

**The following residents have reached out to OSE and the Urban Forestry Commission with emails about the City's update to the tree ordinance.  
Emails through 10/1/19**

**From:** Stuart Niven <panorarbor@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 18, 2019 10:11 AM

**To:** Torgelson, Nathan <Nathan.Torgelson@seattle.gov>; Emery, Chanda <Chanda.Emery@Seattle.gov>; DOT\_SeattleTrees <Seattle.Trees@seattle.gov>; Pederson, Art <Art.Pederson@seattle.gov>; McGarry, Deborah <Deborah.McGarry@seattle.gov>; Dilley, Jana <Jana.Dilley@seattle.gov>; Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>

**Cc:** LEG\_CouncilMembers <council@seattle.gov>; Durkan, Jenny <Jenny.Durkan@seattle.gov>

**Subject:** Please create an "Approved Tree Service Provider Registration Requirement" to help prevent illegal removal and bad pruning.

**CAUTION: External Email**

Dear SDCI,

Trees are being badly pruned and removed daily; illegally and often without penalty. Too many tree removal services are exploiting the push for development in Seattle and are taking advantage of the many weaknesses in the current tree ordinance, not least the fact that there is no 'approved tree service provider' list, like there is for SDOT. If such a list existed it would help improve the quality of companies and decrease the likelihood of out-of-city and out-of-county removal companies coming to take trees down, often in unmarked vehicles and operating without safe practices as required by OSHA, ANSI & WA's L&I so they are almost impossible to identify until it is too late. This is also leaving trees badly pruned and the risk of decline or failure is an additional problem, as currently there is no requirement for tree pruning to be carried out to the current ANSI standards. There are local companies also removing trees with permits and performing bad arboriculture also, as many crews of tree cutters are not ISA Certified and lacking any formal training or education as it relates to tree care and management.

Another good reason to create such a requirement is that if SDCI knows who is allowed to work in the City, then it will be easy to update and inform companies as to any changes in the codes. I was asked recently by a very experienced and knowledgeable arborist about the change made in April with the removal of the exemption for 'exceptional' trees on small lots. They are very busy and did not know about this until another arborist mentioned it to them. This is not good as potentially the fact that they did not know the rule change, meant some trees may have been removed that should have been protected. It is hard to keep an eye on ordinance changes as well as run a business, so if all tree services in the City allowed to work in the City were vetted with regard to their qualifications and experience, had to sign an agreement to read and understand the current ordinance, and then be updated as to any changes to the codes into the future; the standard of tree care and protection would improve immediately and it would be much easier for SDCI to monitor and manage the trees on private property.

The same should also be the case for independent consulting arborists, who should be vetted by experienced arborists and their report writing should be to a standard much higher than many reports that are submitted at the moment, which would be rejected by any scrutiny by those training TRAQ courses for example by some form of 'peer review' especially useful if SDCI's arborists are already over stretched and not able to look at all building permits involving trees.

This again, would save healthy trees from removal and prevent developers and home owners working the poorly managed system to their advantage.

Please consider making this a priority as this does not have to be related to any discussion of the proposed changes to the tree ordinance, as this is a simple administrative process that SDCI could put in place relatively quickly, and with significant positive results.

Thank you and kind regards,

Stuart Niven, BA(Hons)

*PanorArborist*

ISA Certified Arborist PN-7245A & Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ)

Arborist on Seattle's Urban Forestry Commission

[www.panorarbor.com](http://www.panorarbor.com)

Tel/Text: 206 501 9659

[WA Lic# PANORL\\*852P1](#)

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**From:** Nicole Gomez <[info@sg.actionnetwork.org](mailto:info@sg.actionnetwork.org)>

**Sent:** Thursday, September 19, 2019 2:42 PM

**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <[Sandra.Pinto\\_de\\_Bader@Seattle.gov](mailto:Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov)>

**Subject:** 36th LD Democrats urges the city of Seattle to update its Tree Protection Ordinance

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

The following resolution was adopted by our organization.

Organization Resolution in Support of the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission's Draft Tree and Urban Forest Protection Ordinance

WHEREAS Seattle is losing not only its biggest trees, but much more of its green cover, as

developers frequently scrape properties clean of trees to maximize their buildable area; and WHEREAS Seattle has failed to require developers to replace all “exceptional” trees and trees over 24” DBH (diameter at 54” high) as prescribed by SMC 25.11.090; and WHEREAS Seattle, unlike Portland and other major cities, has not instituted a permit system to govern tree removal on developed property or property being developed, but relies instead on a complaint-based system that is applicable only to already-developed property and does not protect trees even there; and

WHEREAS the Seattle City Council voted in 2009, and again by Resolution 31870 in March 2019, to support an updating of its Tree Protection Ordinance; and

WHEREAS the City concluded, in its 2017 Tree Regulations Research Report, that “Current code is not supporting tree protection” and that “we are losing exceptional trees (and groves) in general”; and

WHEREAS Seattle’s trees and urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure that (a) reduces air pollution, stormwater runoff, and climate change impacts like heat-island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife, and (b) is important for the physical and mental health of Seattle residents; and

WHEREAS the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission has drafted, at the suggestion of several City Council members, an updated Tree and Urban Forest Protection Ordinance consistent with the eight recommendations specified by the Council in Section 6 of its Resolution 31870, which would:

a. increase protections for Seattle trees and tree canopy volume by requiring, in each land-use zone in the city, a permit for removal and replacement of any tree over 6” DBH, whether on developed property or property being developed;

b. require two-week on-site posting of tree removal and replacement applications (as SDOT already requires);

c. require on-site tree replacement equivalent, in 25 years, to the tree canopy volume removed, or payment of a fee into a Tree Replacement and Preservation Fund for planting and 5-year maintenance of trees elsewhere in the city;

d. retain current protections for exceptional trees and reduce the definitional upper threshold

for exceptional trees to 24" DBH;

e. allow no more than two significant non-exceptional trees to be removed over 3 years on developed property;

f. require registration of all tree services providers with the city;

g. track all significant tree loss and replacement; and

h. provide adequate funds to administer and enforce the ordinance.

