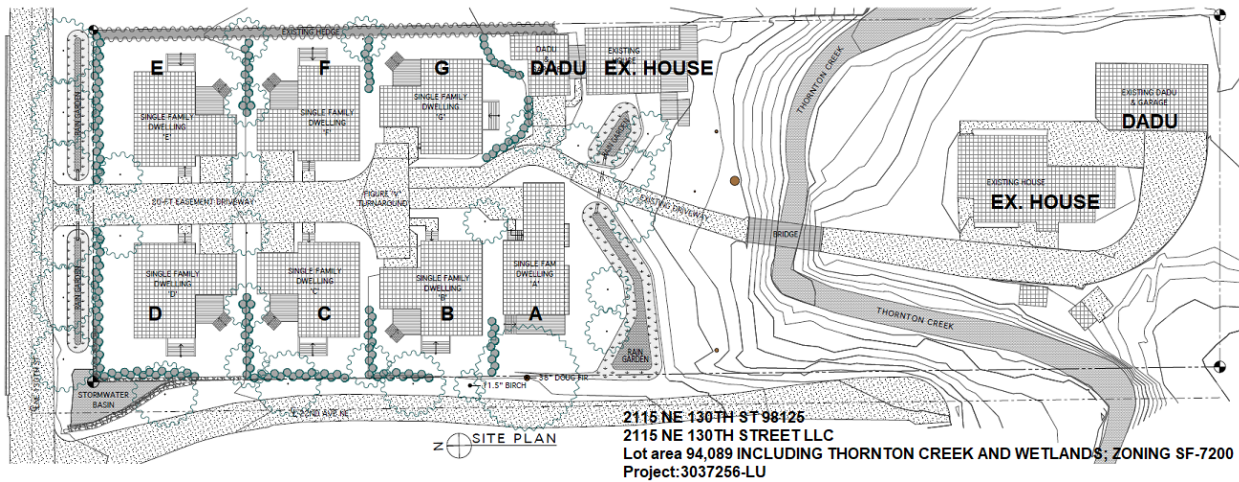
Area: Northeast

Notice Date:2/16/2021

Project Description

Land Use Application to allow 7, 2-story single-family residences and 1 Detached Accessory Dwelling Unit (DADU). Parking for 19 vehicles proposed. Two existing single-family dwelling units to remain.

Comments may be submitted through:03/01/2021



David Moehring
TreePAC Member
312-965-0634

Seattle PRC, Please notify by mail all of these neighbors:

HEALY THOMAS E III+TERESA	2008 NE 127TH ST
SPELLMEYER JANETTE K	12545 22ND AVE NE
SHERMAN SARAH	12546 22ND AVE NE
HILL KENNETH	12551 22ND AVE NE
STEPHAN GITA	12552 22ND AVE NE
KAHSAY TEKLEAB G	12558 22ND AVE NE
JAIN PARMESHTA	12559 22ND AVE NE
SLEVIN KYLEE & SPICER CURTI	12564 22ND AVE NE
POTTER DENNIS LYNN	12703 23RD AVE NE
SIERENBERG RALF+YUE-JIN LIU	12723 22ND AVE NE
THORPE WILLIAM W	12733 22ND AVE NE
THORPE WILLIAM W	12737 22ND AVE NE
SPASIC OVICAND AVE NE	12945 22ND AVE NE
BRICK DOUGLAS E+NANCY CUBBA	12955 22ND AVE NE

CHEN JOSEPH Z	12704 23RD AVE NE
GEIGER ARTHUR & BARBARA	12709 23RD AVE NE
TONKIN WYATT D & ALICE F	12710 23RD AVE NE
ANDERSON CHRISTOPHER L	12716 23RD AVE NE
GEIGER ADAM+LAURA+ARTHUR S	12717 23RD AVE NE
DOUGLASS GARTH C	12723 23RD AVE NE
MCKINNEY MELISSA	12724 23RD AVE NE
JOHNSON DAVID ODAI	12729 23RD AVE NE
CALLAHAN JAMES G+AMBER C	12801 23RD AVE NE
HELLYER GLEN E	12804 23RD AVE NE
XU KAIYUAN+DONG YI	12807 23RD AVE NE
NICHPARENKO WILLIAM+VAN TAS	12810 23RD AVE NE
KABA AISHA	12813 23RD AVE NE
XUE DONGSEN	12816 23RD AVE NE
BRICKNER CHAD E+MARTHA B VA	12824 23RD AVE NE
STEWART ANTHONY W&ELIZABETH	13003 23RD AVE NE
PRICE JERETT J+KRISTIN R	13004 23RD AVE NE
GREEN GREGORY+SCHOONOVER PE	13015 23RD AVE NE

Notice of Application	135 KB	02/11/21	000242-21PN	Public Notice
Record Snapshot	217 KB	02/05/21	3037256-LU	Master Use Permit
Large Sign	2 MB	01/25/21	3037256-LU	Master Use Permit
SEPA Checklist	206 KB	01/25/21	3037256-LU	Master Use Permit
Large Sign	189 KB	01/11/21	3037256-LU	Master Use Permit
Large Sign	970 KB	01/11/21	3037256-LU	Master Use Permit
Notice Map	2 MB	01/11/21	3037256-LU	Master Use Permit
Record Snapshot	80 KB	10/23/20	005397-20PA	Building & Land Use Pre-Application
Preliminary Assessment Report	157 KB	10/20/20	005397-20PA	Building & Land Use Pre-Application
Site Photos	357 MB	10/01/20	005397-20PA	Building & Land Use Pre-Application
Site Photos	79 MB	10/01/20	005397-20PA	Building & Land Use Pre-Application
Map	555 KB	09/25/20	005397-20PA	Building & Land Use Pre-Application

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Help support TreePAC's efforts to create a stronger tree ordinance, more informed residents, and more informed City Officials.

Guide to save trees before it is too late:

<https://treepac.org/step-by-step-saving-seattle-trees-guide-new/>

Donate to non-profit TreePAC:

<https://donorbox.org/support-treepac-and-seattle-s-urban-forest?>

You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "SeattleTreeLoss" group.

To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to seattletreeeoloss+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com.

To view this discussion on the web visit

<https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/seattletreeeoloss/trinity-273538ee-68d3-4e67-82c3-7982603ccda0-1613498523493%403c-app-mailcom-lxa06>

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

Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2021 12:00 PM

To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>; Torgelson, Nathan <Nathan.Torgelson@seattle.gov>

Cc: David Moehring <dmoehring@consultant.com>; Stuart Niven <panorarbor@gmail.com>

Subject: Seattle can Join Cities with Nature

CAUTION: External Email

<https://citieswithnature.org/join>

Hi all,

This would be worthwhile joining and can create a central operating principles by which the city evolves.

All the best,

Heidi

Heidi Siegelbaum

Stormwater Strategic Initiative Lead

Washington Stormwater Center at Washington State University

Heidi.Siegelbaum@wsu.edu

(253) 445-4502

Home office: (206) 784-4265

<https://wastormwatercenter.org>

<https://pugetsoundestuary.wa.gov>

From: Sophia Córdova <bookworm@seanet.com>

Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 9:18 AM

To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>

Subject: Please adopt, with amendments, SDCI's Director's Rule 13-2020

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 11 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.

