



February 2, 2011

Beth Knox  
CEO and President  
Seafair  
2200 Sixth Ave, Suite 400  
Seattle, WA 98121

RE: City Tree Canopy and Seafair Torchlight Parade

Dear Ms. Knox:

As 2011 gets underway SDOT Urban Forestry has begun executing and refining our work plan for 2011, and we hope that your planning for 2011 Seafair events is progressing smoothly. Certainly there are many complex issues that must be resolved in planning such a large event, and we recognize that tree canopy conflicts along 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue's Torchlight Parade route is an important issue for your team.

It is, therefore, important that we inform you as early as possible that Urban Forestry will not perform, nor allow pruning or branch tiebacks along 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue to accommodate the balloons in the Torchlight Parade in 2011 and in future years.

As we discussed with you last year and with your staff in previous years, the pruning or tie back of branches is not a long-term solution to meeting your requests to provide clearances for the balloons. It is the City of Seattle's policy to maximize canopy in Seattle, and the constant pruning of the branches is in conflict with that policy.

We are aware of the potential impact this position may have on the Torchlight Parade, however our concern about the effects on the canopy from the kind of pruning required to accommodate the balloons is an issue we have discussed with you and your staff for the past several years.

We hope that by giving early notification of our decision you will have time to factor it into your 2011 Seafair planning.

Sincerely,

  
Roy Francis, Manager  
SDOT Urban Forestry



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PS Form 3811, February 2004

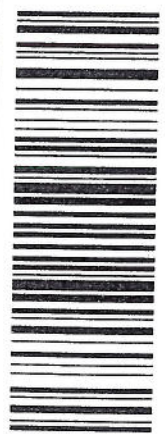
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**Beth Knox  
CEO and President  
Seafair  
2200 Sixth Ave, Suite 400  
Seattle, WA 98121**

PS Form 3800