

Seattle Urban Forestry Commission

Tom Early, Chair • Steve Zemke, Vice-Chair
Weston Brinkley • Leif Fixen • Megan Herzog • Craig Johnson
Joanna Nelson de Flores • Sarah Rehder • Andrew Zellers

November 1, 2017.

Mayor Tim Burgess
Seattle City Hall
600 4th Ave.
Seattle, WA 98124

RE: Tree Protection Executive Order and SDCI/OSE Tree Regulations Research Project

Dear Mayor Burgess,

The Urban Forestry Commission applauds your leadership on taking action to improve tree protection in Seattle through your Executive Order 27-11 - Tree Protection, which directs City Departments to improve departmental coordination, strengthen enforcement, and adopt new rules and regulations to improve and expand protections for Seattle's urban trees and canopy coverage.

The Commission also commends the effort done by SDCI and OSE for their work studying the effectiveness of current regulations and putting together the options that informed the Executive Order (EO) as well as additional recommendations.

SDCI briefed the Commission on the Tree Regulations Research Project findings and recommendations, which included Options 1, 2, and 3; and the work they are currently undertaking to implement the EO, which addresses Option 1 of the project recommendations.

The Commission recommends that the City continue the deliberative process to consider implementation of Options 2 and 3 to further support Seattle's canopy cover, tree protection, and tree preservation.

The Commission has previously recommended the benefits of a tree permit system for the city and is eager to support the City's efforts implementing these actions.

Sincerely,



Tom Early, Chair

cc: Councilmember Bagshaw, Councilmember Gonzalez, Councilmember Harrell, Councilmember Harris-Talley, Councilmember Herbold, Councilmember Juarez, Councilmember Johnson, Councilmember O'Brien, Councilmember Sawant, Jessica Finn Coven, Nathan Torgelson, Michelle Caulfield, Mike Podowski, Maggie Glowacki, Art Pederson, Quinn Majeski, Anthony Auriemma, Aaron Blumenthal, Peter Lindsay

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