

## SEATTLE URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION

Weston Brinkley (Position #3 – University), Chair • Sarah Rehder (Position #4 – Hydrologist), Vice-chair Julia Michalak (Position #1 – Wildlife Biologist) • Elby Jones (Position #2 – Urban Ecologist - ISA)
Stuart Niven (Position #5 – Arborist – ISA) • Michael Walton (Position #6 – Landscape Architect – ISA)
Joshua Morris (Position #7 – NGO) • Blake Voorhees (Position # 9 – Realtor)
Elena Arakaki (Position #10 – Get Engaged) • Whit Bouton (Position #11 – Environmental Justice - ISA)
Jessica Jones (Position # 12 – Public Health) • Shari Selch (Position # 13 – Community/Neighborhood)

The Urban Forestry Commission 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

> Meeting notes November 18, 2020, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Via Webex call (206) 207-1700 Meeting number: 146 337 1197 Meeting password: 1234

In-person attendance is currently prohibited per the Washington Governor's Proclamation 20-28. Meeting participation is limited to access by joining the meeting through a computer or telephone conference line.

## Attending

- <u>Commissioners</u> Weston Brinkley – Chair Sarah Rehder - Vice-Chair Elena Arakaki Elby Jones Julia Michalak Josh Morris Stuart Niven
- Absent- Excused Whit Bouton Jessica Jones Shari Selch Michael Walton Blake Voorhees

<u>Staff</u> Sandra Pinto Urrutia - OSE Charlie Spear - SDCI Chanda Emery - SDCI

<u>Public</u> Jim Davis Steve Zemke

NOTE: Meeting notes are not exhaustive. For more details, listen to the digital recording of the meeting at: <u>http://www.seattle.gov/urbanforestrycommission/meetingdocs.htm</u>

## Call to order:

Weston called the meeting to order with a land acknowledgement:

The Urban Forestry Commission acknowledges that Seattle occupies traditional and unceded land of the Coast-Salish people. And acknowledge the Coast Salish people's stewardship of the land and its trees. We respect and honor their kinship with the forest and natural environment.

Sandra mentioned that feedback provided on the land acknowledgement was to specifically mention the Duwamish Tribe. Sandra reminded the group that Chair and Vice-chair elections will take place on the last meeting of the year, and asked people to submit nominations (including self-nominations) by 11/27. Nominees will have an opportunity to address the group on 12/2 and voting will take place on 12/9.

Weston offered to answer any questions having to do with the chair role.

Weston also mentioned that interviews for Position #8 (Development representative) took place and that the interview panel submitted a recommendation for appointment to the Mayor. The process is currently underway.

## Public comment:

Steve Zemke brought attention to the fact that there was an error on the Webex meeting number and he was not able to log on. He sent an email to Sandra with input on the budget process to inform the letter the UFC is writing (Council is meetings on 11/18 and 11/19 to go over adopting the budget). There are four items that were being considered having to do with urban forestry. He didn't find two of them as moving forward, but the document is pretty large, and he only did a cursory review. Council will be voting on Monday to finalize the 2021 budget. He has been focusing on the budget process and hasn't had a chance to dive into the UFMP.

## NOTE: Meeting notes are not exhaustive. For more details, especially the group discussion, please listen to the digital recording of the meeting at:

http://www.seattle.gov/urbanforestrycommission/meetingdocs.htm

## Racial Equity Toolkit for SDCI tree regulations update

Charlie Spear is currently working on applying the City's Racial Equity Toolkit to the work SDCI is doing on updating tree regulations.

Some of the proposals currently being considered include:

- Requiring permits for tree removal on private property.
- Requiring mitigation for tree removal, which can be done by planting new trees on site, or by making a payment in lieu if tree planting onsite is not possible or desirable.
- Setting new limits on how many significant trees can be removed, and
- Requiring tree service providers to sign an acknowledgement that they know the City's tree protection requirements.

The racial equity toolkit (RET) process includes:

- Identifying desired outcomes
- Involve stakeholders and analyze data
- Determine benefits and/or burdens
- Advance opportunities and reduce harms, and
- Evaluate, be accountable, and report back

The project's racial equity outcomes are:

- Ensure urban forestry benefits and responsibilities are shared fairly across communities, particularly BIPOC (Black, indigenous, and people of color) communities.
- Reduce the disproportionate negative impacts to BIPOC communities due to having fewer trees

- Specifically, reduce the burdens of tree regulations implementation and enforcement on BIPOC communities.

There are several outreach efforts done by the City that this project can leverage:

- Significant work done in 2018-2019 for the Urban Forest Management Plan update
- 2016 tree canopy cover assessment
- Equity & Environment Agenda
- Duwamish Valley Action Plan

The team has identified a deficiency in all these efforts, which is to do outreach to renters.

Examples of what the team has learned:

- BIPOC communities tend to have lower tree canopy (20% on average as compared to the 28% citywide average)
- Trees are important to BIPOC communities, and they want to partner with the City to increase canopy cover in their communities. They have concerns and fears about regulations and remedies, including:
  - Expense of tree planting and maintenance
  - Possible contribution to reduced housing supply
  - Possible contribution to gentrification and displacement
- Lack of trust in government can influence participation and views about regulations
- White, affluent communities can better afford tree maintenance, and have greater influence over city policies.

Some issues the team is exploring:

- The complexity of private property tree regulations, requiring a strong engagement effort in order to elicit informed input from a variety of stakeholders
- The need to balance other priorities (i.e. high rents, shortage of affordable housing, budget pressures from pandemic and recession) with these proposals for increased tree protection on private property.
- Possible disproportionate impact of regulations on BIPOC communities due to factors such as:
  - o Language barriers
  - Access to information
  - $\circ \quad \text{Distrust of government}$
  - o Disparities in financial resources

## Next steps in RET

- Continue reaching out and gathering data
  - o Renter's Commission
  - Partner with Department of Neighborhoods' community liaisons
  - Internal stakeholders
- Draft Racial Equity Toolkit form
  - Benefits and burdens
  - Actions to advance opportunity and to minimize harm
- Review draft with stakeholders and affected communities
- Start implementing actions and evaluating

Charlie would like the UFC to provide:

- Any feedback, guidance or ideas Commissioners might have to offer
- Review the RET draft when ready and provide feedback.