Therefore, be it resolved that, in recognition of the environmental importance of trees and the urgent need to update and strengthen Seattle's current ordinance, we urge the Seattle City Council to enact, and the Mayor to sign and enforce, the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission's June 14, 2019 draft Tree and Urban Forest Protection Ordinance.

Resolution adopted by 36th LD Democrats, Nicole Gomez, Chair

Nicole Gomez

[chair@36th.org](mailto:chair@36th.org)

PO Box 19476

Seattle, Washington 98109

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**From:** Mickey Riley <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

**Sent:** Thursday, September 19, 2019 6:05 PM

**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>

**Subject:** Save our Trees!

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
2. Require the replacement of all Significant trees removed with trees that in 25 years will reach equivalent canopy volume – either on site or pay a replacement fee into a City Tree Replacement and Preservation Fund. Allow the Fund to also accept fines, donations, grants and set up easements.
3. Retain current protections for Exceptional Trees and reduce the upper threshold for Exceptional Trees to 24" DBH, protect tree groves and prohibit Significant Trees being removed on undeveloped lots.
4. Allow removal of no more than 2 Significant non-Exceptional Trees in 3 years per lot outside development
5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.
6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all

Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.

8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Mickey Riley

[mickeyriley40@gmail.com](mailto:mickeyriley40@gmail.com)

5006 37 Ave NE

Seattle , Washington 98105

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**From:** Judi Jones <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

**Sent:** Thursday, September 19, 2019 6:35 PM

**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>

**Subject:** Please Strengthen Seattle's Tree Ordinance

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Our urban forests, street trees, parks & trees on private property are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts As well as habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents and wildlife.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH) on private & public property.
2. Require the replacement of all Significant Trees removed with trees that in 25 years will reach equivalent canopy volume .

3. Retain current protections for Exceptional Trees and reduce the upper threshold for Exceptional Trees & groves on undeveloped lots.
4. Allow removal of no more than 2 Significant non-Exceptional Trees.
5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits.
6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

AND

9. BUDGET FOR MORE MATURE STREET TREES & REPLACEMENTS FOR DEAD TREES IN PARKS & ON OTHER PUBLIC LANDS.!

Thank you!

Judi Jones

[jjinseattle@me.com](mailto:jjinseattle@me.com)

4616 25th Ave NE #484

Seattle, Washington 98105

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**From:** RICHARD ELLISON <climbwall@msn.com>

**Sent:** Friday, September 20, 2019 1:50 AM

**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>; Durkan, Jenny <Jenny.Durkan@seattle.gov>

**Cc:** LEG\_CouncilMembers <council@seattle.gov>; Alex Pedersen <alex@electalexpedersen.org>

**Subject:** Comments on the update to the Seattle Tree Protection Ordinance : Protect Heritage Trees

**CAUTION: External Email**

To the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission:

Attached in PDF and MW Word (and below) are my comments on the "Outline of Revisions to SMC 25.11 – Tree Protection Ordinance by Seattle Urban Forestry Commission 6/14/2017 draft

<https://www.seattle.gov/Documents/Departments/UrbanForestryCommission/2019/2019docs/OutlineandDraftUFCTreeProtectionRegs070219FullDoc.pdf>

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Richard Ellison

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## Comments on the proposed Tree Protection Ordinance Update

Sept 19, 2019

Richard Ellison, MS Plant Ecology      8003 28<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98115      [climbwall@msn.com](mailto:climbwall@msn.com)

Below are suggestions to improve the quality of tree protection for Heritage quality trees, the rare and best trees “with unique historical, ecological, or aesthetic value” to be found in Seattle. Other suggestions involve improvements to the proposed ordinance in regards to invasive plant species.

Heritage trees are rare and irreplaceable and should be guaranteed protection under SEPA or whatever jurisdiction necessary. While few trees are currently designated under the “Heritage Tree Program” many more would be qualified to be a Heritage tree, regardless of whether they are currently designated as such:

“Heritage Tree” is a specially designated tree that meets criteria as a healthy tree in addition to being qualified according to one of the following categories:

- A. Specimen: A tree of exceptional size, form, ecological significance or rarity.
- B. Historic: A tree recognized by virtue of its age, its association with or contribution to a historic structure or district, or its association with a noted person, cultural, ethnic or historic event.
- C. Landmark: Trees that are landmarks of a community.
- D. Collection: Trees in a notable grove, avenue, or other planting.

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25.11.010 Purpose and Intent:



ADD: Preserve and protect all Heritage trees unless they are hazardous trees.

B10: ADD: Heritage trees and Specimen trees and Landmark trees

B11: ADD: Heritage trees and Specimen trees and Landmark trees

#### 25.11.015 Definitions:

Exceptional Tree – ADD: any Specimen tree or Landmark tree, or any tree noted in the book “Trees of Seattle, 2<sup>nd</sup> Addition, by Arthur Lee Jacobson may be considered Exceptional.

ADD: Invasive vegetation – any plant species on the King County Noxious Weeds or Weeds of Concern

ADD: Invasive vegetation control – removal of invasive plants that are choking or smothering trees, saplings and other native plants.