Sophia Córdova

bookworm@seanet.com

6215 Ravenna Ave NE

Seattle, Washington 98115-7025

From: Sophia Córdova <bookworm@seanet.com>
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 9:20 AM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@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.

Sophia Córdova

bookworm@seanet.com

6215 Ravenna Ave NE

Seattle, Washington 98115-7025

From: Jean Trent <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 2:07 PM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Tree Protection Ordinance, pass and enforce

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.

Thanks, Jean

Jean Trent

jean.trent@gmail.com

9100 Roosevelt WY NE

Seattle, Washington 98115

From: kylee Slevin <info@email.actionnetwork.org>

Sent: Saturday, March 6, 2021 5:24 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 11 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”.
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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.

kylee Slevin

kslevin05@gmail.com

12564 22nd Ave NE

Seattle, Washington 98125

From: Tina Cohen <tina@tinacohen.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 9, 2021 8:14 AM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: UFC letter regarding draft DR 13-2020

CAUTION: External Email

To the UFC:

To clarify: I urge you to close the Hazard loophole that allows tree removal if *after development* it won't survive. This is circular reasoning. Development needs to be modified to safely allow tree retention. The code 25.11 might need to be changed.

Please see SECTION 3: EXCEPTIONAL TREE REMOVAL
1.TreeRisk Assessment Required for Tree Removal

The tree risk assessment must conclude that the exceptional tree is a “high” risk hazard using the tree risk assessment methodology and criteria established by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) due to one or more of the following:

- **When development is proposed and allowed per Chapter 25.11, the likelihood of survival after construction.**

Again, thanks for considering my concerns. In my experience this loophole has allowed many removals.

I assume I'll be blocked from attending the WebEx meeting as I was previously, but I'll try to listen on my phone.

Tina Cohen, ISA Certified Arborist #PN0245A
ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualified
Member American Society of Consulting Arborists
Registered Consulting Arborist #473, **retired**

From: RICHARD ELLISON <climbwall@msn.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 9:56 AM

To: LEG_CouncilMembers <council@seattle.gov>; Strauss, Dan <Dan.Strauss@seattle.gov>; Pedersen, Alex <Alex.Pedersen@seattle.gov>; Thaler, Toby <Toby.Thaler@seattle.gov>; An, Noah <Noah.An@seattle.gov>; Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>

Subject: 2021 SDCI Priority Plan does NOT mention Environmental Stewardship

CAUTION: External Email

2021 SDCI Priority Plan does not uphold the Seattle Comprehensive Plan’s core value of Environmental Stewardship.

Hello, my name is Richard Ellison. I am a retired community college Adjunct Professor of Biology and Environmental Science, and also a board member of TreePAC, a political action committee for Trees.

The 2021 SDCI Priority Plan does not uphold the Seattle Comprehensive Plan’s core value of Environmental Stewardship. **“The Plan's four core values — community, environmental stewardship, economic opportunity and security, and social equity — are key components of sustainability.”**

Nothing in the SDCI Plan includes mention of Environmental Protection, Environmental Justice, Planning for Climate Change, nor for the living

environment that includes Trees, Wildlife, Clean Air and other critical environmental infrastructure.

SDCI once again ignores updating the Tree Protection Ordinance and Directors Rule. It's not on the 2021 Agenda. It will always be delayed is the SDCI plan.

The City Council keeps waiting on SDCI, the Mayor's Office, for how long? It's been 20 years since it was last updated, been 12 years since the dept has been instructed by the Council for an update, and 1997 since I was on the Councils Urban Forest Task Force.

It's time for the City Council to Take Action by itself and update the Tree Ordinance. The Seattle City Councils own Urban Forestry Commission has a working draft and is happy to assist this Council to make it a reality. It needs no further delays. We can't wait for DCI, or wait for the new mayor to settle in, or for the new elections of Councilmembers. Please act now with the powers you already have, and stop the stonewalling by SDCI on updating Seattle's Tree Ordinance and Director's Rule.

Thank you,

Richard Ellison

climbwall@msn.com

From: Janet at <janetway@yahoo.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 10:27 AM

To: RICHARD ELLISON <climbwall@msn.com>

Cc: LEG_CouncilMembers <council@seattle.gov>; Strauss, Dan <Dan.Strauss@seattle.gov>; Pedersen, Alex <Alex.Pedersen@seattle.gov>; Thaler, Toby <Toby.Thaler@seattle.gov>; An, Noah <Noah.An@seattle.gov>; Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>

Subject: Re: 2021 SDCI Priority Plan does NOT mention Environmental Stewardship

CAUTION: External Email

Great letter and testimony!

Janet

Sent from my iPhone

From: Susan Nicol <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 10:39 AM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Please adopt, with amendments, SDCI's Director's Rule 13-2020

CAUTION: External Email

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Thank you for protecting our urban forest.

Susan Nicol

susanmnicol@gmail.com

4310 Sunnyside Avenue North

Seattle, Washington 98103

From: Stuart Niven <panorarbor@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 4:18 PM

To: RICHARD ELLISON <climbwall@msn.com>

Cc: LEG_CouncilMembers <council@seattle.gov>; Strauss, Dan <Dan.Strauss@seattle.gov>; Pedersen, Alex <Alex.Pedersen@seattle.gov>; Thaler, Toby <Toby.Thaler@seattle.gov>; An, Noah <Noah.An@seattle.gov>; Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>; Torgelson, Nathan <Nathan.Torgelson@seattle.gov>; Durkan, Jenny <Jenny.Durkan@seattle.gov>

Subject: Re: 2021 SDCI Priority Plan does NOT mention Environmental Stewardship

CAUTION: External Email

Thank you Richard, this is a critical situation and troubling that trees are not being considered when the whole world is observing climate change and teenagers are having to address the United Nations to explain the stark realities of the world around us. Seattle has one of the highest level of education and technological experience, yet those making decisions for the well being of the residents of the City, are not responding to the most basic of problems that can be dealt with relatively simply; protect all existing trees and plant more!

I have copied this to the Mayor as much of the hold up in moving forward with the Tree 'Protection' Ordinance update comes from the Office of the Mayor, as well as the director of SDCI as it is SDCI that is actively responsible for not only updating the code that will help protect trees but also and perhaps more poignantly, not enforcing the current code!

Thank you and kind regards,

Stuart Niven, BA (Hons)

PanorArborist

www.panorarbor.com

[ISA Certified Arborist PN-7245A & Tree Risk Assessment Qualification \(TRAQ\)](#)

[Arborist on Seattle Audubon Society Conservation Committee](#)

[Arborist on Seattle's Urban Forestry Commission](#)

[Board Member of TreePAC](#)

[WA Lic# PANORL*852P1](#) (Click to link to WA L&I's Verify a Contractor Page)

From: dave nicol <info@email.actionnetwork.org>

Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 4:41 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.

dave nicol

nicoldm@gmail.com

4310 Sunnyside Ave N

Seattle, Washington 98103

From: dmoehring@consultant.com <dmoehring@consultant.com>

Sent: Sunday, March 14, 2021 11:18 AM

To: PRC <PRC@seattle.gov>

Cc: Treepac <Treepac@groups.outlook.com>; Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>; FIREPDR <FIREPDR@seattle.gov>

Subject: Arborist assessment of remaining trees with stumps and groves

CAUTION: External Email

Seattle PRC,

Northeastern Seattle's clear-cutting of properties continues unchecked. Seattle needs strengthened enforcement of tree protection requirements within SMC 23.24, SMC 25.11, and other Seattle Municipal Codes.