## **City Budget discussion – possible letter**

The group discussed the draft letter.

ACTION: A motion to approve the 2021 Budget Letter of Recommendation to the Mayor and Council as amended was made, seconded, and approved.

NOTE: Meeting notes are not exhaustive. For more details, especially the group discussion, please listen to the digital recording of the meeting at: <u>http://www.seattle.gov/urbanforestrycommission/meetingdocs.htm</u>

**Public comment:** Steve Zemke believes the UFMP needs to place more emphasis on SDCI's work. The Comprehensive plan needs to be followed due to the impacts on trees. The UFC should consider how to encourage tree protection as we continue to grow. There will be more specific coming up.

Adjourn: Weston adjourned the meeting.

Public input: (see next page and posted notes)

From: jebendich@comcast.net <jebendich@comcast.net>

Sent: Thursday, November 5, 2020 1:15 PM

To: Mosqueda, Teresa <Teresa.Mosqueda@seattle.gov>; LEG\_CouncilMembers <council@seattle.gov>Cc: Pedersen, Alex <Alex.Pedersen@seattle.gov>; Thaler, Toby <Toby.Thaler@seattle.gov>; Parikh, Sejal<Sejal.Parikh@seattle.gov>; House, Erin <Erin.House@seattle.gov>; Pinto Urrutia, Sandra<Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>

**Subject:** RE: Budget meeting on November 10, 2020. Please approve Councilmember Pederson's proposals re tree canopy.

**CAUTION: External Email** 

Dear Chairperson Mosqueda and Members of the City Council,

Thank you for your leadership for people of color and underserved communities. Among the needs of these communities is additional tree canopy.

Seattle has been losing large quantities of tree canopy due to lack of enforcement of the tree ordinance that now exists and because the current tree ordinance (over 12 years-old), despite Council resolutions and mayoral orders, has not been amended. Additionally, due to a dearth of tree canopy in areas of the City that are predominantly people of color and people with few economic resources, these suffer the brunt of continued pollution, warmer temperatures, greater water run-off, increased wealth problems and well-being, that can be vastly improved by trees. The so-called "Emerald City" needs to get real about tree-canopy loss and its impact on marginalized communities. I urge you to approve Councilmember Petersen's proposals:

- Please approve these two budget actions put forward by Councilmember Pedersen to better understand displacement and affordable housing in Seattle:
  - SLI-OSE-006-A-001 to explore consolidating tree protections under the Office of Sustainability and Environment with involvement of the Urban Forestry Commission; and
  - CBA-SDCI-011-A-001 to require SDCI to produce the stronger tree ordinance as soon as possible.
- The City has for many years tried to make a multi-departmental approach to tree management work, currently spread across 9 departments! The auditor indicated in a 2009 report that multiple managers of the resource was not working. An extensive multi-agency study completed in 2017 concluded that "Current code is not supporting tree protection." During that time, the tree canopy has been declining and we are losing numerous large trees. Decentralized oversight of Seattle's urban forest has had its chance, but it is not working.
- In 2019, the Council passed Resolution 31902 spelling out the elements and timeline for SDCI to prepare a new tree ordinance and transmit it to the Council for consideration. It is time for the Council to use its 'power of the purse' to require compliance with its policies.
- Loss of the ecological services provided by urban forests adversely impacts the City's infrastructure and communities. Impacts are greatest on BIPOC and low income communities; this is an equity issue and must be addressed now.
- Washington is the "Evergreen State" and Seattle is the "Emerald City." Trees provide numerous benefits including carbon sequestration, absorption of rainwater to reduce harmful runoff into Puget Sound and Lake Washington, shade for cooling during the warmer months,

and proven health benefits. The bigger the tree, the better. As we take a long overdue, serious look at racial injustice issues, we know some communities of color have fewer large trees and are having them removed more often.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Judith E. Bendich 1754 NE 62<sup>nd</sup> St. Seattle, WA 98115 (206) 525-5914

From: heidi calyxsite.com <heidi@calyxsite.com>
Sent: Monday, November 9, 2020 11:13 AM
To: Torgelson, Nathan <Nathan.Torgelson@seattle.gov>; Pinto Urrutia, Sandra
<Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>; David Moehring <dmoehring@consultant.com>
Cc: Vasquez, Colin <Colin.Vasquez@seattle.gov>
Subject: Adaptive management webinars in 2021

**CAUTION: External Email** 

## Greetings

I wanted to bring to your attention some very useful and relevant training before offered next year through a number of state agencies including Commerce.

My concern is the vast network of endless exemptions to our Critical Areas Ordinances in Seattle and how we continue to permit building on steeps slopes and in areas with previous seeps and landslides. I would like to know more about how you track your exemptions, the process you use to update the CAO, and whether building on steep slopes has exacerbated flooding and stormwater runoff to local streams and Puget Sound.

Of the workshop, the following ones stand out to me for follow up:

- 1. 1/20/21: Critical areas and adaptive management with permits
- 2. 2/17/21: Frequent Flooding
- 3. 3/10/21: Permit Implementation and Efficiency

Mr. Torgelson, please make sure this is spread throughout your networks.

Sandra, Please make sure this makes it into the record.

I also wanted to make sure you were aware of a Commerce/Puget Sound Regional Council document and Jurisdiction Guidance called Building Green Cities.

All the best, Heidi Siegelbaum

Heidi Siegelbaum Heidi@calyxsite.com

(206) 784-4265

https://www.linkedin.com/in/HeidiSiegelbaum

From: Helen Barker <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2020 4:10 PM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Please adopt, with amendments, SDCI's Director's Rule 13-2020

## **CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Please adopt, with the amendments recommended by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission, SDCI's Director's Rule 13-2020 (Designation of Exceptional and Significant Trees, Tree Protection, Retention, and Tree Removal during land division, including tree service provider requirements).

Seattle must move forward now, without the delay urged by some, in adopting this updated Director's Rule with the amendments proposed below. This process of increasing protection for our urban forest was first proposed by the Seattle City Council 11 years ago and is long overdue.