ADD: Invasive vegetation control plan – includes a site map showing major areas where invasive vines or shrubs are onsite, and a plan to remove or control them. Use of non-chemical means of removal are required, though spot use of herbicides may be allowed under the supervision of a certified technician and approval of the arborists plan and with the Directors approval.

ADD: Wildlife (Habitat) tree –ADD: any tree with exceptional wildlife use for nesting or roosting in winter or summer.

#### 25.11.040 Restrictions on Tree Removal

- Added requirement that Heritage trees and Landmark trees inside development may NOT be removed unless hazardous per ISA risk assessment as described in applicable section

#### SMC 25.11.090 Significant Tree Removal and Replacement associated with Development

C. 3.b.i. ADD: and Specimen and Landmark trees

d. ADD: and Specimen and Landmark trees

H. ADD : 1.a. The Director may NOT allow Heritage and Specimen and Landmark trees to be removed even if the development potential of the site is reduced. Exceptions to allow for a taller building and reductions in setbacks may be allowed to compensate for lost square footage and reduced footprint.

4. ADD: to save a Heritage tree or Specimen tree or Landmark trees

25.11.120 Tree replacement and performance standards

ADD: In-Lieu fees to be paid for any Heritage or Landmark tree will be 3x (triple) the normal fee.

25.11.130 Development standard departures for tree preservation

A. ADD: including Heritage trees or or Specimen or Landmark trees

25.11.170 Tree maintenance

ADD: D. Invasive plant species control. Invasive plant species must be controlled on the properties to protect all trees, including, but not limited to Exceptional trees and newly planted trees, for a minimum of 5 years to allow them to succeed and be healthy.

25.11.190 Enforcement and penalties. J. Civil Penalties. ADD: Any penalties or fees to be paid for removal or damage to any Heritage tree, Specimen tree, or Landmark tree, or any tree noted in the book "Trees of Seattle, 2<sup>nd</sup> Addition, by Arthur Lee Jacobson will be 2x (double) the normal penalty or fee.

General comments: Some language to require schools, public and private to be bound by these regulations.

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**From:** salekhnovich@gmail.com <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 20, 2019 7:42 AM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Save Our Trees!

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water

runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
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6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

[salekhnovich@gmail.com](mailto:salekhnovich@gmail.com)

333 Summit Ave E #201

Seattle , Washington 98105

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**From:** Judy Bendich <jebendich@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 20, 2019 10:52 AM  
**To:** Finn Coven, Jessica <Jessica.FinnCoven@seattle.gov>  
**Cc:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>; Durkan, Jenny <Jenny.Durkan@seattle.gov>; LEG\_CouncilMembers <council@seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Save Our Trees!

**CAUTION: External Email**

Dear Ms. Finn,

Thank for reaching out to me. I appreciate the effort. I also appreciate the steps you identify in your email re SDCI's hiring additional arborists and setting up an IT tracking program. Those are good steps. Unfortunately the City has now had many resolutions spanning 10 years, but still hasn't drafted and adopted a tree ordinance that has teeth. All we've gotten are resolutions and an executive order that are insufficient.

Unfortunately, I am aware of several projects where groves of trees have been cut down – in the Northgate area, Queen Anne, and Madison Valley. In my own area, there was an enormous old deodara smack in the middle of a parking lot, where a developer received a permit to build multiple townhouses. Two people stretching their arms out could not encircle this tree. I had passed by this enormous tree many many times, and knew that somehow the developer would get rid of it. And indeed, the arborist who got paid his opinion by the developer said it was “dangerous” because it was multi-branched. The opinion was highly questionable, and architects whom I know said they were well-aware of this arborist, would never use his services, and indicated he was prone to make such opinions in the service of developers. So one day the tree was there, and the next it was literally gone. And the arborist's opinion was not really publicly available. I had to go to the SDCI's Land Use page, find out who at SDCI was a reviewer for this project, contact that person, and then, eventually I received a copy of the arborist's report. It required digging, when it was too late. And, as you know, if a tree is deemed “dangerous” there's nothing requiring its replacement.

Being a certified arborist means nothing in my view. Developers know who is for hire to give an opinion they want. I think there needs to be significant SDCI oversight, which is now sorely lacking. At a minimum, there should be a public notice on site, with a copy of the arborist's

opinion posted at the site. The notice should give instructions that a second opinion may be obtained by X date. Additionally, an application to take out a tree or trees or an arborists' opinion to take out a tree or trees should be prominently listed in SDCI's Land Use listings, as a separate category, or in bold with the listing. Currently those listing tell us nothing about trees on the site, and these should be identified in every SDCI listing.

In my neighborhood, no one knew this was about to happen and people were shocked to find one morning a few chips on the pavement. Thus, first there should be notice that the community will actually see, and second, there should be adequate time for a second opinion to challenge the proposed action. Even more importantly, we need inspectors on the ground who actually go to the site in both the permitting and design review stages to photograph the site and catalog trees and tall shrubs. And if the developer "forgets" to include those, the permit should be denied and/or a heavy fine levied.

I said above to catalog shrubs as well as trees. Camellias and rhododendrons are classified as shrubs, not trees, but many in this city are at tree height and have the same pollution control value as a mature tree since they are evergreen. In my neighborhood we have 30 – 40 foot tall rhododendrons. The camellias in my yard are over 40 years old, are between 15-20 feet tall, with cumulative multi-stem girth of 6-10 feet. These have as much pollution control value and habitat as a tall conifer. My yard is not unique in Seattle. None of these shrubs are protected under Seattle ordinances and should be added to any proposed ordinance.

