



Colman Park Vista Project



May 10, 2017

Site location

COLMAN VISTA RESTORATION



Site location

COLMAN VISTA RESTORATION



Project Site:

- "Upper" Colman
- "Colman Vista"
- "Upper slope"
- "West entryway"

Borders:

- S Massachusetts St
- S Holgate St
- Colman Park P-Patch
- 31st Ave S



Friends of Colman Park Vista

COLMAN VISTA RESTORATION



Founded: March 18, 2014
Members: ~218

Representation:
Mt. Baker, Lakewood, Seward Park,
Leschi communities and beyond

Neighborhood Matching Grant

Objectives

- Public process
- Assessments:
 - Plant Community
 - Slope
- Design Concepts & VMP

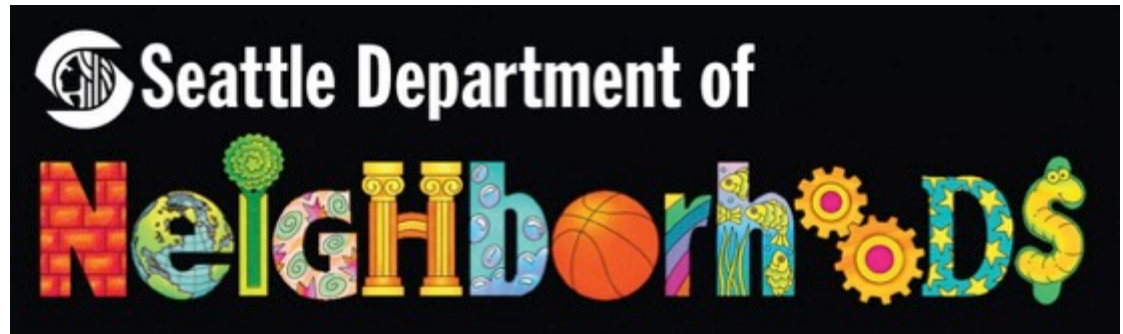


photo courtesy of Friends of Colman Park Vista

Vision

COLMAN VISTA RESTORATION



Improve ecological functionality

- Remove and discourage invasive species
- Plant a multi-layered, diverse canopy
- Prevent erosion, sloughing and slumping
- Protect and expand native restoration efforts

Invite and encourage park use

- Create easily identifiable, welcoming entry areas
- Repair pathways and encourage light with low growing plants
- Improve safety and make it apparent that "this is a park"
- Beautify the slope

Functionality for all

- Engage interest for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists
- Draw people in, bring neighbors together
- Slow down activity along 31st Ave S
- Address equity and neglect concerns

Restore Olmsted vision

- Create beautiful entry befitting of this historically significant park
- "Borrow" Lake Washington, Cascades, Mercer Island and Mt Rainier landscapes