The following updates as proposed in the draft Director's Rule are great steps forward:

• Reducing the upper threshold on exceptional trees to 24 inches in diameter at standard height (DSH) from 30 inches

• Designating trees 6 inches DSH and larger as protected trees, starting in the platting and short platting process

• Requiring Tree Care Providers to register with the City as the Seattle Dept. of

Transportation already requires

• Continuing protection of tree groves as exceptional trees, even if a tree is removed from the grove

• Making clear that all exceptional trees removed during development must be replaced per SMC 25.11.090

• Tightening tree removal requirements for exceptional trees as hazard trees The following changes to the draft Director's Rule are needed:

• Change Subject Title to remove words "land division" and replace with "Development"

• PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND. add "SMC 23 requires that all trees 6 inches DSH and larger must be indicated on all site plans throughout the platting and sub-platting process, and that projects must be designed to maximize the retention of existing trees. This requirement continues throughout any subsequent development on all lots in all zones in the city."

• SECTION 1. Reduce the number of trees and sizes required to be a tree grove. Kirkland, Woodinville, and Duvall all define a tree grove as "a group of 3 or more significant trees with overlapping or touching crowns." Include street trees in groves.

• Add "Significant trees may become exceptional as they grow in size. They are future replacements in the urban forest for exceptional trees when they die. Development projects must be designed to maximize the retention of both exceptional and significant trees to maintain a diversity of tree species and ages."

• Add "All replacement trees regardless of size are protected trees and can't be removed."

• SECTION 2. Change the heading to "TREE PROTECTION". Remove references to "Exceptional Trees" only and change to "Trees". e.g., change "Exceptional Tree Protection Areas" to "Tree Protection Areas".

• SECTION 4. Add "The Director shall have the authority to allow replacement trees on both public and private property to meet the goals and objectives of race and social justice under Seattle's Equity and Environment Initiative."

• Under SMC 25.11.090 the Director has the authority to require "one or more trees" to be planted as replacement trees for removed exceptional trees during development. The number of trees required should increase with the size of the tree removed, with a goal to achieve equivalent canopy area and volume in 25 years. Any in-lieu fee must also rise as the size of the removed tree increases. The city can not wait 80 years to replace an 80-year-old western red cedar tree and expect to maintain its canopy goals as large exceptional trees are removed during development.

• SECTION 5. SEPA requirements under SMC 25.05.675 N are for protecting special habitats and need to be considered at the beginning of the development process. The language of this SEPA code section should be included in the Director's Rule to be certain that the code is complied with.

• SECTION 6. SDCI should adopt SDOT's registration process and requirements to assist Tree Care Providers in complying with city code and regulations. Reduce the number of citations that will remove a Tree Care Provider from being registered with the city to no more than 2 per year. Require annual registration same as Seattle business licenses require. Require that Tree Care Provider companies have a WA State contractor's license to ensure they have workers' compensation. Require they have a certificate of insurance that lists the city as an additional insured so the city cannot be sued. Require that all jobs either have a certified arborist on the work site or that they have visited the site and officially sign off on the specific work being done.

Thank you for protecting our urban forest.

Helen Barker hdbarker99@gmail.com 1225 12th Ct Fox Island, Washington 98333-9649

From: David Moehring <dmoehring@consultant.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 11, 2020 5:42 PM
To: Mosqueda, Teresa <Teresa.Mosqueda@seattle.gov>; Parikh, Sejal <Sejal.Parikh@seattle.gov>
Cc: Pedersen, Alex <Alex.Pedersen@seattle.gov>; Thaler, Toby <Toby.Thaler@seattle.gov>;
TreesForNeighborhoods <TreesForNeighborhoods@seattle.gov>; Herbold, Lisa <Lisa.Herbold@seattle.gov>;
Lewis, Andrew <Andrew.Lewis@seattle.gov>; Magnolia Community Council
<magnoliacommunityclub@gmail.com>; Dawson, Parker <Parker.Dawson@seattle.gov>; Treepac
<Treepac@groups.outlook.com>; Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>; Strauss, Dan
<Dan.Strauss@seattle.gov>; An, Noah <Noah.An@seattle.gov>
Subject: Why the Urban Forest Budget proposals are worth it!

## **CAUTION: External Email**





## **Seattle Tree Governance Alert**

Dear City Budget Chair, Teresa Mosqueda, and the supporting City Council members~

Please enjoy today's release of a <u>4-minute educational interview</u> of UW's Kathleen Wolf that distinctly identifies the significance of Seattle's Urban Forest as an ally to Seattle's urban growth. <u>https://www.dontclearcutseattle.org/urban-forest/trees-essential-urban-allies/</u>

This story composed by journalist M. Baskin with videography by L. Brady provides extensive reasons to support Councilmember's Alex Pedersen's two budget proposals that will help to protect trees that combat climate change!

- Please approve these two budget actions put forward by Councilmember Pedersen to better understand displacement and affordable housing in Seattle:
  - SLI-OSE-006-A-001 to explore consolidating tree protections under the Office of Sustainability and Environment with involvement of the Urban Forestry Commission; and
  - CBA-SDCI-011-A-001 to require SDCI to produce the stronger tree ordinance as soon as possible.
- The City has for many years tried to make a multidepartmental approach to tree management work, currently spread across 9 departments!
- The auditor indicated in a 2009 report that multiple managers of the resource was not working.
- An extensive multi-agency study completed in 2017 concluded that "Current code is not supporting tree protection." During that time, the tree canopy has been declining and we are losing numerous large trees.
- Decentralized oversight of Seattle's urban forest has had its chance, but it is not working.

- In 2019, the Council passed Resolution 31902 spelling out the elements and timeline for SDCI to prepare a new tree ordinance and transmit it to the Council for consideration.
- It is time for the Council to use its 'power of the purse' to require compliance with its policies.
- Loss of the ecological services provided by urban forests adversely impacts the City's infrastructure and communities.
- Impacts are greatest on BIPOC and low income communities; this is an equity issue and must be addressed now.
- Washington is the "Evergreen State" and Seattle is the "Emerald City." Trees provide numerous benefits including carbon sequestration, absorption of rainwater to reduce harmful runoff into Puget Sound and Lake Washington, shade for cooling during the warmer months, and proven health benefits. Environmentally, the bigger the tree, the better.
- As we take a long overdue, serious look at racial injustice issues, we know some communities of color have fewer large trees and are having them removed more often.



