

Seattle Urban Forestry Commission

Matt Mega, Chair • John Small, Vice-Chair • Nancy Bird • Gordon Bradley
John Floberg • John Hushagen • Jeff Reibman • Peg Staeheli

May 11, 2011

Tom Hauger
Department of Planning and Development
700 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1900
Seattle, WA 98124

RE: Urban Forestry Commission Proposed City of Seattle Comprehensive Plan Environmental Element policy recommendations for the 2012 Annual Update

Dear Tom,

The Seattle Urban Forestry Commission (UFC) would like to propose to update policies of the City of Seattle Comprehensive Plan's Environmental Element to better reflect and be consistent with the City's Urban Forestry Management Plan and current canopy management approach.

The following updates are suggested:

C – Natural Systems Approach

E9.5

~~Strive to a~~Achieve no net loss of tree canopy coverage ~~starting in 2008,~~ and strive to increase tree canopy ~~coverage by 1 percent per year up~~ to ~~a total of~~ 40 percent, to reduce storm runoff, absorb air pollutants, reduce noise, stabilize soil, provide habitat, and mitigate the heat island effect of developed areas.

H – Seattle's Trees

E23

~~Strive to a~~Achieve no net loss of tree canopy coverage ~~starting in 2008,~~ and strive to increase tree canopy ~~coverage by 1 percent per year up~~ to ~~a total of~~ 40 percent, to reduce storm runoff, absorb air pollutants, reduce noise, stabilize soil, provide habitat, and mitigate the heat island effect of developed areas.

E24

Update the 2000 tree canopy inventory in the Urban Forest Management Plan at least every 10 years to measure progress toward the goal of increased canopy coverage.

We will be happy to provide additional information to support the update process.

Sincerely,



Matt Mega, Chair
Seattle Urban Forestry Commission



Nancy Bird
Recommendation Author
Seattle Urban Forestry Commission

cc: Mayor Mike McGinn, Council President Richard Conlin, Councilmember Bagshaw, Councilmember Burgess, Councilmember Clark, Councilmember Godden, Councilmember Harrell, Councilmember Licata, Councilmember Rasmussen, Councilmember O'Brien, Diane Sugimura, Jill Simmons, Marshall Foster, Brennon Staley, Michael Jenkins, Christa Valles

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