Please note the collage of images from this Cedar Park area property at 3532 NE 134TH ST from the SDCI EDMS. Given the images of large trees and tree stumps, provide and carefully review an arborist assessment of tree groves and exceptional trees. The evidence of trees removed may also be found from the 2017 site plan. How are trees being removed on a previous permit application? There does not appear to be permits issued to remove the trees.

[Site Plan](#) 178 KB 02/07/17 [3027149-LU](#) Master Use Permit

The existing 11,618 sq. ft property (within a SF-7200 zone) is being proposed to be subdivided into two long narrow lots with SDCI project #3037750-LU so that related permits may include new buildings that will result in additional tree removal.

The Seattle Fire Department needs to review the required emergency access to the lot and splitting it into two lots. The dead-end street is about 275 feet in length, exceeding the maximum 150-foot length without a fire truck turnaround.

Moreover, the resulting lot sizes with one being just 5,479 sq. ft. is too small at 76% of the minimum 7,200 sq ft lot size. Please verify surveys, especially including the provisions for emergency vehicle turnaround at the end of a dead-end street. The survey is missing adjacent property bordering trees and structures.

Thank you for allowing these comments to PRC@seattle.gov.

David Moehring
TreePAC board member

From: Stuart Niven <panorarbor@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 3:38 PM
To: David Moehring <dmoehring@consultant.com>
Cc: PRC <PRC@seattle.gov>; Treepac <Treepac@groups.outlook.com>; Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>; FIREPDR <FIREPDR@seattle.gov>
Subject: Re: Arborist assessment of remaining trees with stumps and groves

CAUTION: External Email

Thank you David, I second your comments.

Thank you and kind regards,

Stuart Niven, BA (Hons)
PanorArborist
www.panorarbor.com

[ISA Certified Arborist PN-7245A & Tree Risk Assessment Qualification \(TRAQ\)](#)
[Arborist on Seattle Audubon Society Conservation Committee](#)
[Arborist on Seattle's Urban Forestry Commission](#)
[Board Member of TreePAC](#)

[WA Lic# PANORL*852P1](#) (Click to link to WA L&I's Verify a Contractor Page)

From: Judith Starbuck <judithstarbuck@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 3:43 PM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Strengthen Seattle's Tree Ordinance

From: Judith Starbuck <judithstarbuck@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 3:43 PM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Strengthen Seattle's Tree Ordinance

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:

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.

Judith Starbuck

judithstarbuck@msn.com

1126 GRAND AVE

SEATTLE, Washington 98122

From: dmoehring@consultant.com <dmoehring@consultant.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2021 11:58 AM
To: PRC <PRC@seattle.gov>
Cc: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>; sdot_la@seattle.gov
Subject: Duwamish Tree grove clearing for 3 new houses and opening of street

CAUTION: External Email

Thank you for allowing public comment.

The limited tree canopy within the Duwamish valley at 1211 to 1219 S TRENTON ST is proposed to be thinned even further, resulting in greater disparity and loss of equitable environment compared to other parts of Seattle:

Project: 3033333-LU

Area: West Seattle

Notice Date: 3/18/2021

Project Description

Land use application to allow a 2-story single family dwelling unit. Parking for 2 vehicles proposed.

Comments may be submitted through: 03/31/2021

And

Application for project 3037675-LU

(Click for complete notice information)

Address: 1211 S TRENTON ST Project: 3037675-LU

Area: West Seattle

Notice Date: 3/18/2021

Project Description

Land use application to allow a 2-story single family dwelling unit. Parking for 2 vehicles proposed.

Comments may be submitted through: 03/31/2021

And

Application for project 3037676-LU

(Click for complete notice information)

Address: 1215 S TRENTON ST Project: 3037676-LU

Area: West Seattle

Notice Date: 3/18/2021

Project Description

Land use application to allow a 2-story single family dwelling unit. Parking for 2 vehicles proposed.

Comments may be submitted through: 03/31/2021

How will this project account for tree canopy replacement per provisions of the code?

David Moehring

Board member

TreePAC



Sent using the mobile mail app

From: Stuart Niven <panorarbor@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, March 19, 2021 6:41 AM

To: David Moehring <dmoehring@consultant.com>

Cc: PRC <PRC@seattle.gov>; Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>;
sdot_la@seattle.gov

Subject: Re: Duwamish Tree grove clearing for 3 new houses and opening of street

CAUTION: External Email

Thank you David, I second your question about this project.

Thank you and kind regards,

Stuart Niven, BA (Hons)

PanorArborist

www.panorarbor.com

[ISA Certified Arborist PN-7245A & Tree Risk Assessment Qualification \(TRAQ\)](#)

[Arborist on Seattle Audubon Society Conservation Committee](#)

[Arborist on Seattle's Urban Forestry Commission](#)

[Board Member of TreePAC](#)

[WA Lic# PANORL*852P1](#) (Click to link to WA L&I's Verify a Contractor Page)

From: Margaret Staeheli <mpegrose@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2021 9:32 PM

To: Strauss, Dan <Dan.Strauss@seattle.gov>

Cc: noah.an@seattle.gov; Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>

Subject: Tree Code

CAUTION: External Email

City Council members:

I want to once again express my deep disappointment and frustration at the circular process city council continues to follow regarding trees in Seattle.

I volunteered my time on the Urban Forestry Commission - at a time when both my family and my business required considerable attention. Thus the Commission volunteer was my "free time" more than 12 years have passed -. I am volunteering outside of city process now because very little happened.

Then- remember 2020- a newly elected with CM Strauss had a hearing- over a year and half ago- I attended and spoke- at that time you and other CM's said you would finally direct city staff to get the code updated. COVID 19 is no excuse. The work and framework had been done. You just needed to direct city staff. You said you would move forward but you went sideways or what I feel is backwards.

Now I hear you are hiring a consultant to review Seattle resident attitudes toward trees - really - why suddenly go backwards. Please explain- if it is pressure from the development community then just say it- I can accept that fact- I can no longer accept the council spin. The reality is creative, dynamic cities have housing and trees. Figure out how to use the space in our land. Be honest and transparent with your reasoning.

Please take two half days and "drive" around the whole city- look at the trees on new housing - where they are placed- what species. Understand street trees are fine, park trees are fine but the SDOT trees will not create canopy in our neighborhoods

I encourage you to move on adopt the UFC code recommendations.

Peg Staeheli

West Seattle
Sent from my iPhone

From: heidi calyxsite.com <heidi@calyxsite.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 8:21 AM
To: Strauss, Dan <Dan.Strauss@seattle.gov>
Cc: NoahAn@Seattle.gov; Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Comments in support of adopting a tree ordinance-
Importance: High

CAUTION: External Email

March 24, 2021

Dear Councilman Strauss and Land Use and Neighborhoods Committee:

The Council--- driven by existing conditions across Seattle, our current rate of cutting 3,000-4,000 trees a year, profligate use of fraudulent hazard tree determinations, fire smoke, high heat island index, and the diminishing of, and continued assault on, communities of color—all speak to your incumbent responsibility to adopt a tree ordinance.

Two years ago, we passed Resolution 31902. While there has been some good progress, we seem to be stuck resolutely in a continuous loop of studying an issue to death. While you are conducting your community outreach between March and June, please use existing community groups which are already involved in green infrastructure, tree protection and gentrification issues as well as climate. Climate alone should drive your decision to adopt a tree ordinance.