The current language of both proposals (subject to change):

Urban Forest Governance

http://seattle.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=8879218&GUID=F16B70C8-E022-485B-B575-54800DB0C24B

This Statement of Legislative Intent would request that the Office of Sustainability and Environment (OSE), in consultation with the Urban Forestry Commission (UFC) and the Urban Forestry Interdepartmental Team, develop a plan to consolidate the City's urban forest management functions within OSE. Currently, there are nine City departments that have a role in managing Seattle's urban forest:

- OSE coordinates citywide policy development, updates the Urban Forest Management Plan and monitors its implementation, and provides administrative support for the UFC;
- Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) manages trees in the public right-of-way.
- Department of Finance and Administrative Services, Seattle Center, Seattle Parks and Recreation, and Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) manage trees on their property;
- SPU engages community in urban forest stewardship on both private property and in the right-of-way;
- Seattle City Light maintains trees near power lines;
- Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI) and the Office of Planning and Community Development develop policies and plans; and
- SDCI enforces regulations for trees on private property.

Specifically, the plan should address how to transfer staff and regulatory authority, particularly in regards to the removal of trees, from SDCI and SDOT to OSE. The plan should also: (1) include a potential timeline for implementation; (2) consider staff involved in policy development, permitting and inspections, maintenance, community engagement, and stewardship; (3) identify code amendments needed to effectuate this change; and (4) provide an estimate of costs, including potential savings, for implementing the proposed reorganization.

OSE should submit the report to the Land Use & Neighborhoods Committee and the Central Staff Director by September 15, 2021.

<u>Tree Ordinance Required by Resolution 31902</u> <u>http://seattle.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=8879248&GUID=F090C7F7-37FB-44FF-A566-6307B19E34F3</u>

This Council Budget Action would impose a proviso on \$758,663, one third of the proposed 2021 appropriations to the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections' Government Policy, Safety, and Support Budget Control Level (BCL). Among other things, appropriations in that BCL fund development of council bills establishing new development regulations. The 2021 Proposed Budget would appropriate \$2,275,989 to that BCL. Approximately, \$916,000 of that appropriation is General Fund; the remainder is Construction and Inspections Fund.

The proviso would be automatically released when a council bill called for by Resolution 31902 is delivered to the City Council. Resolution 31902 establishes a work program for updating the City's tree protection regulations.

This Council Budget Action imposes the following proviso:

"Of the appropriations to the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections' Government Policy, Safety and Support BCL, \$758,663 may not be expended until the Mayor transmits a council bill to the City Clerk that updates the City's tree protection regulations, as contemplated by Resolution 31902."

From: Stuart Niven <panorarbor@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2020 3:49 PM

To: David Moehring <dmoehring@consultant.com>

Cc: Mosqueda, Teresa <Teresa.Mosqueda@seattle.gov>; Parikh, Sejal <Sejal.Parikh@seattle.gov>; Pedersen, Alex <Alex.Pedersen@seattle.gov>; Thaler, Toby <Toby.Thaler@seattle.gov>; TreesForNeighborhoods <TreesForNeighborhoods@seattle.gov>; Herbold, Lisa <Lisa.Herbold@seattle.gov>; Lewis, Andrew <Andrew.Lewis@seattle.gov>; Magnolia Community Council <magnoliacommunityclub@gmail.com>; Dawson, Parker <Parker.Dawson@seattle.gov>; Treepac <Treepac@groups.outlook.com>; Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>; Strauss, Dan <Dan.Strauss@seattle.gov>; An, Noah <Noah.An@seattle.gov>; LEG\_CouncilMembers <council@seattle.gov>; Durkan, Jenny <Jenny.Durkan@seattle.gov>

**CAUTION: External Email** 

Thank you David, I second your comments and requests.

Thank you and kind regards,

Stuart Niven, BA (Hons) PanorArborist www.panorarbor.com

From: David Moehring <dmoehring@consultant.com>

Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 11:05 AM

**To:** seattle-tree-ordinance-working-grouplists riseup. net <seattle-tree-ordinance-working-group@lists.riseup.net>

Cc: seattletreelossgooglegroups.com <seattletreeloss@googlegroups.com>; treepac\_seattlelists.riseup.net
<treepac\_seattle@lists.riseup.net>; Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Tree groves clearing at 4800 South block of MLK Drive (#3033464-LU et Al.)

## **CAUTION: External Email**

Please check this area out at the **4800 South block of MLK Drive** (west side of Drive) for the repeating pattern of more tree grove clearings within the area of Seattle.

The City (via King County) has sold these 16 lots of undeveloped tree grove at the 4800 south block of MLK Drive.

Please write into <u>PRC@seattle.gov</u> by November 26th asking to apply the principles of tree canopy conservation. Development on Seattle's acres of brownfield and rundown sites is always better than greenfield urban forest areas.

Seattle needs a **moratorium to halt unrestrained tree clearings** on undeveloped urban forest lands - especially land like this that was formerly owned by the City/County.



Address: 3021 S EDMUNDS ST<br/>Project: 3033464-LUCity sells 16 lots of undeveloped tree<br/>grove at 4800 South block of MLK DriveArea: South Notice Date: 11/12/2020Project DescriptionLand Use Application to allow a 2-story single-family residence. Parking for 2<br/>vehicles proposed.

David Moehring 312-965-0634

Seattle Department of Construction & Inspections View this email in your browser.

# Land Use Information Bulletin

Public notices from the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections.

## January 27, 2020



## LUIB is Now Available

Today's <u>Public Notices Summary</u> is now available for you to review. The link above will give you the most recently published Public Notice Summary.

To create a custom notice summary by publish date, use our new <u>custom public notice report</u> tool.

To view the notices:

- 1. Click on <u>Public Notices</u> under Find Existing on the portal home page.
- Select the Publish Date From and Publish Date To date range.
   Tip: Click the calendar and then select the Today link at the very bottom to quickly navigate to the correct date.
- 3. You will get a list of the public notices for the date range.