So SDCI needs to be proactive if we are not going to clear-cut Seattle. And since SDCI has been doing a very poor monitoring job, there may need to be a separate section of SDCI or even a different department such as OSE that monitors every permit site for trees and shrubs and exercises real authority and substantial penalties.

Thank you again for reaching out.

Sincerely, Judy

Judith E. Bendich  
1754 NE 62nd Street  
Seattle, WA 98115  
(206) 525-5914

**From:** Finn Coven, Jessica [<mailto:Jessica.FinnCoven@seattle.gov>]

**Sent:** Friday, September 20, 2019 7:10 AM

**To:** [jebendich@comcast.net](mailto:jebendich@comcast.net)

**Subject:** RE: Save Our Trees!

Dear Judith,

Thank you for your email.

Over the past couple of years, the City of Seattle has been taking steps to improve tree protection.

In 2016, my office partnered up with the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI) to undertake the Tree Regulations Research Project to assess the effectiveness of the interim tree protection regulations and get critical data for us to better understand the issues surrounding tree protection. The project's [final report](#) provided the basis for Mayor [Burgess' Executive Order 2017-11](#) on Tree Protection (EO).

The EO directed City departments to implement measures to increase tree protection. Progress on EO implementation includes:

- In 2017, SDCI began a series of updates to their [website](#) including tree protection details and signage specifications to help educate the public and permit applicants about the value of trees and tree protection regulations.
- In 2018, SDCI updated Tip [331B - Hazard Tree](#), to more clearly determine what trees are to be classified as hazardous; and [Tip 242 -Tree Protections in Seattle](#), to detail the process for evaluating a tree's risk and the process of completing and submitting a Hazard Tree Removal Application. SDCI also adopted [Director's Rule 17-2018 - Calculating Tree Valuations and Civil Penalties for Tree Protection Code Violations](#). This new rule clarifies the methodology of the cost approach used by code enforcement.
- This year, SDCI hired two arborists to assist in the review of permit applications for tree removal and enforcement of tree protection violations. SDCI is working with staff from the City's IT department to update the online permit system to include a tree tracking mechanism that will better assist staff to track tree removal and replanting during different stages of development.

My office, as part of our role staffing the Urban Forestry Commission (UFC), has worked to facilitate visits from City Councilmembers Johnson, Bagshaw, and Herbold, to discuss the Commission's recommendations for updates to the tree protection ordinance that was brought forward by Councilmember Johnson in 2018.

Earlier this year, City Council expressed their commitment to protect our urban trees as our city continues to grow by adopting a companion resolution ([Resolution 3870](#) – Section 6) to the Mandatory House Affordability legislation. The resolution is in alignment with UFC recommendations.

The Mayor and Council are currently working with the UFC on a timeline to continue this work and produce legislation to update current tree regulations.

Thank you again for reaching out.

Sincerely,  
Jessica Finn Coven, Director  
Seattle Office of Sustainability & Environment

**From:** Judith Bendich <[info@sg.actionnetwork.org](mailto:info@sg.actionnetwork.org)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 17, 2019 9:03 PM  
**To:** Finn Coven, Jessica <[Jessica.FinnCoven@seattle.gov](mailto:Jessica.FinnCoven@seattle.gov)>  
**Subject:** Save Our Trees!

**CAUTION: External Email**

OSE Director Jessica Finn Coven,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Judith Bendich

[jebendich@comcast.net](mailto:jebendich@comcast.net)

1754 NE 62nd St. 98115

Seattle, Washington 98115

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From: David Moehring <dmoehring@consultant.com>  
Sent: Friday, September 20, 2019 10:11 AM  
To: PRC <PRC@seattle.gov>; DOT\_SeattleTrees <Seattle.Trees@seattle.gov>  
Cc: treepac\_seattlelists.riseup.net <treepac\_seattle@lists.riseup.net>; TreesForNeighborhoods <TreesForNeighborhoods@seattle.gov>; DOT\_LA <DOT\_LA@seattle.gov>; Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
Subject: Public meeting request for partial tree grove removal

CAUTION: External Email

If 49 others will also write in to [PRC@seattle.gov](mailto:PRC@seattle.gov), a public meeting is desired to learn more about this development of 5 townhouses taking out every tree on the lot in Seattle's Central District. Please enforce the tree protection code for Tree Groves - including a tree grove extending onto development lot at 1414 E Cherry St, Seattle, WA 98122.



SDCI 3034802 et. Al.

A stronger tree ordinance is needed to prevent such wonton clear-cutting.

<https://cosaccela.seattle.gov/portal/customize/linktorecord.aspx?altId=3034802-EG>

For TreePAC  
David Moehring, board member.

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**From:** Alan Charnley <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 20, 2019 4:51 PM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** 32nd District Democrats urges the city of Seattle to update its Tree Protection Ordinance

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

The following resolution was adopted by our organization.

