

SEATTLE URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION

Weston Brinkley (Position #3 – University), Chair • **Sarah Rehder** (Position #4 – Hydrologist), Vice-chair
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Jessica Jones (Position # 12 – Public Health) • **Shari Selch** (Position # 13 – Community/Neighborhood)

October 7, 2020.

Joey Hulbert
Washington State University – Puyallup

RE: Forest Health Watch project

Dear Joey,

The Urban Forestry Commission (UFC) would like to extend its gratitude to you for your informative presentation about your Forest Health Watch project.

It's very sad to see so many of our native tree species declining. Linking their decline to the impacts of climate change or pests is important knowledge to be leveraged to have a resilient urban forest.

The Forest Health Watch project will gather important information on health indicators for Western red cedar, big leaf maple, Pacific madrone, Western hemlock, and riparian alder, as well as understory species such as sword fern. This information could help City departments as they work to care for Seattle's urban trees.

Community science projects such as yours are a great way to engage people and increase awareness of the importance of our urban trees. The UFC was happy to provide ideas for partnerships and point out that this is a great opportunity to engage historically underrepresented Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities.

Again, thank you for taking the time to share your exciting work with the UFC. Seattle's urban trees are a critical asset especially as the link between low canopy and increased COVID-19 vulnerability has been established.

The UFC would appreciate receiving updates on your efforts as projects evolve and remains willing and able to answer any questions or comments that you may have into the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature is stylized and appears to read 'W. Brinkley'.

Weston Brinkley, Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature is written in a cursive style and clearly reads 'Sarah C. Rehder'.

Sarah Rehder

cc: Mayor Jenny A. Durkan, Council President Lorena González, CM Lisa Herbold, CM Debora Juarez, CM Andrew Lewis, CM Tammy Morales, CM Teresa Mosqueda, CM Alex Pedersen, CM Kshama Sawant, CM Dan Strauss, Jessica Finn Coven, Michelle Caulfield, Urban Forestry Management Team, Urban Forestry Core Team, Yolanda Ho, Austin Miller

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