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Want to change how you receive these emails? You can <u>update your preferences</u> or <u>unsubscribe from this list</u>.

From: Kevin Gerrity <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Saturday, November 14, 2020 3:40 PM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Update Seattle's Tree Ordinance

#### **CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission. Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

17

 Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
 Require the replacement of all Significant Trees removed with trees that in 25 years will reach equivalent canopy volume – either on site or pay a replacement fee into a City Tree Replacement and Preservation Fund. Allow the Fund to also accept fines, donations, grants and set up easements.

3. Retain current protections for Exceptional Trees and reduce the upper threshold for Exceptional Trees to 24" DBH, protect tree groves and prohibit Significant Trees being removed on undeveloped lots.

4. Allow removal of no more than 2 Significant non-Exceptional Trees in 3 years per lot outside development

5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.

6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.

7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.

8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Kevin Gerrity <u>kvngerrity@gmail.com</u> 63 W Etruria St., Apt. 6 Seattle, Washington 98119

From: kevinorme <kevinorme@protonmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 12:43 PM
To: LEG\_CouncilMembers <council@seattle.gov>; Durkan, Jenny <Jenny.Durkan@seattle.gov>; Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>; DOT\_SeattleTrees <Seattle.Trees@seattle.gov>
Cc: Brazier, Maketa <Maketa.Brazier@seattle.gov>
Subject: Global Tree Cover in Cities Declining Despite Increasing Need

## **CAUTION: External Email**

Attention Seattle City Council and Mayor - yet again, proof is provided beyond our local activism as to the importance of PROTECTING Seattle's existing urban tree canopy, not just paying lip service to it via 'plant more trees' and in lieu fees that never address the real problem?. What more proof do you need to \*enforce\* the Seattle Tree Ordinance instead of chipping away at it via DCI while turning a blind eye to their

lack of enforcement and lack of data capture as to tree loss citywide, \*\*year after year\*\*? The direct study link from USFS noted in the caption below is linked here as well as the PDF attached already for convenience:

## **Global Tree Cover in Cities Declining Despite Increasing Need**

ABSTRACT: Trees in cities reduce energy costs, mitigate air pollution, boost housing values, provide wildlife habitat, and increase life expectancies. Yet globally, tree cover in cities is declining, according to recent Forest Service research.

https://www.fs.usda.gov/treesearch/pubs/59488 https://www.fs.fed.us/nrs/pubs/jrnl/2020/nrs\_2020\_nowak\_002.pdf

The Partners in Community Forestry Conference is occurring (virtually) this week in the midwest, registration is still possible, conference is tomorrow-rest of the week, btw - might be helpful to have a City representative (or far better, \*\*several\*\*) attend??

https://www.arborday.org/programs/pcf/

Link to article: https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S161886671930295X

Kevin Orme Greenwood

Sent with ProtonMail Secure Email.

From: Steve Zemke <stevezemke@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 8:12 PM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Portland, Oregon Again Leading the Way on Tree Protection

**CAUTION: External Email** 

Hi Sandra,

Could you please forward this to the Urban Forestry Commission and other interested parties? Thanks.

Portland, Oregon last week took another strong step toward strengthening their Tree Ordinance.

"On Nov. 12, the Portland City Council adopted an ordinance that updates the city's tree policies to promote greater preservation of trees when development occurs in certain types of commercial, employment and industrial areas, and to further incentivize preservation of larger trees in other development situations."

Among the provisions of the updated ordinance, it

- "Reduces the threshold for required preservation of private trees from 36 inches to 20 inches in diameter at breast height (dbh) wherever tree preservation is required
- Reduces the threshold for the application of an inch-per-inch fee in lieu of preservation for private trees from 36 inches dbh to 20 inches dbh ...
- Directs Portland Parks and Recreation to bring a scope of work for future updates to the city's tree code (<u>Title 11</u> of Portland City Code) to City Council by March 31, 2021 and directs the City Council to consider funding for that work during the fiscal year 2021-22 City budget process."

Link to full Portland news article below, which has a link to the amended ordinance text for Chapter 11.50 -Trees in Development Situations and accompanying documentation of the adoption process.

## Portland.gov - <u>Portland City Council adopts updates to city's tree code,</u> <u>strengthening tree preservation</u>

Note that Portland will now require as of Dec 12th, that developers pay a Fee in Lieu of 2 for 1 replacement cost for removed trees 12-20 inches diameter and inch for inch cost for trees removed that are over 20 inches in diameter.

The amended ordinance in Exhibit C, of the <u>accompanying document</u> shows the new amended Fee in Lieu cost:

## Portland Parks & Recreation Urban Forestry Title 11, Trees Fee Schedule DEVELOPMENT effective December 12, 2020

## DEVELOPMENT

preservation, Fee in Lieu private trees trees>12 inches and <20 inches in diameter .... \$1800/tree trees>20 inches in diameter ..... \$450/inch

## NON-DEVELOPMENT

planting and establishment Fee in Lieu .... \$450/inch

With budget shortfalls this year note that Seattle continues to lose potential revenue to support our urban forest infrastructure as lots during development are frequently clear-cut. Portland, Oregon meanwhile is generating revenue to help reduce tree loss and counter it by replacing trees. Here is a link to Portland's latest report. <u>Urban</u> Forestry Title 11 Fund Report Fiscal Year 2018-2019.

## Portland reported that they generated \$!,444,426 for their Tree Planting and Preservation Fund and \$981,720 for their Urban Forestry Fund for revenue in fiscal year 2018-2019 totaling \$2,426,149.

These number will go up as Portland has lowered its threshold for its Fee in Lieu for tree loss during development from 36 inches DBH to 20 inches DBH. Private homeowner's Fees in Lieu start at 12 inches DHB but are seldom used as it appears as they choose to replace the removed tree and thus not have to pay a Fee in Lieu.

Seattle has put off updating SMC 25.11 - its Tree Protection Ordinance now for 11 years. Even going by Portland's latest figures Seattle has probably forgone \$25 - \$30 million since 2009 in potential revenue for urban forestry by not updating its tree ordinance as other cities are doing.

