

## **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) • **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)

September 9, 2020.

Earl Eutsler  
District Department of Transportation  
Washington, D.C.

RE: Washington, D.C.'s urban forestry program presentation

Dear Earl,

The Urban Forestry Commission (UFC) would like to extend its gratitude for your informative presentation about Washington, D.C.'s urban forestry program.

As the City of Seattle continues to work to update its tree protection ordinance, the UFC has been interested in the work of other municipalities in order to best advise the Mayor and City Council on this important effort.

Although D.C.'s urban forestry program is centralized under the District's Department of Transportation (compared to Seattle's decentralized approach), your tree removal permit system coupled with a robust fee-in-lieu and penalty policy provides an inspiring example of how to accommodate growth and density while growing its urban forest and the many benefits urban trees provide.

The UFC appreciates your offer to stay engaged and answer additional questions it may have in the future and looks forward to continuing the conversation together. Please don't hesitate to ask if there is anything the UFC can provide to aid D.C. in your urban forestry work as well.

Again, thank you for taking the time to share with the UFC your work. Seattle's urban trees' air cleaning service comes to the forefront given the link between air pollution and COVID-19 vulnerability.

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, Nathan Torgelson, Christina Ghan, Chase Kitchen, Michelle Caulfield, Chanda Emery, Kym Foley, Urban Forestry Management Team, Urban Forestry Core Team, Yolanda Ho, Austin Miller

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