

Seattle Urban Forestry Commission

Peg Staeheli, Chair • Tom Early, Vice-Chair
Gordon Bradley • Leif Fixen • Matt Mega • Jeff Reibman • Erik Rundell • Steve Zemke

February 24, 2014.

Mayor Ed Murray and Councilmember Sally Bagshaw
City Hall
600 Fourth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

RE: Urban Forestry Commission 2013 Annual Report

Dear Mayor Murray and Councilmember Bagshaw,

The Urban Forestry Commission is pleased to submit the enclosed 2013 Urban Forestry Commission Annual Report, as required by Ordinance 123052.

In 2013, the fourth year of the Urban Forestry Commission, several milestones were achieved that will have lasting benefits for Seattle's urban forest.

1. Working closely with City Council staff and the Urban Forest Interdepartmental Team, the Commission completed the 2013 Urban Forest Stewardship Plan. The Plan was adopted by City Council and several actions have been identified by Council for early implementation;
2. The Commission played an important role in securing and expanding funding for our urban forest, with letters of recommendation going to City Council and the Mayor's Office to support the Green Seattle Partnership, non-profit City Fruit, and the Seattle reLeaf program.
3. The Commission played a critical role in 2013 in providing a forum for public dialogue on tree preservation. This dialogue resulted in several letters and a position paper regarding recommendations for more tree-friendly development practices and pruning guidelines.

We are looking forward to working closely with your office, City departments, and City Council on supporting the City's effort to achieve 30 percent canopy cover by 2037 and helping our city reap the many benefits that derive from a healthy urban forest.

Sincerely,

Peg Staeheli, Chair
Seattle Urban Forestry Commission

cc: Council President Burgess, Councilmember Sally Clark, Councilmember Godden, Councilmember Harrell, Councilmember Licata, Councilmember Rasmussen, Councilmember O'Brien, Councilmember Sawant, Deputy Mayor Hyeok Kim, Deputy Mayor Andrea Riniker, Steve Lee, Meg Moorehead, Eric McConaghy

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