Steve Zemke Chair - Tree PAC <u>stevezemke@TreePAC.org</u> From: Paulette Kidder <pwkidder@seattleu.edu> Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 12:53 PM

To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov> Subject: Please Update Seattle's Tree Ordinance

**CAUTION: External Email** 

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water

runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

 Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
 Require the replacement of all Significant Trees removed with trees that in 25 years will reach equivalent canopy volume – either on site or pay a replacement fee into a City Tree Replacement and Preservation Fund. Allow the Fund to also accept fines, donations, grants and set up easements.

3. Retain current protections for Exceptional Trees and reduce the upper threshold for Exceptional Trees to 24" DBH, protect tree groves and prohibit Significant Trees being removed on undeveloped lots.

4. Allow removal of no more than 2 Significant non-Exceptional Trees in 3 years per lot outside development

5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.

6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.

7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.

8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Paulette Kidder <u>pwkidder@seattleu.edu</u> 2122 N 88th Street Seattle , Washington 98103 From: Del Lausa <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 5:41 PM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Please adopt, with amendments, SDCI's Director's Rule 13-2020

## **CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Please adopt, with the amendments recommended by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission, SDCI's Director's Rule 13-2020 (Designation of Exceptional and Significant Trees, Tree Protection, Retention, and Tree Removal during land division, including tree service provider requirements).

Seattle must move forward now, without the delay urged by some, in adopting this updated Director's Rule with the amendments proposed below. This process of increasing protection for our urban forest was first proposed by the Seattle City Council 11 years ago and is long overdue.

The following updates as proposed in the draft Director's Rule are great steps forward:

• Reducing the upper threshold on exceptional trees to 24 inches in diameter at standard height (DSH) from 30 inches

• Designating trees 6 inches DSH and larger as protected trees, starting in the platting and short platting process

• Requiring Tree Care Providers to register with the City as the Seattle Dept. of

Transportation already requires

• Continuing protection of tree groves as exceptional trees, even if a tree is removed from the grove

• Making clear that all exceptional trees removed during development must be replaced per SMC 25.11.090

• Tightening tree removal requirements for exceptional trees as hazard trees

The following changes to the draft Director's Rule are needed:

· Change Subject Title to remove words "land division" and replace with "Development"

• PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND. add "SMC 23 requires that all trees 6 inches DSH and larger must be indicated on all site plans throughout the platting and sub-platting process, and that projects must be designed to maximize the retention of existing trees. This requirement continues throughout any subsequent development on all lots in all zones in the city."

• SECTION 1. Reduce the number of trees and sizes required to be a tree grove. Kirkland, Woodinville, and Duvall all define a tree grove as "a group of 3 or more significant trees with overlapping or touching crowns." Include street trees in groves.

• Add "Significant trees may become exceptional as they grow in size. They are future replacements in the urban forest for exceptional trees when they die. Development projects must be designed to maximize the retention of both exceptional and significant trees to maintain a diversity of tree species and ages."

• Add "All replacement trees regardless of size are protected trees and can't be removed."

• SECTION 2. Change the heading to "TREE PROTECTION". Remove references to "Exceptional Trees" only and change to "Trees". e.g., change "Exceptional Tree Protection Areas" to "Tree Protection Areas".

• SECTION 4. Add "The Director shall have the authority to allow replacement trees on both public and private property to meet the goals and objectives of race and social justice under Seattle's Equity and Environment Initiative."

• Under SMC 25.11.090 the Director has the authority to require "one or more trees" to be planted as replacement trees for removed exceptional trees during development. The number of trees required should increase with the size of the tree removed, with a goal to achieve equivalent canopy area and volume in 25 years. Any in-lieu fee must also rise as the size of the removed tree increases. The city can not wait 80 years to replace an 80-year-old western red cedar tree and expect to maintain its canopy goals as large exceptional trees are removed during development.

• SECTION 5. SEPA requirements under SMC 25.05.675 N are for protecting special habitats and need to be considered at the beginning of the development process. The language of this SEPA code section should be included in the Director's Rule to be certain that the code is complied with.

• SECTION 6. SDCI should adopt SDOT's registration process and requirements to assist Tree Care Providers in complying with city code and regulations. Reduce the number of citations that will remove a Tree Care Provider from being registered with the city to no more than 2 per year. Require annual registration same as Seattle business licenses require. Require that Tree Care Provider companies have a WA State contractor's license to ensure they have workers' compensation. Require they have a certificate of insurance that lists the city as an additional insured so the city cannot be sued. Require that all jobs either have a certified arborist on the work site or that they have visited the site and officially sign off on the specific work being done.

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Thank you for protecting our urban forest.

Del Lausa <u>lausadel@yahoo.com</u> 408 Aurora Avenue N, #405 Seattle, Washington 98109

From: heidi calyxsite.com <heidi@calyxsite.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 6:05 PM
To: LEG\_CouncilMembers <council@seattle.gov>; Durkan, Jenny <Jenny.Durkan@seattle.gov>
Cc: heidi calyxsite.com <heidi@calyxsite.com>; Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Comments on City Budget

## **CAUTION: External Email**

Dear Council and Mayor Durkan:

Attached please find comments regarding the City Budget focusing on tree issues.

All the best, Heidi Siegelbaum

Heidi Siegelbaum Heidi@calyxsite.com

(206) 784-4265

https://www.linkedin.com/in/HeidiSiegelbaum

#### November 17, 2020

#### Dear Council and Mayor Durkan:

Again, we enlist your support for greatly enhanced tree protection in the City of Seattle. Mature tree protection in all places, including private property and during development/redevelopment:

- Supports Climate Change work (seedlings do not replace large, mature trees with carbon sequestration)
- Supports our public health infrastructure at a time of diminishing air quality and wildlife smoke
- Supports your Equity work to protect BIPOC communities where the tree canopy and natural resources are being ravaged.

