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DRAFT v2

September 2, 2015

Jesús Aguirre, Superintendent
Seattle Parks and Recreation
100 Dexter Ave N
Seattle, WA 98109

Dear Superintendent Aguirre,

The Urban Forestry Commission would like to welcome you to Seattle and congratulate you on your appointment to lead Seattle Parks and Recreation (Parks).

The Commission was established in 2009 to advise the Mayor and City Council concerning the establishment of policy and regulations governing the protection, management, and conservation of trees and vegetation in the City of Seattle.

The Commission along with Parks, OSE, other City agencies and City Council, actively participated in the production of the 2013 Urban Forest Stewardship Plan (UFSP) which sets a canopy cover goal of 80% for Park's Natural Areas and 25% for Developed Parks, which represent 7% and 4% of Seattle's land area respectively. The UFSP citywide canopy cover goal is 30%.

The Commission has been involved in Parks' important work in support of our urban forest, including:

- Green Seattle Partnership
- Pruning of public trees to accommodate private views
- City Fruit's stewardship of Seattle's public orchards
- Cheasty Greenspace Mountain Bike Pilot Project
- Seattle's Parks District
- Two-for-one Tree Replacement Policy
- Washington Park Arboretum Multi-use Trail, and
- Parks' Supplemental Use Guidelines for Natural Areas/Greenbelts.

Moving forward, the Commission is especially interested in maintaining Developed Parks and Natural Areas/Greenbelts canopy as a way to provide access to nature in Seattle while also mitigating pollution, and providing habitat.

The Commission is excited to work with you on efforts to support Seattle's urban forest. We invite you to attend one of our meetings.

Sincerely,

Cc: Christopher Williams, Dan Johnson, Doug Critchfield, Jon Jainga, Deborah Brown, Erick McConaghy