<https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/environment/amid-climate-crisis-a-proposal-to-save-washington-state-forests-for-carbon-storage-not-logging/>

We had not had an updated ordinance in over 12 years which is clearly unacceptable.

A City audit and two Tree Regulations Reports later, the City still seems unable to adopt an ordinance. Perhaps it's because the developer community sits at the Council and Mayor's doors on an ongoing basis? It's strains credulity to come up with any other set of excuses since you have a stellar UFC and expertise at your disposal as well as every conceivable basis for taking action.

You must do what SDCI- the center of an obvious conflict of interest (construction department the head of tree regulations? Dur),--cannot and will not do. Please do what you know is right.

And please don't say you support communities of color, underserved communities while letting these patterns of destruction run unabated. Do something and do the right thing. This is an easy fix if you use your common sense, research and your own moral compass to do what needs to be done. Pass the ordinance.

Please share this note with the rest of your Committee and please put in the public records for the UFC. Thank you for taking action today to adopt the ordinance.

All the best,
Heidi Siegelbaum.

Heidi Siegelbaum
Heidi@calyxsite.com

(206) 784-4265

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/HeidiSiegelbaum>

From: Ruth Alice Williams <ruthalice@comcast.net>

Sent: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 1:18 PM

To: Strauss, Dan <Dan.Strauss@seattle.gov>; Juarez, Debora <Debora.Juarez@seattle.gov>; Mosqueda, Teresa <Teresa.Mosqueda@seattle.gov>; Pedersen, Alex <Alex.Pedersen@seattle.gov>; Gonzalez,

Lorena <Lorena.Gonzalez@seattle.gov>; Lewis, Andrew <Andrew.Lewis@seattle.gov>

Cc: An, Noah <Noah.An@seattle.gov>; Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>; Emery, Chanda <Chanda.Emery@Seattle.gov>

Subject: Tree Protection Planning and Parking Requirements North of 85th Street

CAUTION: External Email

Dear City Council Land Use and Neighborhoods committee members:

Tree Protection:

I am very pleased to see that there has been progress in enforcing the regulations we have in place and in improving documentation of the existing tree canopy. And now we are presented with a detailed plan and schedule for crafting the tree protection ordinance we've awaited so long. Please don't allow this to go through the public process and then evaporate as all the earlier ones have done. Seattle needs our trees protected now, not by-and-by when they are already gone.

To cite just one example of the damage being done now, not far from my home there are plans for an eight-story, 345,300 sq. ft., multi-family project at 10631 8th Avenue NE (3035925-LU). The applicants propose to remove 29 mature trees, including, seven giant sequoias, and completely mitigate the loss by planting seven vine maples.

We need to keep the 'Emerald City' green and healthy by valuing our trees enough to protect them and to work for no net loss of canopy and ecoservices.

Cars:

The Transit Oriented Development Overlay for Northgate allows the construction of multi-family projects with minimal or no parking. This is going on in neighborhoods where there are few sidewalks. (The City never saw fit to fund them north of 85th Street.)

This policy is causing growing congestion in the public rights-of-way and creating hazards for pedestrians. 'Getting people out of their cars' is not the same thing as discouraging car ownership, and SEPA reviews are often too lax to catch these problems.

We all anticipate the convenience of the coming Sound Transit train stations and the improvements in our bus services, but over night they aren't going to cause most or even many of Seattle's 81% who own cars to stop owning and housing them. Besides, we would do well to note that in New York City only 45% own cars, but even so, the streets are jammed, and parking costs are steep.

At the same time, we need to remember that the gig economy largely runs on the backs of poor people with cars.

The problems are complex, and with the increased density we hope for, we need to become drastically more creative and proactive in coping with private transportation. But in the meantime, please beef up those SEPA reviews.

Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Sincerely,
Ruth Williams
1219 NE 107th St.
Seattle, 98125

From: heidi calyxsite.com <heidi@calyxsite.com>

Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2021 11:51 AM

To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>; David Moehring <dmoehring@consultant.com>; Stuart Niven <panorarbor@gmail.com>

Subject: Concerns about company's advice on which trees to keep during construction

CAUTION: External Email

<https://www.washingtontreeexperts.net/protect-trees-construction/>

For your next UFC meeting (if you have room), please discuss how the City of Seattle addresses false or misleading information regarding tree care and removal. While the ISA material below may be accurate, to put this on a consumer oriented web site is misleading. "Trees that can blow over easily?" Really- this seems pretty complex.

The [ISA outlines the following criteria](#) for groups of trees considered within an Excellent Stand Protection Zone, or a zone of trees that is healthy and should be protected:

- Healthy soil
- Prevalent wildlife
- Ecological function
- Natural forest succession and regeneration

Criteria for groups of trees that may be considered in Poor Stand Protection Zone, or a zone of trees that is unhealthy and may be a hazard to the community include:

- **Trees that can blow over easily**
- Sparse forest areas
- Poor soil and erosion
- Prevalent weeds and invasive species

Heidi Siegelbaum

Heidi@calyxsite.com

(206) 784-4265

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/HeidiSiegelbaum>

From: Chris Covert-Bowlds <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2021 2:29 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,

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- Tightening tree removal requirements for exceptional trees as hazard trees

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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.”
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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.

Chris Covert-Bowlds

c.covertbowlds@gmail.com

523 N 84th St

Seattle, Washington 98103

From: Patricia Murphy <murphy.patricia@live.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2021 10:33 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,

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- 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.

Patricia Murphy

murphy.patricia@live.com

8835 Burke Ave N

Seattle, Washington 98103

From: Sophie Newland <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Monday, April 5, 2021 10:15 AM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Strengthen Seattle's Tree Ordinance

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

I have a personal story about why the Seattle Tree Ordinance is essential to equitable retention of Seattle's mature trees - and why it is not yet fully sufficient to help tree owners without excess resources to defend mature trees against threats from wealthier Seattle neighbors demanding more sunshine and less needles in their backyards.

We are being legally threatened by our two wealthier neighbors if we do not remove two of the three mature Western Cedar Trees from our yard because they don't like the needle debris in the Fall, although sunshine issues are also mentioned. These neighbors and their lawyer have no problem bending the truth and manufacturing issues to support their threatening letters and predicting great legal costs to us if they don't get their way. Today they rejected our proposal provided by a ISA certified arborist to remove only one of the three cedar trees (two trunked, diameter at 4.5 feet = 15" and 21") and prune for maintenance the remaining two trees (diameters at 4.5 feet = 45" and 21"). I am not sure what we will do; but thankfully we are unable to consider their repeated threatening requests that we top the upper 50 feet of the 75 foot tall Exceptional Tree (45" diameter) protected by the existing Seattle Tree Ordinance.

Ideally Seattle would lower the diameter threshold to protect smaller, but still significant trees, for example the cedar tree in our yard with a 21" diameter at 4.5 feet, but in any case this is a real-world example about why the Seattle Tree Protection Ordinance is essential to equity - it helps less wealthy property owners defend mature trees against neighbors with abundant resources and unscrupulous lawyers.

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.

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.