We support the following budget items:

- SLI -MO-001-A-002 Requests that the executive recommends strategies for consolidating urban forestry functions
- CBA- OSE- 002-A-003 Add \$132,000 to OSE for the Green New Deal Advisor Position
- CBA- OSE-004-A-003 Add \$140,000 to the Climate Advisory Position
- SLI SPU-002-A-003 request SPU to explore an expansion of the Tree Ambassador program (which needs to address current mature tree protection and not just planting seedlings)

Budget items you need to restore:

- CBA-SDCI-002-A-001- Add1 FTE arborist and 1 FTE Housing and Zoning inspector to SDCI and \$275,237 General Fund to fund the positions to improve enforcement of tree regulations. This omission is egregious given the City Auditor's report and two interdisciplinary tree regulation reports which indicate a wild uptick in violations, the lack of enforcement and "suspicious" hazard tree determinations. While staffing OSE and the Climate Advisory positions are important, your lack of budgetary support for these items evidence your lack of seriousness about the gravity of these issues.
- CBA SDCI-011-A-001 Provision \$758,563 be withheld from SDCI until they present an
  updated Tree Protection Ordinance to the Council by the end of Sept 2021. What is the
  City's excuse now for failure to pass this Ordinance?

#### Sincerely,

Heidi Siegelbaum and Rob Hyman, Seattle (Ballard- the clearcut location from the turn of the century, never re-treed, and with our remaining large trees being removed through redevelopment).

From: Rita Childs <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 7:39 PM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Please adopt, with amendments, SDCI's Director's Rule 13-2020

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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• Continuing protection of tree groves as exceptional trees, even if a tree is removed from the grove

• Making clear that all exceptional trees removed during development must be replaced per SMC 25.11.090

• Tightening tree removal requirements for exceptional trees as hazard trees The following changes to the draft Director's Rule are needed:

• Change Subject Title to remove words "land division" and replace with "Development"

• PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND. add "SMC 23 requires that all trees 6 inches DSH and larger must be indicated on all site plans throughout the platting and sub-platting process, and that projects must be designed to maximize the retention of existing trees. This requirement continues throughout any subsequent development on all lots in all zones in the city."

• SECTION 1. Reduce the number of trees and sizes required to be a tree grove. Kirkland, Woodinville, and Duvall all define a tree grove as "a group of 3 or more significant trees with overlapping or touching crowns." Include street trees in groves.

• Add "Significant trees may become exceptional as they grow in size. They are future replacements in the urban forest for exceptional trees when they die. Development projects

must be designed to maximize the retention of both exceptional and significant trees to maintain a diversity of tree species and ages."

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Thank you for protecting our urban forest.

Rita Childs soldbykc@gmail.com

1200 Westlake Ave NE Seattle, Washington 98109

From: Sara Schillinger <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 8:40 PM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Keep Seattle Livable!

## **CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

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 Require the replacement of all Significant Trees removed with trees that in 25 years will reach equivalent canopy volume – either on site or pay a replacement fee into a City Tree Replacement and Preservation Fund. Allow the Fund to also accept fines, donations, grants and set up easements.

3. Retain current protections for Exceptional Trees and reduce the upper threshold for

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Exceptional Trees to 24" DBH, protect tree groves and prohibit Significant Trees being removed on undeveloped lots.

4. Allow removal of no more than 2 Significant non-Exceptional Trees in 3 years per lot outside development

5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.

6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.

7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.

8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

## Sara Schillinger

sara.schillinger@gmail.com 6113 Roosevelt Way NE #201 Seattle, Washington 98115

From: Jill Hamilton <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 9:04 PM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Please adopt, with amendments, SDCl's Director's Rule 13-2020

## **CAUTION: External Email**

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Thank you for protecting our urban forest.

Jill Hamilton jckress@yahoo.com 4985 Naomi St NW Bremerton, Washington 98311

From: Tracey French <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 9:40 PM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Keep Seattle Livable!

#### **CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Tracey French <u>tufrench@gmail.com</u> 749 south Sullivan Seattle, Washington 98108 From: Lisa Clark <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2020 5:54 AM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Please adopt, with amendments, SDCI's Director's Rule 13-2020

## **CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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Thank you for protecting our urban forest.

Lisa Clark <u>lisaclarklisaclark@gmail.com</u> PO Box 23286 Seattle , Washington 98102

From: Thom Laz <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2020 6:20 AM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Please adopt, with amendments, SDCI's Director's Rule 13-2020

#### **CAUTION: External Email**

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• PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND. add "SMC 23 requires that all trees 6 inches DSH and larger must be indicated on all site plans throughout the platting and sub-platting process, and that projects must be designed to maximize the retention of existing trees. This requirement continues throughout any subsequent development on all lots in all zones in the city."

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• Under SMC 25.11.090 the Director has the authority to require "one or more trees" to be planted as replacement trees for removed exceptional trees during development. The number of trees required should increase with the size of the tree removed, with a goal to achieve equivalent canopy area and volume in 25 years. Any in-lieu fee must also rise as the size of the removed tree increases. The city can not wait 80 years to replace an 80-year-old western red cedar tree and expect to maintain its canopy goals as large exceptional trees are removed during development.

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Thank you for protecting our urban forest.

Thom Laz <u>thomlaz@gmail.com</u> 2321 Fairview ave E Seattle , Washington 98102

From: Judith Leshner <jack2729rabbit@earthlink.net>
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2020 10:28 AM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Remembering TREES in the budget considerations

### **CAUTION: External Email**

Dear Ms. Pinto de Bader: I sent this email today as stated below. Judith Leshner

Begin forwarded message:

From: Judith Leshner <<u>jack2729rabbit@earthlink.net</u>> Subject: Remembering TREES in the budget considerations Date: November 18, 2020 at 10:17:17 AM PST To: jenny.durkan@seattle.gov

Dear Mayor Durkan:

Please note that I have sent the following email to all City Council Members and I ask that you, too, include Our Tree Canopy in your budget considerations. Thank you.

Dear Councilmember Lewis (my representative but sent individually to each member):

Just a few days ago I responded to the survey that the City's "Trees For Seattle" office sent out about the draft Urban Forest Management Plan. I have been following the City Council's long-time efforts to study, maintain, increase and protect our **tree canopy** for many years and am involved with the group efforts of Friends of Seattle's Urban Forest and TreePAC. Now I learn that you Council Members are finalizing the budget today so I want to express my support for the following budget items.