Community Support

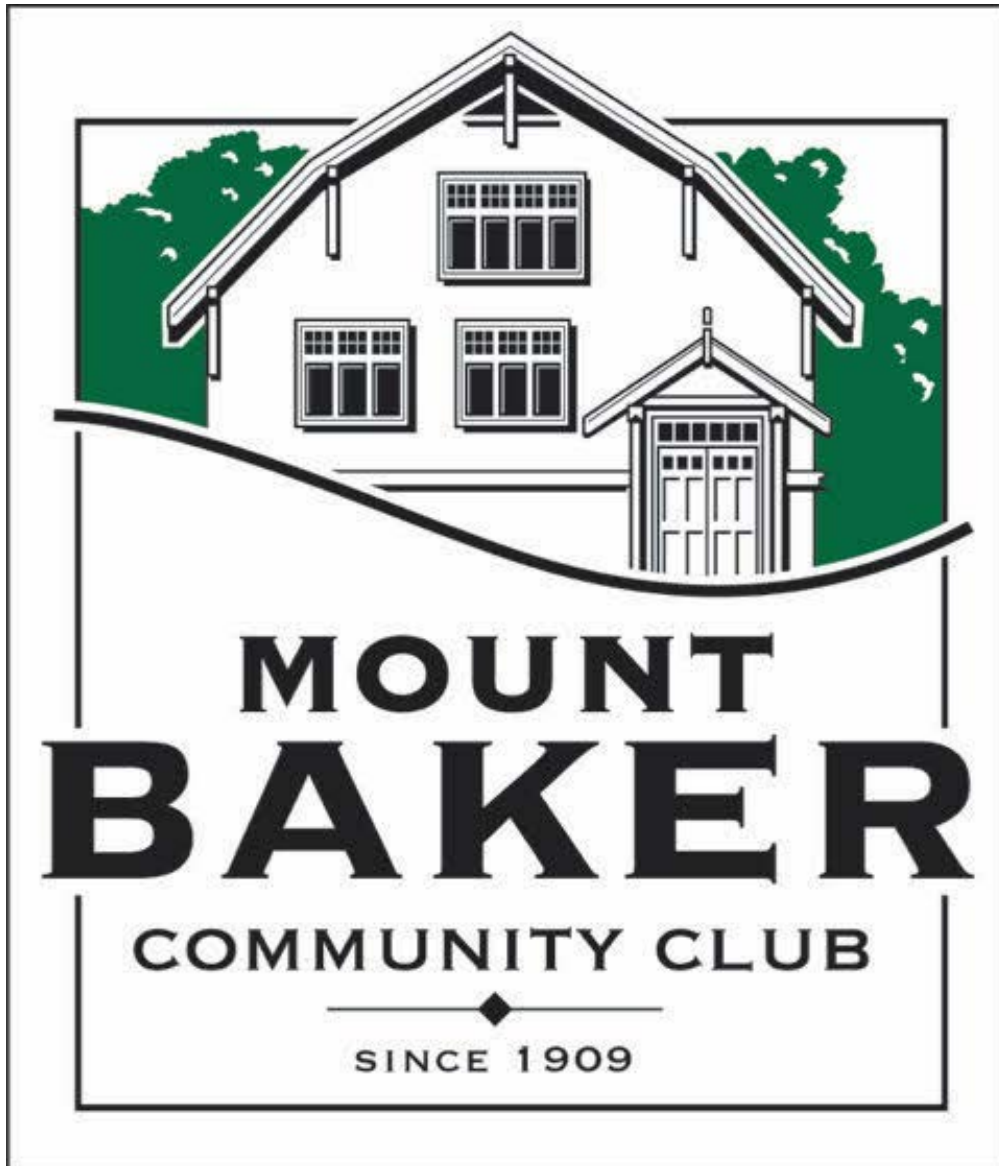
COLMAN VISTA RESTORATION



Oluska

Community Support (continued)

COLMAN VISTA RESTORATION



- **Friends of Colman Park** groups (this spans a quarter century)
- **The Colman Park P-Patch**
- **The Green Seattle Partnership**
Forrest Steward for Colman Park

Environmental Restoration

COLMAN VISTA RESTORATION



Founded in 1996 by Ann Lennartz, Starflower Foundation assisted with the creation, rehabilitation, and stewardship of Pacific Northwest native plant communities in Seattle, Washington, by supporting citizen-driven restoration and education projects.

Anderson & Ray Landscape Architecture

Hired by the Starflower Foundation to design plans for native plant restoration projects around Seattle including Colman Park and the current project site. Charles Anderson is recognized by the American Society of Landscape Architects for combining nature, community needs, and art into his designs, emphasizing sustainability, indigenous plants and urban ecology.

Friends of Colman Park

The Friends of Colman Park organized in 1993 as a result of the concerns of many neighbors that the park was unsafe and lacked adequate maintenance. From 1993-2000, Craig Wagner and Greg Morris co-chaired the Friends of Colman Park. From 2000-2010 the group was chaired by Nannette Martin. Friends of Colman Park has been re-established by this project after a seven year dormancy. Friends of Colman Park is an example of tireless citizen advocacy and stewardship over many decades.



In 2004, the Green Seattle Partnership was formed. The Green Seattle Partnership is a collaborative effort between the City of Seattle, Forterra, and a community of partners working together to create a sustainable network of healthy forested parkland throughout Seattle, supported by an aware, engaged public.

Environmental Restoration

COLMAN VISTA RESTORATION



From 1993-2000, Craig Wagner and Greg Morris co-chaired the Friends of Colman Park. During the seven years of their tenure, thousands of volunteer work hours took place in the park and they raised over \$600,000 in public and private funds for use on park improvements.

