

Seattle Urban Forest Management Workshop

Getting the Biggest Bang for Your Buck

Your Budget: \$200

Options for Additional Work*

GOAL 1: BETTER UNDERSTAND THE TREE RESOURCE AND IMPROVE MANAGEMENT TOOLS

Why: To inform maintenance, planting plans and community outreach and assist in establishing priorities

Options for Additional Work

Item #	Description	Price	Spent	Votes
1	Inventory a representative sample of Parks & SDOT trees and model the benefits	\$ 50	\$0	0
2	Inventory a representative sample of all trees (public and private property) and model the benefits	\$120	\$280	2.3
3	Study the effects of climate change on the current tree population (pests, weather, groundwater etc.) and evaluate the need to adapt planting and maintenance plans	\$40	\$110	2.75
4	Study canopy cover effects on views, solar access, property values across land uses to evaluate management and outreach implications and inform policy (e.g. should we protect solar access rights from a neighbor's tree shading)	\$30	\$100	3.3
5	Define goals for the age/size/species distribution for each of the different land use categories	\$30	\$90	3
6	Develop long-term management strategies for the major land use categories	\$40	\$280	7
7	Update the City's Best Management Practices (BMPs) for tree and forest maintenance	\$20	\$120	6

GOAL 2: IMPROVE TREE MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Why: To preserve and properly manage existing trees to promote health, longevity and safety and maximize the ecological, economic, and social benefits of existing trees

Options for Additional Work

Item #	Description	Price	Spent	Votes
8	Add an additional tree crew in Parks Department to allow more proactive maintenance –shift from 18-year pruning cycle to 15-year cycle	\$170	\$230	1.4
9	Add an additional tree crew in Seattle Transportation to allow more proactive maintenance –shift from 13-year pruning cycle to 9-year cycle	\$170	\$430	2.5
10	Develop an improved tree maintenance tracking system to better monitor activities that contribute to the variety of management goals (tree structure, pest management, hazard abatement, storm damage clean up etc)	\$40	\$200	5
11	Integrate tree inventory data into work load management systems to better plan tree care/planting and to provide for regular updating of inventory data	\$60	\$0	0

* The lists of Options for Additional Work are intended to reflect a range of opportunities and are not intended to encompass all possible options for future work.

GOAL 3: BETTER ENGAGE THE COMMUNITY IN STEWARDSHIP OF THE URBAN FOREST

Why: The majority of the existing and future urban forest is on private property or is managed in part by residents, like street trees, therefore an aware and engaged community is necessary to the urban forest’s long term health.

Options for Additional Work

Item #	Description	Price	Spent	Votes
12	Create a commission to advise the City on tree policy, program, and regulatory issues	\$70	\$470	6.7
13	Create community access through the City’s website to neighborhood level canopy data	\$20	\$120	6
14	Collaborate with non-profit(s) to conduct a neighborhood tree survey to enhance community awareness of tree issues and supplement City information about private trees	\$30	\$260	8.7
15	Collaborate with non-profits and community organizations on outreach (e.g. neighborhood tree walks/maps, volunteer events, workshops, tailored presentations etc)	\$40	\$340	8.5
16	Work with schools to plant trees on school grounds	\$60	\$120	2
17	Collaborate with organizations already working with schools and youth to incorporate urban forest messages into their programs	\$30	\$160	5.3

Note: There is no #18

GOAL 4 : ENHANCE TREE PRESERVATION AND PLANTING THROUGH REGULATIONS AND INCENTIVES

Why: Mature trees provide greater environmental, economic and social benefits than young trees. Tree planting is essential to meet the 30% canopy cover goal and enhance tree species diversity etc.

Options for Additional Work

Item #	Description	Price	Spent	Votes
19	Update street tree protection regulations and add resources to administer and enforce new requirements	\$100	\$320	3.2
20	Create improved permanent tree protection regulatory framework	\$20	\$510	25.5
21	Create neighborhood tree giveaway program for privately-owned residential property (yards not ROW)	\$50	\$350	7
22	Develop online tree removal permit	\$10	\$210	21
23	Make tree removal permit free	\$100	\$10	0.1
24	Increase enforcement staff by half-time employee to enforce new tree protection regulations	\$50	\$420	8.4