Please support these following budget items:

• SLI -MO-001-A-002 - Requests that the executive recommend strategies for consolidating urban forestry functions

- CBA- OSE- 002-A-003 Add \$132,000 to OSE for the Green New Deal Advisor Position
- CBA- OSE-004-A-003 Add \$140,000 to the Climate Advisory Position
- SLI SPU-002-A-003 request SPU to explore an expansion of the Tree Ambassador program

Two other important items should be added to your budget. The SDCI is too slow on presenting the updated Tree Protection Ordinance. How about spurring them along?

• CBA-SDCI-002-A-001- Add1 FTE arborist and 1 FTE Housing and Zoning inspector to SDCI and \$275,237 General Fund to fund the positions to improve enforcement of tree regulations

• CBA SDCI-011-A-001 - Provisio \$758,563 be withheld from SDCI until they present an updated Tree Protection Ordinance to the Council by the end of Sept 2021

Surely you City Council Members do not need further convincing about the importance of our city's trees and the important functions that they provide for us. It is time for you to act and provide the regulations and funds to follow through.

Thank you for your commitment to our tree environment.

Sincerely, Judith Leshner 2568 10th Ave W Seattle, WA 98119 jack2729rabbit@earthlink.net

From: Joanne Moring <joiemoring@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2020 11:40 AM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Please adopt, with amendments, SDCI's Director's Rule 13-2020

**CAUTION: External Email** 

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Please adopt, with the amendments recommended by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission, SDCI's Director's Rule 13-2020 (Designation of Exceptional and Significant Trees, Tree Protection, Retention, and Tree Removal during land division, including tree service provider requirements).

Seattle must move forward now, without the delay urged by some, in adopting this updated Director's Rule with the amendments proposed below. This process of increasing protection for our urban forest was first proposed by the Seattle City Council 11 years ago and is long overdue.

The following updates as proposed in the draft Director's Rule are great steps forward:

• Reducing the upper threshold on exceptional trees to 24 inches in diameter at standard height (DSH) from 30 inches

• Designating trees 6 inches DSH and larger as protected trees, starting in the platting and short platting process

• Requiring Tree Care Providers to register with the City as the Seattle Dept. of Transportation already requires

• Continuing protection of tree groves as exceptional trees, even if a tree is removed from the grove

• Making clear that all exceptional trees removed during development must be replaced per SMC 25.11.090

• Tightening tree removal requirements for exceptional trees as hazard trees The following changes to the draft Director's Rule are needed:

• Change Subject Title to remove words "land division" and replace with "Development"

• PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND. add "SMC 23 requires that all trees 6 inches DSH and larger must be indicated on all site plans throughout the platting and sub-platting process, and that projects must be designed to maximize the retention of existing trees. This requirement continues throughout any subsequent development on all lots in all zones in the city."

• SECTION 1. Reduce the number of trees and sizes required to be a tree grove. Kirkland, Woodinville, and Duvall all define a tree grove as "a group of 3 or more significant trees with overlapping or touching crowns." Include street trees in groves.

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Thank you for protecting our urban forest.

Joanne Moring joiemoring@comcast.net 1011 N 38th St Seattle, Washington 98103

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From: Cody McDonald <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2020 12:37 PM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Please adopt, with amendments, SDCI's Director's Rule 13-2020

### **CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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Thank you for protecting our urban forest.

Cody McDonald <u>codylea@gmail.com</u> 902 N 93rd St Seattle, Washington 98103

From: Stuart Niven panorarbor@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2020 1:06 PM
To: council@seatttle.gov; Durkan, Jenny <Jenny.Durkan@seattle.gov>
Cc: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Essential budget items to help our trees and environment

## **CAUTION: External Email**

Good afternoon,

Please take this email as my support for the following items:

- SLI -MO-001-A-002 Requests that the executive recommend strategies for consolidating urban forestry functions
- CBA- OSE- 002-A-003 Add \$132,000 to OSE for the Green New Deal Advisor Position
- CBA- OSE-004-A-003 Add \$140,000 to the Climate Advisory Position
- SLI SPU-002-A-003 request SPU to explore an expansion of the Tree Ambassador program

The above will be positive for the future management and care of our local environment and urban canopy, however there are two significant items not being considered which I strongly urge you to add into the budget:

- CBA-SDCI-002-A-001- Add1 FTE arborist and 1 FTE Housing and Zoning inspector to SDCI and \$275,237 General Fund to fund the positions to improve enforcement of tree regulations
- CBA SDCI-011-A-001 Provisio \$758,563 be withheld from SDCI until they present an updated Tree Protection Ordinance to the Council by the end of Sept 2021

While other items may seem more important that trees and the environment, without them we all die so technically, a healthy, unpolluted and growing environment with as many trees as is practical and possible, is the most important item we should all be talking about.

The Trump administration has been successful in introducing over 100 bills to rape and pillage the environment; please do not let Seattle's refusal to care enough about the environment be another one on the list.

# Thank you and kind regards,

Stuart Niven, BA (Hons) PanorArborist www.panorarbor.com

ISA Certified Arborist PN-7245A & Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ) Arborist on Seattle Audubon Society Conservation Committee Arborist on Seattle's Urban Forestry Commission Board Member of TreePAC

WA Lic# PANORL\*852P1 (Click to link to WA L&I's Verify a Contractor Page)

From: DANIEL ERICKSON <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Thursday, November 19, 2020 3:13 PM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Please adopt, with amendments, SDCI's Director's Rule 13-2020

### **CAUTION: External Email**

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Thank you for protecting our urban forest.

DANIEL ERICKSON seattles2r800@gmail.com 1011 NW 122ND ST SEATTLE, Washington 98177

From: Elliot Leliaert <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, November 20, 2020 6:52 AM
To: Pinto Urrutia, Sandra <Sandra.PintoUrrutia@seattle.gov>
Subject: Please adopt, with amendments, SDCI's Director's Rule 13-2020

## CAUTION: External Email

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Elliot Leliaert valkyrie808@yahoo.com 15521 Stone Ave n Shoreline, Washington 98133