Organization Resolution in Support of the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission's Draft Tree and Urban Forest Protection Ordinance

WHEREAS Seattle is losing not only its biggest trees, but much more of its green cover, as developers frequently scrape properties clean of trees to maximize their buildable area; and  
WHEREAS Seattle has failed to require developers to replace all "exceptional" trees and trees over 24" DBH (diameter at 54" high) as prescribed by SMC 25.11.090; and  
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WHEREAS the Seattle City Council voted in 2009, and again by Resolution 31870 in March 2019, to support an updating of its Tree Protection Ordinance; and  
WHEREAS the City concluded, in its 2017 Tree Regulations Research Report, that "Current code is not supporting tree protection" and that "we are losing exceptional trees (and groves)

in general”; and

WHEREAS Seattle’s trees and urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure that (a) reduces air pollution, stormwater runoff, and climate change impacts like heat-island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife, and (b) is important for the physical and mental health of Seattle residents: and

WHEREAS the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission has drafted, at the suggestion of several City Council members, an updated Tree and Urban Forest Protection Ordinance consistent with the eight recommendations specified by the Council in Section 6 of its Resolution 31870, which would:

- a. increase protections for Seattle trees and tree canopy volume by requiring, in each land-use zone in the city, a permit for removal and replacement of any tree over 6” DBH, whether on developed property or property being developed;
- b. require two-week on-site posting of tree removal and replacement applications (as SDOT already requires);
- c. require on-site tree replacement equivalent, in 25 years, to the tree canopy volume removed, or payment of a fee into a Tree Replacement and Preservation Fund for planting and 5-year maintenance of trees elsewhere in the city;
- d. retain current protections for exceptional trees and reduce the definitional upper threshold for exceptional trees to 24” DBH;
- e. allow no more than two significant non-exceptional trees to be removed over 3 years on developed property;
- f. require registration of all tree services providers with the city;
- g. track all significant tree loss and replacement; and
- h. provide adequate funds to administer and enforce the ordinance.

Therefore, be it resolved that, in recognition of the environmental importance of trees and the

urgent need to update and strengthen Seattle's current ordinance, we urge the Seattle City Council to enact, and the Mayor to sign and enforce, the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission's June 14, 2019 draft Tree and Urban Forest Protection Ordinance.

Resolution adopted by 32nd District Democrats, Alan Charnley, Chair

Alan Charnley

[Alan.Charnley@32democrats.org](mailto:Alan.Charnley@32democrats.org)

PO Box 55622

Shoreline, Washington 98155

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**From:** Theresa Scott <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 21, 2019 10:38 AM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Keep the Emerald City green and Save Our Trees!

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

We need to protect our trees because we are at a time when every tree is playing an important role in the climate crisis. We need to plant more trees and have to remain at the forefront for understanding the importance of a green world. We need to learn to allow nature to heal itself. Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of

trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
2. Require the replacement of all Significant trees removed with trees that in 25 years will reach equivalent canopy volume – either on site or pay a replacement fee into a City Tree Replacement and Preservation Fund. Allow the Fund to also accept fines, donations, grants and set up easements.
3. Retain current protections for Exceptional Trees and reduce the upper threshold for Exceptional Trees to 24" DBH, protect tree groves and prohibit Significant Trees being removed on undeveloped lots.
4. Allow removal of no more than 2 Significant non-Exceptional Trees in 3 years per lot outside development
5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.
6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Theresa Scott

[cheftempe2@aol.com](mailto:cheftempe2@aol.com)

14002 Linden Ave N, apt 308

Seattle, Washington 98133

**From:** Seema Ardakan <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 21, 2019 1:59 PM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Save Our Trees!

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
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4. Allow removal of no more than 2 Significant non-Exceptional Trees in 3 years per lot

outside development

5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.
6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Seema Ardakan

[sdardakan@gmail.com](mailto:sdardakan@gmail.com)

14200 Linden Ave N, Apt #206A

Seattle, Washington 98133

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**From:** Janet Duecy <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

**Sent:** Saturday, September 21, 2019 5:41 PM

**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>

**Subject:** Mt. Baker Meaningful Movies urges the city of Seattle to update its Tree Protection Ordinance

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

The following resolution was adopted by our organization.

Organization Resolution in Support of the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission's Draft Tree and Urban Forest Protection Ordinance

WHEREAS Seattle is losing not only its biggest trees, but much more of its green cover, as developers frequently scrape properties clean of trees to maximize their buildable area; and  
WHEREAS Seattle has failed to require developers to replace all "exceptional" trees and trees over 24" DBH (diameter at 54" high) as prescribed by SMC 25.11.090; and

WHEREAS Seattle, unlike Portland and other major cities, has not instituted a permit system to govern tree removal on developed property or property being developed, but relies instead on a complaint-based system that is applicable only to already-developed property and does not protect trees even there; and

WHEREAS the Seattle City Council voted in 2009, and again by Resolution 31870 in March 2019, to support an updating of its Tree Protection Ordinance; and

WHEREAS the City concluded, in its 2017 Tree Regulations Research Report, that “Current code is not supporting tree protection” and that “we are losing exceptional trees (and groves) in general”; and

WHEREAS Seattle’s trees and urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure that (a) reduces air pollution, stormwater runoff, and climate change impacts like heat-island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife, and (b) is important for the physical and mental health of Seattle residents: and

WHEREAS the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission has drafted, at the suggestion of several City Council members, an updated Tree and Urban Forest Protection Ordinance consistent with the eight recommendations specified by the Council in Section 6 of its Resolution 31870, which would:

a. increase protections for Seattle trees and tree canopy volume by requiring, in each land-use zone in the city, a permit for removal and replacement of any tree over 6” DBH, whether on developed property or property being developed;

b. require two-week on-site posting of tree removal and replacement applications (as SDOT already requires);

c. require on-site tree replacement equivalent, in 25 years, to the tree canopy volume removed, or payment of a fee into a Tree Replacement and Preservation Fund for planting and 5-year maintenance of trees elsewhere in the city;

d. retain current protections for exceptional trees and reduce the definitional upper threshold for exceptional trees to 24” DBH;

e. allow no more than two significant non-exceptional trees to be removed over 3 years on

developed property;

f. require registration of all tree services providers with the city;

g. track all significant tree loss and replacement; and

h. provide adequate funds to administer and enforce the ordinance.