Sophie Newland

sophvannew@yahoo.com

3632 41st Ave W

Seattle, Washington 98199

From: Sophie Newland <info@email.actionnetwork.org>

Sent: Monday, April 5, 2021 10:20 AM

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,

I have a personal story about why the Seattle Tree Ordinance is essential to equitable retention of Seattle's mature trees - and why it is not yet fully sufficient to help tree owners without excess resources to defend mature trees against threats from wealthier Seattle neighbors demanding more sunshine and less needles in their backyards.

We are being legally threatened by our two wealthier neighbors if we do not remove two of the three mature Western Cedar Trees from our yard because they don't like the needle debris in the Fall, although sunshine issues are also mentioned. These neighbors and their lawyer have no problem bending the truth and manufacturing issues to support their threatening letters and predicting great legal costs to us if they don't get their way. Today they rejected our proposal provided by a ISA certified arborist to remove only one of the three cedar trees (two trunked, diameter at 4.5 feet = 15" and 21") and prune for maintenance the remaining two trees (diameters at 4.5 feet = 45" and 22"). I am not sure what we will do; but thankfully we are unable to consider their repeated threatening requests that we top the upper 50 feet of the 75 foot tall Exceptional Tree (45" diameter) protected by the existing Seattle Tree Ordinance.

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

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.

Sophie Newland

sophvannew@yahoo.com

3632 41st Ave W

Seattle, Washington 98199

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

Sent: Monday, April 5, 2021 10:31 AM

To: Strauss, Dan <Dan.Strauss@seattle.gov>; Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>; Emery, Chanda <Chanda.Emery@Seattle.gov>; David Moehring <dmoehring@consultant.com>

Subject: Public Tools for citizens- geared to land use planning- May 13th Opportunity for the city

Importance: High

CAUTION: External Email

ADVERTISEMENT

[Learn how to give constituents the tools and confidence to manage their development and planning goals](#)

Join us on May 13 alongside panelists from two leading local governments — LA County and City of Marco Island. Get best practices for adopting virtual citizen self-service, training your customers, and transforming your organization's relationship with citizens and developers from one of regulation to collaboration.

Heidi Siegelbaum
Stormwater Strategic Initiative Lead

Washington Stormwater Center at Washington State University

Heidi.Siegelbaum@wsu.edu

(253) 445-4502
Home office: (206) 784-4265

<https://wastormwatercenter.org>

<https://pugetsoundestuary.wa.gov>

From: Cynthia Slate <cynthiaslate@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, April 5, 2021 4:49 PM

To: environment@subscriptions.seattle.gov

Subject: Re: Urban Forestry Commission

CAUTION: External Email

I want to complain to the UFC about SDCI investor Gregory Lum. He keeps finding that exceptional trees are less than 30 inches when it is obvious that the tree is 38 plus inches. This is a tree Western Red Cedar he says was under 30 inches. This is a lie.



From: David Moehring <dmoehring@consultant.com>

Sent: Friday, April 9, 2021 7:01 PM

To: travis.west@davey.com

Cc: alexander@barshercapital.com; Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>

Subject: Three significant trees needlessly removed when adding a backyard cottage ADU

Importance: High

CAUTION: External Email



Tree Inventory

- ✖ Remove - Impacted
- Retain
- ITPZ

1051 NE 96th St.
Seattle, WA
December 2020

Prepared by:
DAVEY

Dear Mr. West of Davey (Trees) Resource Group,

Achieving Seattle's objectives of combatting climate change and reaching a 30% tree canopy (last estimate from 2016 LiDAR study was only 28%) is everyone's concern.

What happened today at 1051 NE 96th Street?

As an ISA certified Arborist (PD-2444A), Mr. West, it was surprising to see an otherwise stellar tree report conclude with the needless removal of three large trees in fair condition:

- Black locust 29-inch DBH, 30 foot canopy
- Black locust 25-inch DBH, 25 foot canopy
- Black locust 25-inch DBH, 30 foot canopy

As the added Detached Accessory Dwelling Unit and the excavations required seems to be well outside the inner critical root zone of these three large trees, how does an arborist conclude they should be removed to provide access for construction?

As density increased in Seattle... every tree within the next 16 years is important. Especially in a simple situation as this appears to be. We can have both density and tree canopy in a growing Seattle... there are numerous examples... and it is a shame this is not one of them.

Confused and curious,

David Moehring, AIA NCARB

TreePAC

dmoehring@consultant.com

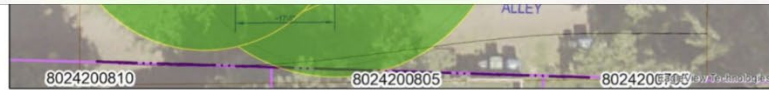
Arborist Report Tree Protection Plan

Here are the photos of the trees cut down today





<http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=6329191>



- Remove - Impacted
- Retain
- ITPZ
- Avg Canopy

Tree Inventory

1051 NE 96th St.
Seattle, WA
December 2020



Prepared by:
DAVEY
Resource Group

Prepared by: DRG Inc.
Prepared for: Alexander Barsher

December 2020
Page 11 of 12

Appendix B. Inventory Table

Table B1. A complete inventory table is available in a spreadsheet format if requested.

ID	Species	DBH (in)	Height (ft)	Average Canopy Radius (ft)	Condition	Grow space	Maintenance Task	Maintenance Detail	Preservation Priority	Owner
1	Black locust (<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>)	29	70	30	Fair	Lawn	No Priority	None	2	Client
2	Black locust (<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>)	25	60	25	Fair	Lawn	No Priority	None	2	Client
3	Black locust (<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>)	25	65	30	Fair	Lawn	No Priority	None	2	Client
4	Deodar cedar (<i>Cedrus deodara</i>)	36	70	25	Fair	Lawn	Priority 2 Prune	Structural Prune	1	Neighbor



From: michaeloxman <michaeloxman@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, April 9, 2021 7:09 PM
To: David Moehring <dmoehring@consultant.com>; travis.west@davey.com
Cc: alexander@barshercapital.com; Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: RE: [TREE LOSS] Three significant trees needlessly removed when adding a backyard cottage ADU

CAUTION: External Email

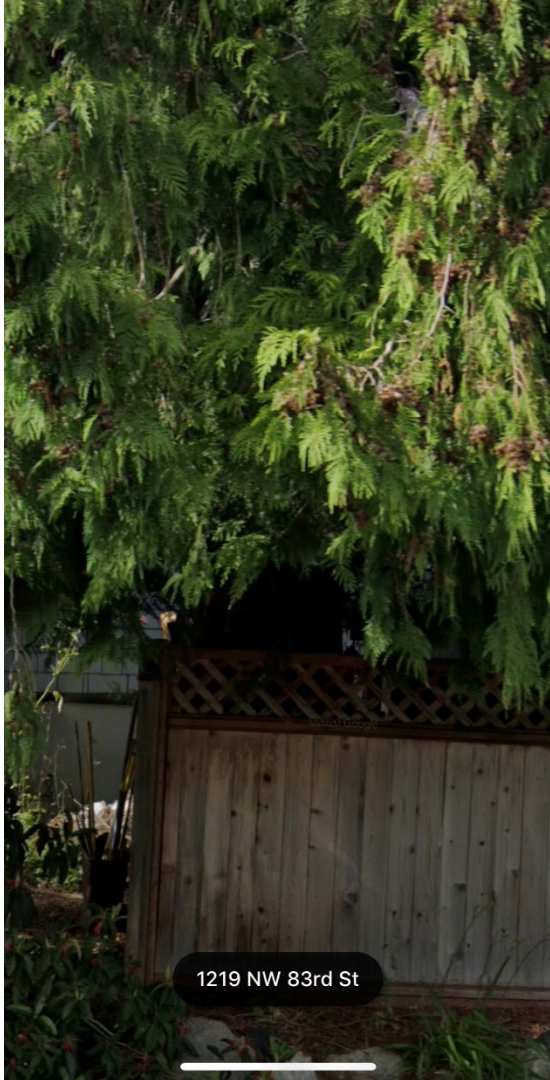
Howdy,
The arborist is told what to recommend by the developer in the Scope of Work for the contract.
Arboreally yours,
Michael Oxman
206-949-8733
www.treedr.com

From: Cynthia Slate <cynthiaslate@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 9, 2021 7:43 PM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Re: Urban Forestry Commission

CAUTION: External Email

I want to ask the Urban Forestry Commission why homeowners take out trees if their lot is being sold for development?

