

## **SEATTLE URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION**

**Weston Brinkley** (Position #3 – University), Chair • **Sarah Rehder** (Position #4 – Hydrologist), Vice-chair  
**Steve Zemke** (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) • **Steven Fry** (Position #8 – Development)  
**Blake Voorhees** (Position #9 – Realtor) • **Neeiyati Johnson** (Position #10 – Get Engaged)  
**Whit Bouton** (Position #11 – Environmental Justice - ISA)  
**Jessica Jones** (Position #12 – Public Health) • **Shari Selch** (Position #13 – Community/Neighborhood)

May 13, 2020.

Nathan Torgelson, Director  
Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections  
700 5<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Seattle, WA 98124

RE: SDCI's Tree Data Roadmap Project

Dear Director Torgelson:

The Urban Forestry Commission (UFC) would like to extend its gratitude to the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI) for its continued efforts to update the City's tree protection regulations, and specifically to Charlie Spear, for taking the time to brief the UFC on SDCI's Tree Data Roadmap Project.

The UFC is a strong supporter of SDCI's work on tree regulations and appreciates the multiple efforts currently underway to finish implementing [Executive Order 2017-11](#): Tree Protection and [Resolution 31902](#).

The UFC acknowledges the need to place important work on hold as the City pivots to re-deploy staff and re-allocate resources to respond to this unprecedented crisis and serve Seattle's most vulnerable populations. The UFC appreciates SDCI's continued work on urban forestry items, including bringing new staff, like Charlie, on board to continue moving this effort forward;

especially as Seattle's urban trees' air pollution reduction services come to the forefront given the link between air pollution and COVID-19 vulnerability.

The UFC is glad to support to SDCI's Tree Data Roadmap project efforts by responding to the questionnaire Charlie shared with the group on May 12, inviting him to provide another update as his work progresses, as well as participating in deliberative sessions to actively support this project.

Sincerely,

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

Weston Brinkley, Chair

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, Danielle Priest, Mike Podowski, Chanda Emery, Charlie Spear, Urban Forestry Management Team, Urban Forestry Core Team, Yolanda Ho, Paúl Quiñonez Figueroa

Sandra Pinto de Bader, Urban Forestry Commission Coordinator  
City of Seattle, Office of Sustainability & Environment  
PO Box 94729 Seattle, WA 98124-4729 Tel: 206-684-3194 Fax: 206-684-3013  
[www.seattle.gov/UrbanForestryCommission](http://www.seattle.gov/UrbanForestryCommission)