Therefore, be it resolved that, in recognition of the environmental importance of trees and the urgent need to update and strengthen Seattle's current ordinance, we urge the Seattle City Council to enact, and the Mayor to sign and enforce, the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission's June 14, 2019 draft Tree and Urban Forest Protection Ordinance.

Resolution adopted by Mt. Baker Meaningful Movies, Janet Duecy, Steering Committee

Janet Duecy

[janetduecy@comcast.net](mailto:janetduecy@comcast.net)

1302 31 Ave S. Apt A

Seattle, Washington 98144

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**From:** Alexander Maybruck <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 21, 2019 6:09 PM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Please Protect Seattle's Trees

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water



runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
2. Require the replacement of all Significant Trees removed with trees that in 25 years will reach equivalent canopy volume – either on site or pay a replacement fee into a City Tree Replacement and Preservation Fund. Allow the Fund to also accept fines, donations, grants and set up easements.
3. Retain current protections for Exceptional Trees and reduce the upper threshold for Exceptional Trees to 24" DBH, protect tree groves and prohibit Significant Trees being removed on undeveloped lots.
4. Allow removal of no more than 2 Significant non-Exceptional Trees in 3 years per lot outside development
5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.
6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

I work at Jim's Body Shop in Ravenna right across from a property with a grove of trees including a couple large poplars, one around 6 feet wide at its base. I've already witnessed

them cut down all the smaller ones, which is quite enough in my opinion. I grew up in Ravenna, and these trees make it the kind of lovely place I know it to be. For them to go would be unnecessarily detrimental to the neighborhood and all the wildlife it provides for. Thank you.

Alexander Maybruck

[amaybruck@gmail.com](mailto:amaybruck@gmail.com)

1207 nw 92nd st, 406

seattle, Washington 98117

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**From:** Emily Firman <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

**Sent:** Sunday, September 22, 2019 1:39 PM

**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>

**Subject:** Please Protect Seattle's Trees

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
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7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Emily Firman

[efirman7@gmail.com](mailto:efirman7@gmail.com)

12750 10th AVE NE

Seattle, Washington 98125

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**From:** Woodrow Wheeler <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 22, 2019 2:35 PM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Please Update Seattle's Tree Ordinance

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Here are two recent quotes that reinforce the need for trees in Seattle:

1. "...so far, the best available technology for pulling carbon dioxide from the air is something called a tree." - Al Gore "It's Not Too Late for the Climate"

2. "Climate change, like an increase in warmer days, hit the region's most vulnerable populations hard. Neighborhoods with fewer parks, greenbelts and trees often become heat islands where the temperature is greater than in surrounding areas." - Ryan Blethen, Seattle Times, 9/19/2019

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
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3. Retain current protections for Exceptional Trees and reduce the upper threshold for

Exceptional Trees to 24" DBH, protect tree groves and prohibit Significant Trees being removed on undeveloped lots.

4. Allow removal of no more than 2 Significant non-Exceptional Trees in 3 years per lot outside development
5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.
6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Woodrow Wheeler

[woody.wheeler@gmail.com](mailto:woody.wheeler@gmail.com)

1725 NE Naomi Place

Seattle, Washington 98115

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**From:** Julie Anne Kempf <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

**Sent:** Sunday, September 22, 2019 2:54 PM

**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>

**Subject:** 46th District Democrats urges the city of Seattle to update its Tree Protection Ordinance

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

The following resolution was adopted by our organization.

Organization Resolution in Support of the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission's Draft Tree and Urban Forest Protection Ordinance

WHEREAS Seattle is losing not only its biggest trees, but much more of its green cover, as developers frequently scrape properties clean of trees to maximize their buildable area; and  
WHEREAS Seattle has failed to require developers to replace all “exceptional” trees and trees over 24” DBH (diameter at 54” high) as prescribed by SMC 25.11.090; and  
WHEREAS Seattle, unlike Portland and other major cities, has not instituted a permit system to govern tree removal on developed property or property being developed, but relies instead on a complaint-based system that is applicable only to already-developed property and does not protect trees even there; and  
WHEREAS the Seattle City Council voted in 2009, and again by Resolution 31870 in March 2019, to support an updating of its Tree Protection Ordinance; and  
WHEREAS the City concluded, in its 2017 Tree Regulations Research Report, that “Current code is not supporting tree protection” and that “we are losing exceptional trees (and groves) in general”; and  
WHEREAS Seattle’s trees and urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure that (a) reduces air pollution, stormwater runoff, and climate change impacts like heat-island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife, and (b) is important for the physical and mental health of Seattle residents: and  
WHEREAS the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission has drafted, at the suggestion of several City Council members, an updated Tree and Urban Forest Protection Ordinance consistent with the eight recommendations specified by the Council in Section 6 of its Resolution 31870, which would:

- a. increase protections for Seattle trees and tree canopy volume by requiring, in each land-use zone in the city, a permit for removal and replacement of any tree over 6” DBH, whether on developed property or property being developed;
- b. require two-week on-site posting of tree removal and replacement applications (as SDOT already requires);
- c. require on-site tree replacement equivalent, in 25 years, to the tree canopy volume removed, or payment of a fee into a Tree Replacement and Preservation Fund for planting and 5-year maintenance of trees elsewhere in the city;

d. retain current protections for exceptional trees and reduce the definitional upper threshold for exceptional trees to 24" DBH;

e. allow no more than two significant non-exceptional trees to be removed over 3 years on developed property;

f. require registration of all tree services providers with the city;

g. track all significant tree loss and replacement; and

h. provide adequate funds to administer and enforce the ordinance.