For example, this lot which is in the upzone, had a 43 inch ABH Tulip Tree and a 33 inch Western Red Cedar) I asked the homeowner in 2018 if I could measure them



for a Tree Walk) that the homeowner took out BEFORE the lot had the sign asking for public comment on the development. So we are not given a chance to comment.

I am wondering if the developer makes “ removing the exceptional trees” as a condition of sale?

Is someone keeping track of these trees that were cut down in my neighborhood?

I want to know does some government body knows these trees are gone?

Thanks,
Cynthia Slate



On Tue, Apr 6, 2021 at 1:59 PM Cynthia Slate <cynthiaslate@gmail.com> wrote:

I'm just so upset. Why does SDCI have an interest to lie about tree size and protect homeowners?

From: MICHAEL OXMAN <michaeloxman@comcast.net>

Sent: Sunday, April 11, 2021 8:43 PM

To: David Moehring <dmoehring@consultant.com>; travis.west@davey.com

Cc: alexander@barshercapital.com; Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>

Subject: Re: [TREE LOSS] Three significant trees needlessly removed when adding a backyard cottage ADU

CAUTION: External Email

Here's another project that is taking out 90 trees to build 9 houses abutting Kubota Garden.

On 04/09/2021 7:00 PM David Moehring <dmoehring@consultant.com> wrote:



Tree Inventory

- ✘ Remove - Impacted
- Retain
- ITPZ

1051 NE 96th St.
Seattle, WA
December 2020

Prepared by:
DAVEY

Dear Mr. West of Davey (Trees) Resource Group,

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Confused and curious,

David Moehring, AIA NCARB

TreePAC

dmoehring@consultant.com

Arborist Report TreeProtectionPlan

Here are the photos of the trees cut down today





<http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=6329191>



Prepared by: DRG Inc.
Prepared for: Alexander Barsher

December 2020
Page 11 of 12

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Help support TreePAC's efforts to create a stronger tree ordinance, more informed residents, and more informed City Officials.

Guide to save trees before it is too late:

<https://treepac.org/step-by-step-saving-seattle-trees-guide-new/>

Donate to non-profit TreePAC:

<https://donorbox.org/support-treepac-and-seattle-s-urban-forest?>

You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "SeattleTreeLoss" group.

To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to

seattletreeeoss+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com.

To view this discussion on the web visit

<https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/seattletreeeoss/trinity-16f2ed0d-c713-4066-b48e-a5da1b757110-1618020046591%403c-app-mailcom-lxa07---->

From: Steve Zemke <stevezemke@msn.com>

Sent: Monday, April 12, 2021 12:24 AM

To: Weston Brinkley <weston@streetsoundsecology.com>; David Moehring <dmoehring@consultant.com>; Stuart Niven <panorarbor@gmail.com>

Cc: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>

Subject: DCI data collection recommendations by UFC

CAUTION: External Email

Here is what the UFC adopted in the [draft Tree and Urban Forest Protection Ordinance](#) presented to Council and the Mayor. From page 19

D. SDCI shall enter into its database system all Significant trees on the site, trees removed, trees preserved, and trees replaced; noting tree species, common name, DSH, height, condition and location. Exceptional and Heritage trees shall be noted as such in the database system. All replacement trees planted as a result of in-lieu fees shall also be entered into SDCI's database system and identified by species, common name, diameter, height, and specific planting location in the city. SDCI may collect and enter such additional information as may be helpful in evaluating the effectiveness of 25.11 in preserving, protecting, and replacing Significant and Exceptional trees in Seattle.

E. SDCI will file quarterly reports with OSE regarding all data collected from its Tree 20 Removal and Replacement permits including trees removed, trees replaced on site and 21 trees planted off site as a result of fees-in-lieu paid into the Tree Replacement and 22 Preservation Fund.

Additional data though a site tree inventory includes more information and would be helpful to also be entered. This includes canopy spread and tree condition.

The full draft section on dealing with trees during development has more details on data that developers need to apply with their project proposals, including .

SMC 25.11.090 Significant Tree Removal and Replacement associated with Development starts on page 16 through page 22. Besides a site map and a landscape plan, a tree inventory and assessment report, and a development report evaluating options to maximize preserving significant trees (all trees over 6" DBH) is required..

Portland is miles ahead of Seattle in collecting tree data and using it to guide what happens during development.

See [Create a Tree Inventory and Tree Plan](#)

Here is Their28 page guide on using Excell for their Tree Code requirements. [Tree Code - Excell Tool - user Manual](#)

Survey points for example include survey point number, Northing (y axis), Easting (x Axis), elevation, data collect code, deciduous or evergreen, common species name, log number, DBH, canopy radius, RPZ radius, notes.

Based on what Portland is doing, Seattle is not trying very hard to collect information or use it to evaluate or enforce tree protection or maximize tree retention.

Other cities also require developers to submit data and information on trees, not just put it on a site map like Seattle does and expect city employees to put it in a database.

Steve Zemke

From: SeattleUFC8 <SeattleUFC8@protonmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, April 17, 2021 3:40 PM

To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>

Subject: South Seattle Tree Grove clearing with new street at 5722 35th Ave S (look at over time)

CAUTION: External Email

Interested people may write in to PRC@Seattle.gov before the Tuesday's public [design review](#) meeting about the 7-story residential development at **5722 35TH AVE S**.

They may also write in to sdot_la@seattle.gov and Jonathan.Williams@seattle.gov about two protected tree groves that may be avoided (see image below) being cleared from the proposed continuing of 35th Ave S to JUNEAU. The development will work well with a 60-foot cul-de-sac from the north, and Juneau is pretty much a deadend as it is.

The attached notice indicates on page 1 how to make public comment at the meeting. It is a tricky and confusing process... different than just connecting to listen.

There are over 200 trees within a block area including the development site, the proposed street continuation, and the future development to the northwest... most on steep slopes.

There are other ways to have added density and protected trees within this site that we should ask for. I have provided one suggestion in the marked up site view herein on a better way to provide access to this site that slopes down to a southwest wetland.