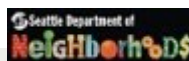
In 1996 Starflower Foundation began assisting Friends of Colman Park. Removal of non-native plants and replanting with natives began in some management zones in 1997 and 1998, and others in 2000. From 1997 through 2006, more than 100,000 native plants were planted in ten different management zones at Colman Park.



2005 native restoration planting Photo courtesy of Friends of Colman Park

Environmental Restoration

COLMAN VISTA RESTORATION



Urban Forestry Services, Inc.





Urban Forestry Services, Inc.



UPPER COLMAN PARK
SEATTLE, WA

NOTE:
THIS PLAN IS SCHEMATIC ONLY.
IT DOES NOT TAKE INTO
CONSIDERATION EXISTING
VEGETATION.

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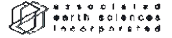


Friends of Colman Park 2017

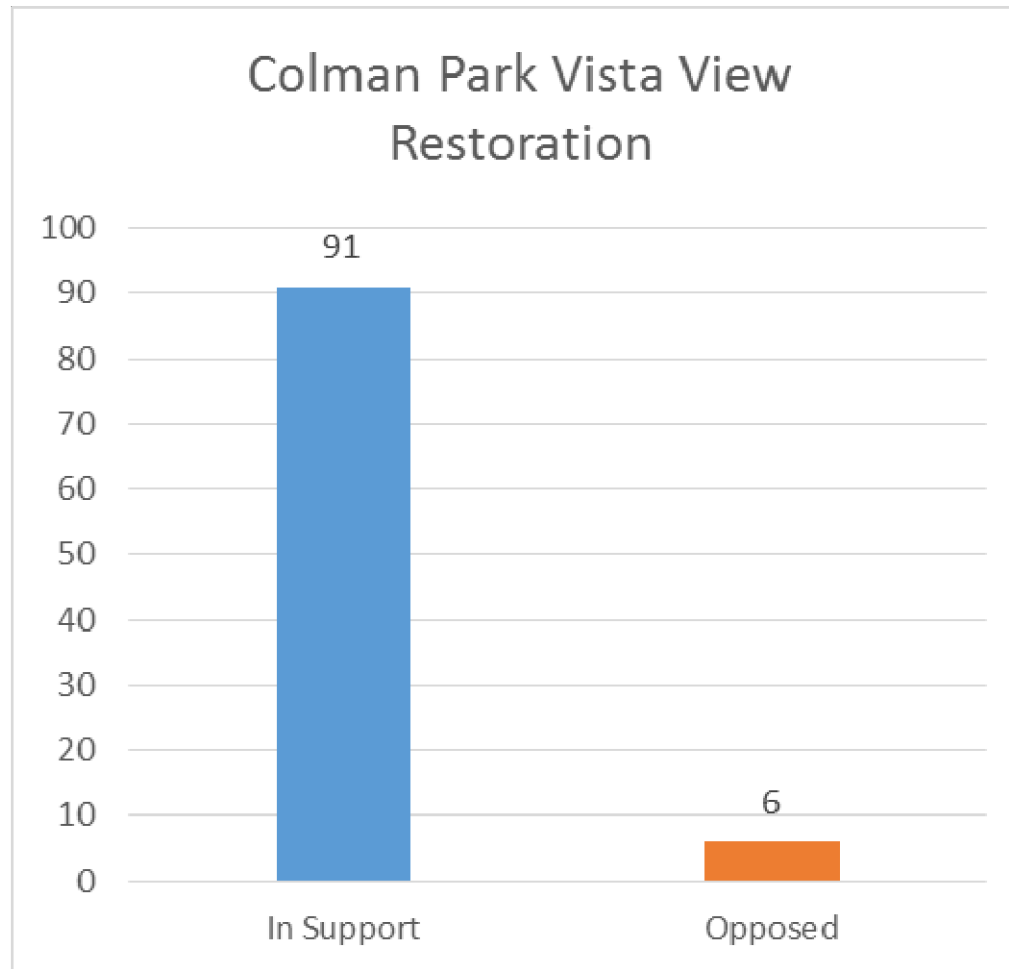


Summary of Process

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Comments Received Through the Public Process



Upper Colman Over Time

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1978

Upper Colman Over Time

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1978

May 10, 2016

Upper Colman Over Time

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1984 Photo courtesy of Friends of ColmanPark Vista.

Upper Colman Over Time

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1991. Photocourtesyof Friends of ColmanPark Vista.