Therefore, be it resolved that, in recognition of the environmental importance of trees and the urgent need to update and strengthen Seattle's current ordinance, we urge the Seattle City Council to enact, and the Mayor to sign and enforce, the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission's June 14, 2019 draft Tree and Urban Forest Protection Ordinance.

Resolution adopted by 46th District Democrats, Julie Anne Kempf, Chair

Julie Anne Kempf

[chair@46dems.org](mailto:chair@46dems.org)

PO Box 15409

Seattle, Washington 98115

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**From:** celia topalian <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

**Sent:** Sunday, September 22, 2019 2:56 PM

**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>

**Subject:** Please Protect Seattle's Trees

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
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3. Retain current protections for Exceptional Trees and reduce the upper threshold for Exceptional Trees to 24" DBH, protect tree groves and prohibit Significant Trees being removed on undeveloped lots.
4. Allow removal of no more than 2 Significant non-Exceptional Trees in 3 years per lot outside development
5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.
6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all



Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.

8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

celia topalian

[celiatsmith@yahoo.com](mailto:celiatsmith@yahoo.com)

6518 DAYTON AVE N

SEATTLE, Washington 98103

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**From:** Mary Ewald <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

**Sent:** Sunday, September 22, 2019 9:52 PM

**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>

**Subject:** Please Protect Seattle's Trees

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Trees in my neighborhood are being cut down by developers. The whole city suffers. The song birds are disappearing. We need to try to hold on to a piece of nature in our city.

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the

Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
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4. Allow removal of no more than 2 Significant non-Exceptional Trees in 3 years per lot outside development
5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.
6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Mary Ewald

[newcitytheater@comcast.net](mailto:newcitytheater@comcast.net)

1703 13th Ave

Seattle , Washington 98122

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**From:** Laura Wilson <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

**Sent:** Monday, September 23, 2019 1:52 PM

**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>

**Subject:** Proactivity > Reactivity (Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance).

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

As a life-long Seattle resident, I am always taken aback when visitors comment on the beauty of the city and the inclusion of nature within the city. Perhaps it's my fault for taking it for granted, but it's something that I have learned helps define our city -- that we do have a lot of trees and nature within our city limits.

I attended college in the Northeast, and my friends, who had never been to the Seattle, asked me what it's like and 'how far would I have to go to be around trees/nature'. It disheartened me to know that some cities have become so developed that trees and nature are not an inherent and daily part of people's daily lives.

While, understandably, it's easy to think that as long as trees are still around (in parks, etc), then a few can be cut down here and there, unfortunately that will be a losing battle. Less contiguous green spaces will impact wildlife (for both habitat and migration patterns), which in turn can affect some of the reasons that make Seattle attractive to citizens and visitors, such as bird-watching, shaded neighborhoods, and views of something other than concrete and steel.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.

2. Require the replacement of all Significant Trees removed with trees that in 25 years will reach equivalent canopy volume – either on site or pay a replacement fee into a City Tree Replacement and Preservation Fund. Allow the Fund to also accept fines, donations, grants and set up easements.
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5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.
6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT’s existing tree service provider’s registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Best,  
Laura Wilson

Laura Wilson  
[lwilson.uvm@gmail.com](mailto:lwilson.uvm@gmail.com)  
1212 5th Ave N #102  
Seattle, Washington 98109

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**From:** Annie Thoe <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 23, 2019 2:14 PM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Please Strengthen Seattle’s Tree Ordinance

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Dear Mayor Durkan, City Council, DCI and Urban Forestry,

I hope you are listening to the gravity of the science behind our climate crisis and the voices of the younger generations to do something NOW to stop the doomed direction we are headed with mass extinction of species, pollution and our own survival.

Just today Sept. 23 on NPR, there was an inspiring interview with Montreal Mayor Valérie Plante on how she is taking a big turn with their city to SET ASIDE and SAVE their REMAINING Green Spaces in their city as well as many other things she is doing to address climate change. This will not only ensure health and welfare for the city, but for the larger region for prevention of flooding, clean air and water. Can you look into what they are doing? Can Seattle lead in climate change?

Mayor Plante and U.N. climate negotiator Christiana Figueres also talked about how our economy needs to shift from a development-run, "make as much money as you can" model to one that looks into welfare of the whole.

Seattle is well on its way to become a concrete jungle with fewer green spaces, mature trees and canopy remaining as we create more density. We need to prioritize how we develop to protect green spaces we have left and designate more green spaces to counter the concrete and global warming we are adding. Finally, we need to choose carefully the areas we cut down-- with better protection of our trees and plans for the future to combat climate crisis.

Please pass the recommendations from the Urban Forestry Commission ASAP-- before it is too late. You can do something now.

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
2. Require the replacement of all Significant Trees removed with trees that in 25 years will reach equivalent canopy volume – either on site or pay a replacement fee into a City Tree Replacement and Preservation Fund. Allow the Fund to also accept fines, donations, grants

and set up easements.

3. Retain current protections for Exceptional Trees and reduce the upper threshold for Exceptional Trees to 24" DBH, protect tree groves and prohibit Significant Trees being removed on undeveloped lots.
4. Allow removal of no more than 2 Significant non-Exceptional Trees in 3 years per lot outside development
5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.
6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Thank you for your service,  
Annie Thoe

Annie Thoe  
[anniethoe@gmail.com](mailto:anniethoe@gmail.com)  
2201 NE 120th St  
Seattle, Washington 98125

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**From:** eric schiller <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 24, 2019 5:25 PM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Save Our Trees!