Thank you!
David Moehring



t... wetland will be preserved.
 There are 204 trees all together:

The Arborist Report is from 2015 and needs to be updated. That report (attached) indicate that the following trees meet the Director's Rule 16-2008 requirements for Exceptional Trees:

1. Tree #8, *Acer macrophyllum*, Big Leaf Maple, is 57 inches in diameter and exceeds the threshold diameter of 30 inches.
2. Tree #36, *Pinus ponderosa*, Ponderosa Pine, measures 30 inches in diameter, meeting the Threshold Diameter of 30 inches.
3. Tree #51, *Arbutus menziesii*, Pacific Madrone, measures 14 inches in diameter and exceeds the threshold diameter of six inches.
4. Tree # 82, *Cedrus atlantica glauca*, Blue Atlas Cedar, measures 41 inches in diameter and exceeds the threshold diameter of 30 inches.

For convenience, I have highlighted the Exceptional Trees to the site survey included herein.

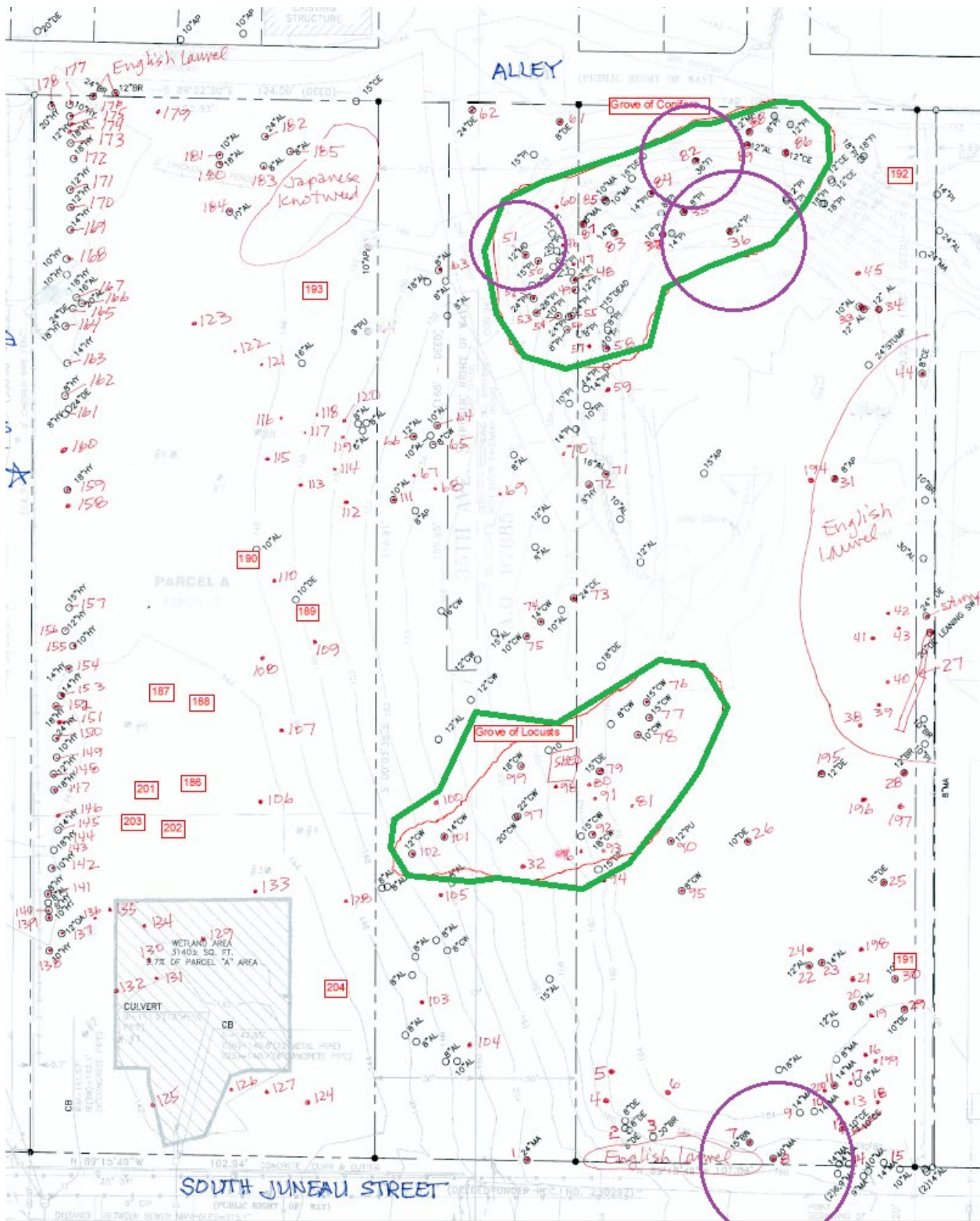
The inventory list also includes about 22 trees that are protected because they exist within groves. The site's tree canopy cover is recorded as being 95.3%. It is within the SE Seattle Reinvestment Area.

Current Zone: NC2-75 (M) (adopted 2019)

Previous Zone: C1-65

Of the 206 units, the number of Affording housing units to be offered?

[View Permit & Complaint Status](#)



I did a site visit yesterday. Its got some nice big ponderosa pine and western white pine. Some madrone, black locust? And others. There site is also highly disturbed by invasive vegetation, with English ivy choking trees, Himalayan blackberry, holly and many large currently flattened areas with downed Japanese knotweed. Its not a pristine site, but there are many trees worth retaining. Many trees are marked with metal numbered tags, suggesting a plant survey was done. R. Ellison

From: Lassie Webster <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2021 4:07 PM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Save Our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

I am prefacing this with a personal message. I live in the Wedgwood area, where big trees are a part of our habitat. Over the past few months I hear chainsaws running every day. Trees that once marked the skyline are gone. Big ones. What is going on here? Do we have any concern about the dangers of clearcutting our city. It's truly upsetting and alarming. I hope Seattle City Council and Department of Construction will take real responsibility and recognize that cutting down trees, unless one is deemed a true hazard, harms life. Please update our tree protections so they are enforceable, and enforced. Better yet, let's educate our citizens, including the construction industry, that trees are vital to the health of our city. And now the rest of the message:

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:

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.

Lassie Webster

lassiewebster@gmail.com

2727 NE 91st Street

Seattle, Washington 98115

From: Lassie Webster <info@email.actionnetwork.org>

Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2021 4:08 PM

To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>

Subject: Please adopt, with amendments, SDCI's Director's Rule 13-2020 NOW. We are losing trees daily!

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.

Lassie Webster

lassiewebster@gmail.com

2727 NE 91st Street

Seattle, Washington 98115

From: Lassie Webster <info@email.actionnetwork.org>

Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2021 4:12 PM

To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>

Subject: The sound of chainsaws every day. It is time to respect the vital importance of trees in our city.

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:

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.

Lassie Webster

lassiewebster@gmail.com

2727 NE 91st Street

Seattle, Washington 98115

From: Daniel Esposito <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2021 4:45 PM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Please adopt, with amendments, SDCI’s Director’s Rule 13-2020

CAUTION: External Email

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Thank you for protecting our urban forest.

Daniel Esposito

despo944@gmail.com

1614 summit ave, Apt 304

Seattle, Washington 98122

From: Daniel Esposito <info@email.actionnetwork.org>

Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2021 4:45 PM

To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>

Subject: Save Our Trees!

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.

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

Daniel Esposito

despo944@gmail.com

1614 summit ave, Apt 304
Seattle, Washington 98122

From: Stuart Niven <panorarbor@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 8:43 AM
To: David Moehring <dmoehring@consultant.com>
Cc: travis.west@davey.com; alexander@barshercapital.com; Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Re: [TREE LOSS] Three significant trees needlessly removed when adding a backyard cottage ADU

CAUTION: External Email

This is a great question David and I would also like to know the answer as to why the three locust trees were recommended for removal? I would also like to know why the report is calling for 'structural pruning' of a neighbour's tree, which has nothing to do with the proposed development of the subject property.