Upper Colman Over Time

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2015 Photo courtesy of Friends of ColmanPark Vista.

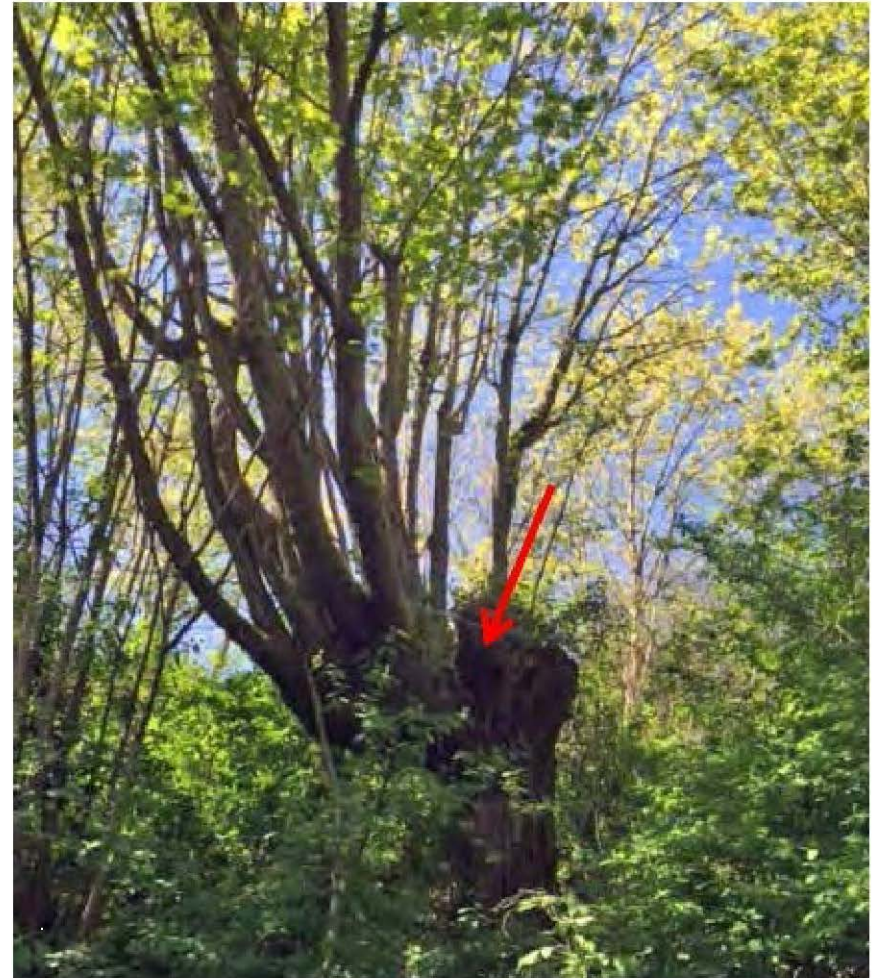
Landscape Ecology - Overview

COLMAN VISTA RESTORATION



Stump sprout trees are unsustainable over long-term

- Poor forest structure
- “Stump sprout” architecture is inherently weak
- Basal trunk decay observed



Landscape Ecology - Overview

COLMAN VISTA RESTORATION







Optimal Landscape Structure

COLMAN VISTA RESTORATION



Retain the best of existing vegetation

- Add adapted companion plantings of appropriate size and scale
- Incorporate wood and stumps into the landscape structure
- A sustainable approach to establishing a functional plant community

Low-growing vegetation next to trails

- Reduced maintenance requirements

Multi-layered woodland plant community for the steep slope

- Mix of evergreen and deciduous trees, shrubs, ferns and perennials
- Shrubs that spread via underground shoots (Snowberry, Oregon Grape, etc.)
- Densely planted low-story and groundcover
- Combination of natives and compatible garden species



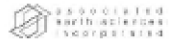
Example of trail edge with low growing vegetation, Washington Park Arboretum. Photo courtesy of Chris Pfeiffer.

Geotechnical Summary

COLMAN VISTA RESTORATION



Urban Forestry Services, Inc.



