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**DRAFT**

April 10, 2019.

Mayor Jenny A. Durkan and City Councilmembers  
City Hall  
600 Fourth Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98124

RE: Urban Forestry Commission 2018 Annual Report as required by Ordinance 123052

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers,

The Urban Forestry Commission (UFC) was established 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.

Enclosed is the 2018 annual report which provides a summary of the UFC's activities. In 2018 the UFC continued to work towards a long overdue update for the City's tree code and other associated policies. This past year also saw the important launch of the planning process for the update to the Seattle Urban Forest Management Plan. This critical document will be updated next year, and include not only improved data, but a comprehensive social and environmental equity ~~competent~~component as well as a focus on interactions between the urban forest and public health providing us with our best guide yet for preserving and expanding Seattle's forests.

The UFC expanded its ranks this past year, onboarding seven new commissioners. The UFC looks forward to continuing to incorporate new perspectives in its work and will be looking for more community engagement opportunities as part of the 2019 workplan.

The UFC looks forward to engaging more collaboratively through in-person deliberative sessions to support development of City policies, plans and regulations related to the urban forest. With a strong focus on continuing to move the tree protection ordinance update forward and pass the ordinance in 2019.