Thank you and kind regards,

Stuart Niven, BA (Hons)

From: dmoehring@consultant.com <dmoehring@consultant.com>
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 8:07 PM
To: PRC <PRC@seattle.gov>
Cc: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: (3916 and) 3914 S Brandon St Seattle clearcut

CAUTION: External Email

Dear Seattle PRC,

Please keep me informed about this south Seattle tree grove without limits to excavation and Likely construction within inner critical root zones:

Address: 3914 S BRANDON ST Project: 3037702-LU

Area: South

Notice Date: 4/26/2021

Project Description

Land Use Application to subdivide one development site into two unit lots. The construction of residential units is under Project #6537158-CN. This subdivision of property is only for the purpose of allowing sale or lease of the unit lots. Development standards will be applied to the original parcel and not to each of the new unit lots.

Comments may be submitted through: 05/10/2021

Please include an excavation depth and extent site plan that show and identify existing trees on adjacent east and west of the proposed vehicle and utilities access easements serving this unit lots relative to criteria 7 of SMC 23.24.

How has permitting from SDCI for #6537158 accommodated tree groves protected by directors rule 16-2008? Rubber fencing and manually installed posts are not barriers... they are always moved.

Trees in the grove:

Tree 1 Big Leaf Maple, diameter 24"

Tree 4 Cottonwood, diameter 30"

Tree 5 Big Leaf Maple, diameter 31"

Tree 6 Big Leaf Maple, diameter 36" Cottonwood next to Tree 4, diameter 24" Green Ash, diameter 25"

Douglas fir, diameter 30" Douglas fir, diameter 32"

Arborist response substantiated by architect and builder ?? :

<http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=3367399>

Plan set:

<http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=5048277>

Thank you,

David Moehring
TreePAC Board Member

Sent using the mobile mail app

Forwarded email

From: "Land Use Information Bulletin"
<sdci@subscriptions.seattle.gov>

Date: April 26, 2021

To: dmoehring@consultant.com

Cc:

Subject: Land Use Information Bulletin is Now Available



Seattle Department of
Construction & Inspections



April 26, 2021

LUIB is Now Available

Today's [Public Notices Summary](#) is now available for you to review. *The link above will give you the most recently published Public Notice Summary.* To create a custom notice summary by publish date, use our [custom public notice report tool](#). To view the notices:

1. Click on [Public Notices](#) under Find Existing on the portal home page.
2. Select the Publish Date - From and Publish Date - To date range.
Tip: Click the calendar and then select the Today link at the very bottom to quickly navigate to the correct date.
3. You will get a list of the public notices for the date range.

This email was sent from a send-only mailbox. Please do NOT reply to this e-mail.

[Read the Notice Summary](#)

Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections
Address: 700 5th Ave, Suite 2000, Seattle, WA, 98104

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 34019, Seattle, WA, 98124-4019

Phone: 206-684-8600

Alt Phone: Violation Complaint Line: 206-615-0808



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This email was sent to dmoehring@consultant.com using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of:
City of Seattle · 707 17th St, Suite 4000 · Denver, CO 80202



From: Desiree Patterson <dizzle2490@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 28, 2021 6:50 AM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Tree codes

CAUTION: External Email

If Seattle wants to increase the tree canopy why can't a code be implemented that forces developers to include green space on new developments? Penalizing only homeowners is unfair. In order to prevent urban sprawl and protect forests that haven't been completely devastated like Seattle, Seattle has to develop. Why couldn't building be incentivized with a land value tax? Why can't tax breaks be given to developers that include green space. Protecting trees prone to fungal infections and non native trees that don't provide the best habitat for wildlife makes no sense. Nobody wants to live in a sea of grey boxes.

From: Judith Leshner <jack2729rabbit@earthlink.net>
Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 10:17 PM
To: council@seattle.gov; Lewis, Andrew <Andrew.Lewis@seattle.gov>
Cc: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>; Emery, Chanda <Chanda.Emery@Seattle.gov>; Torgelson, Nathan <Nathan.Torgelson@seattle.gov>; Friends of Seattle's Urban Forest <steve@friends.urbanforests.org>; TreeAmbassador <TreeAmbassador@seattle.gov>
Subject: Take Action on Updating Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance SDCI's Director's Rule 13-2020

CAUTION: External Email

Good Day:

Monday morning, May 3, I heard a chainsaw nearby so I walked a block to find workers from Seattle Tree Care taking down a small birch tree and noticed that a big red oak was also slightly limbed and asked if they were taking that tree down, too. Yes. The owner wants it down. I asked about a permit and they assured me that they had a permit and were knowledgeable about Seattle's Tree Ordinance. Here again was a beautiful, healthy and valuable tree being cut down.

Why are you members of the City Council so reluctant to act to adopt the painstaking work done by so many people to update the current tree ordinance? This lost healthy tree will no longer provide shade or clean our air and water. And, this needless destruction will continue to occur throughout our city until you people recognize how truly costly this is to all of us.

Seattle Tree Care used Director's Rule 16-2008 showing the list of trees with red and pin oaks at 2 feet 6 inches. This is outdated. They sent me a picture showing the tape measure on the tree. If you had updated the Tree Protection Ordinance, this tree would still be standing.

Attached are some pictures to help you see the loss. Please finish this work. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Judith Leshner
2568 10th Ave W
Seattle, WA 98119
jack2729rabbit@earthlink.net





From: Janet Way <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, May 7, 2021 7:59 AM
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,

It is way past time to pass this Tree Ordinance!

Save existing trees Seattle! This summer the Heat Island Effect will again become obvious!

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).

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Thank you for protecting our urban forest.

Janet Way

janetway@yahoo.com

940 NE 147th St

Shoreline , Washington 98155

From: Patricia Murphy <murphy.patricia@live.com>

Sent: Monday, May 10, 2021 8:18 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,

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Patricia Murphy

murphy.patricia@live.com

8835 Burke Ave N

Seattle, Washington 98103

From: Patricia Murphy <murphy.patricia@live.com>
Sent: Monday, May 10, 2021 8:22 PM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Strengthen Seattle's Tree Ordinance

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.

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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.

Patricia Murphy

murphy.patricia@live.com

8835 Burke Ave N

Seattle, Washington 98103

From: Jon Michael Willson <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Monday, May 10, 2021 9:53 PM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Update Seattle’s Tree Ordinance

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.

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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.

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

Jon Michael Willson
debrouillard777@hotmail.com
1358 West Armour Street
Seattle, Washington 98119

From: Jon Michael Willson <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Monday, May 10, 2021 9:57 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.

Jon Michael Willson
debrouillard777@hotmail.com

1358 West Armour Street
Seattle, Washington 98119

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,

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

Mary Keeler

mkeeler@uw.edu

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

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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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!

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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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

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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Mary McDaniel

m3@pacifichearingconservation.com

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, SDCI’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:

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- 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."
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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”.
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- 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

christyavery@yahoo.com

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,

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- 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”.

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Thank you for protecting our urban forest.

Cindy Johnson

britdanhuj@aol.com

5105 1st Ave NW

Seattle, Washington 98107