



**City of Seattle**  
Urban Forestry Commission

---

**Becca Neumann** (Position #4 – Hydrologist), Co-chair  
**Joshua Morris** (Position #7 – NGO), Co-Chair  
**Julia Michalak** (Position #1 – Wildlife Biologist) • **Joe Sisneros** (Position #2 – Urban Ecologist - ISA)  
**Falisha Kurji** (Position #3 – Natural Resource Agency) • **Stuart Niven** (Position #5 – Arborist – ISA)  
**Hao Liang** (Position #6 – Landscape Architect – ISA) • **David Moehring** (Position # 8 – Development)  
**Blake Voorhees** (Position # 9 – Realtor) • **Laura Keil** (Position #10 – Get Engaged)  
**Jessica Hernandez** (Position #11 – Environmental Justice) • **Jessica Jones** (Position # 12 – Public Health)  
**Lia Hall** (Position #13 – Community/Neighborhood)

September 7, 2022

Michael Eliason  
Larch Lab  
Sent Via Email Only  
michael@larchlab.com

RE: Urban Forestry Commission comments your July presentation

Dear Michael,

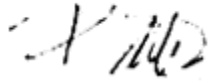
Duwamish Lands (Seattle, WA) – The Urban Forestry Commission (UFC) would like to thank you for your informative presentation on July 20, 2022. We value your international expertise in designing high-density, climate-adaptive EcoDistricts, and appreciate your robust focus upon livable, community-oriented housing that promotes trees and green spaces.

Your presentation was timely as Seattle is currently updating its Comprehensive Plan to address where it locates housing and jobs, and where it invests in transportation, utilities, parks, and other public assets. This is something on which the UFC is providing input to the city. Poignantly aligning with your expertise and experience, Seattle is actively exploring innovative design ideas that support urban growth and development of more complete and self-sustaining neighborhoods (please see the attached “Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Scoping Fact Sheet,” outlining different growth strategies under consideration, along with mitigation concerns.)

Similar to Larch Lab’s design focus, and as reflected in the EIS Fact Sheet, Seattle’s further objective is mitigating adverse impacts associated with different growth strategies. The city specifically seeks racially equitable and affordable housing practices that reduce displacement pressures, urban heating and carbon emissions. Your development of the Baugruppen community in Germany is a provocative example for how comprehensively it meets these and many of the stated objectives in the EIS Scoping Fact Sheet. That said, are you aware of, or can you point to, any examples for where Larch Lab or its peer companies have successfully integrated your conceptual designs within an established American city?

Again, the UFC wishes to thank you for your time spent with us. We look forward to an ongoing and interactive relationship with you and Larch Lab as we continue to advise our city, City Council, and Mayor on ways to address housing needs while preserving and enhancing our urban forest.

Sincerely,



Blake Voorhees, Position #9



Josh Morris, Co-Chair



Becca Neumann, Co-Chair

Patti Bakker, Interim Urban Forestry Commission Coordinator  
City of Seattle, Office of Sustainability & Environment  
PO Box 94729 Seattle, WA 98124-4729 Tel: 206-684-3194  
[www.seattle.gov/UrbanForestryCommission](http://www.seattle.gov/UrbanForestryCommission)