Overall Stability

- No recent activity
- No significant settlement, tilting, or cracking of road and sidewalk

Stormwater Management

- Curbs prevent direct runoff from road or sidewalk
- No daylighting pipes observed

Stability

- No evidence of significant erosion
- No evidence of recent sloughing
- No evidence of recent slumping



Tree Removal Considerations

- Overall stable soil conditions
- Existing deciduous trees provide shallow soil support
- Removal feasible if shallow root network is restored

Hillslope Restoration

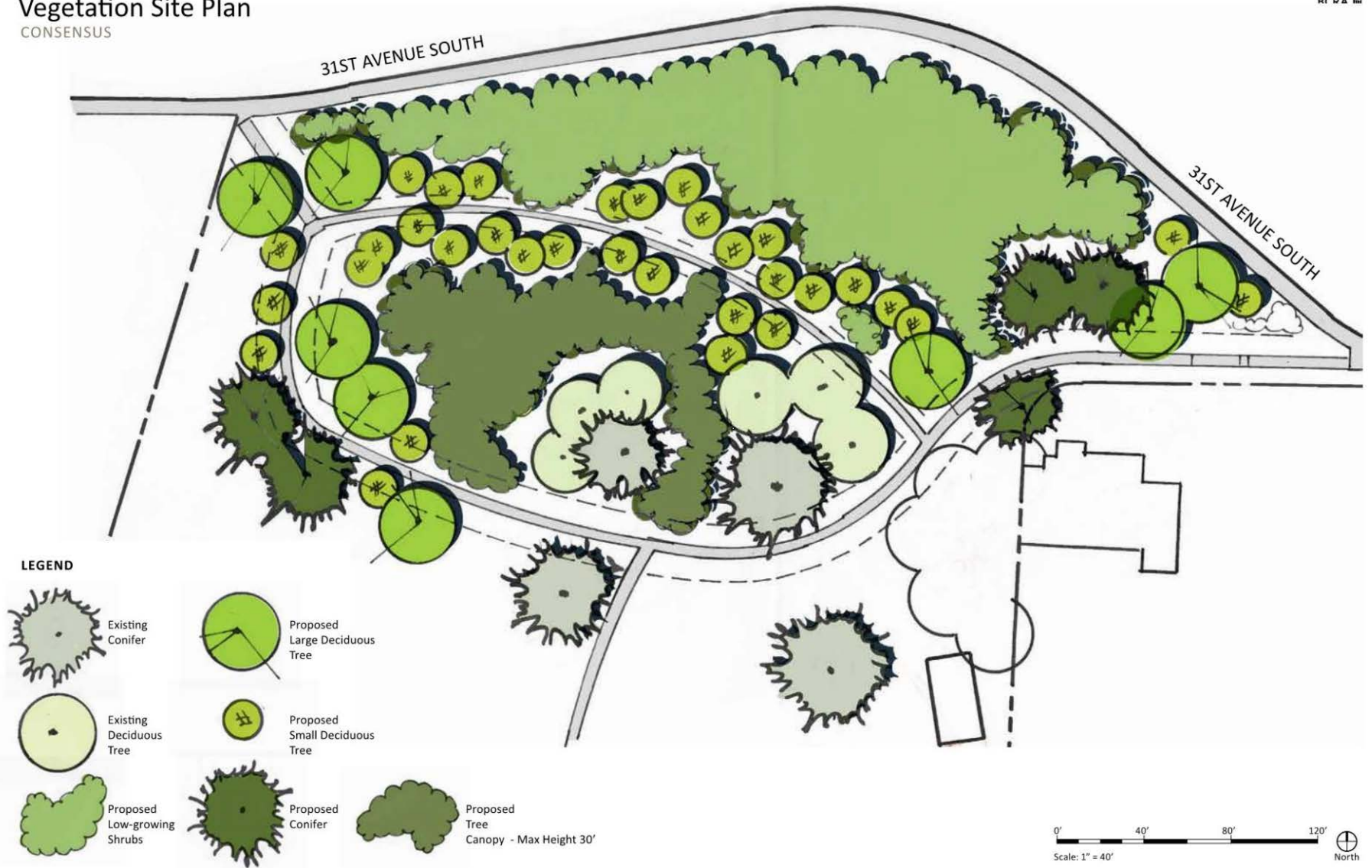
- Slope disturbance should be minimized during all work
- Bare/Disturbed areas should be protected with matting, wattles
- Slope should be replanted with groundcover immediately



Vegetation Site Plan

CONSENSUS

RCDPA



Vegetation Zones Plan

CONSENSUS