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
2. Require the replacement of all Significant trees removed with trees that in 25 years will reach equivalent canopy volume – either on site or pay a replacement fee into a City Tree Replacement and Preservation Fund. Allow the Fund to also accept fines, donations, grants and set up easements.
3. Retain current protections for Exceptional Trees and reduce the upper threshold for Exceptional Trees to 24" DBH, protect tree groves and prohibit Significant Trees being removed on undeveloped lots.
4. Allow removal of no more than 2 Significant non-Exceptional Trees in 3 years per lot outside development
5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.
6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

eric schiller

[eric schiller@gmail.com](mailto:eric schiller@gmail.com)

10744 phinney ave n

Seattle, Washington 98133

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**From:** Alexander Kubacki <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 24, 2019 8:45 PM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** It's what makes Seattle special: Save Our Trees!

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Trees are what make Seattle special. I lived for a year in a city in South Korea. On the plane flight coming back into Seattle, I remember remarking on how many trees there were compared to the cities in SK. It struck me then that trees were at the heart of why I love the city so much. Not only are they beautiful, but they also provide a service to the city itself by keeping it cool in the summer. Keep Seattle Unique, Keep Seattle Clean, Keep Seattle Healthy.

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.



Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
2. Require the replacement of all Significant trees removed with trees that in 25 years will reach equivalent canopy volume – either on site or pay a replacement fee into a City Tree Replacement and Preservation Fund. Allow the Fund to also accept fines, donations, grants and set up easements.
3. Retain current protections for Exceptional Trees and reduce the upper threshold for Exceptional Trees to 24" DBH, protect tree groves and prohibit Significant Trees being removed on undeveloped lots.
4. Allow removal of no more than 2 Significant non-Exceptional Trees in 3 years per lot outside development
5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.
6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Alexander Kubacki

[kubacki8@hotmail.com](mailto:kubacki8@hotmail.com)

4914 NE 70th St

Seattle, Washington 98115

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**From:** Bernice Maslan <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 24, 2019 9:55 PM

**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Gamut 360 developer violating tree guidelines repeatedly

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Hello Mayor Durkan, City Council members and candidates,

Imagine you live on a street with a beautiful old tree grove of at least 21 trees, at least nine of which were exceptional. Now imagine all of those chopped down despite the fact that there is development potential for three homes to be built or expanded on the 24,914 square foot lot and still retain the vast majority of the trees.

Why is the city granting building permits to this developer for yet another residential lot being cleared of its trees on 12047 to 12051 20th Ave NE when alternatives to this tree loss were available?

With the effects of our local climate changes, retaining our mature trees and canopy matter even more than ever as we increase density in our city. There is no excuse other than that developers don't want to work around trees and do not value trees for community, health and environmental benefit.

In this recent case, the city should ensure that developers should have plans that build both new housing and retained trees on development lots.

[1] There once existed sufficient open space on this parent lot of 24,914 sq ft to build or expand three homes without removing more than a couple significant trees. The arborist report included 21 trees on this lot which included 9 Exceptional Trees

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Reference the Shoffner arborist reports:

<https://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=4450498>

or prior version:

<http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=3879095>

[2] How did the subdivision of this long single-family zoned site consider the requirements of subdivisions to maximize the retention of existing trees?

Site Plan for: 12055 NE 20th NE clear cut

<https://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=3868368>

ALONG WITH <http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=4424567>

[3] Possible fines: This clear-cutting was reported to be another Gamut 360 developer clear-cutting for mini-mansions. Gamut 360 has been in the news for their clear-cut of 25 trees on: 11345 - 20th Ave NE Record Number: 6621671-CN 3030 square feet 473 soft detached garage, 11347 20th Ave. NE Record Number: 6621656-CN 3261 square feet with 582 soft detached garage. In this new development, they stripped everything except for two trees at the easement and clear cut to the property lines. Will the easement trees also be cleared? Did they remove the wrong trees? If so, apply the fines per the Director's Rule on excess tree removal without permits. How will the loss of the existing tree canopy be replaced? There appears to be violations of Seattle Municipal Code sections 25.09 and 25.11.040 and ...050 and ...060 and ...090.

Will you pursue these fines and stop this developer from this senseless development and others like them?

We need you to protect our trees and pass a much stronger tree ordinance that truly protects our canopy and mature trees for our future. The expense to our city of this clear-cut development will only compound exponentially for our future with our climate crisis and urban density.

Please pass the recommended tree ordinance by our Urban Forestry Commission now or at the very least put a moratorium into effect until the revised tree ordinance can be passed.

It is a shame to destroy our city's trees.

Thank you.

Bernice Maslan  
Greenwood resident

Bernice Maslan  
[bmaslan08@gmail.com](mailto:bmaslan08@gmail.com)

9705 1st Ave NW  
Seattle, Washington 98117

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**From:** Kjersten Gmeiner <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 24, 2019 10:12 PM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Another tree clear cut in Victory Heights 12047 to 12051 20th Ave NE

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Why is the city granting building permits to this developer for yet another residential lot being cleared of its trees on 12047 to 12051 20th Ave NE when alternatives to this tree loss were available?!

With the effects of our local climate changes, retaining our mature trees and canopy matter even more than ever as we increase density in our city. There is no excuse other than that developers don't want to work around trees and do not value trees for community, health and environmental benefit. In this recent case, the city should ensure that developers should have plans that build both new housing and retained trees on development lots.

[1] There once existed sufficient open space on this parent lot of 24,914 sq ft to build or expand three homes without removing more than a couple significant trees. The arborist report included 21 trees on this lot which included 9 Exceptional Trees.

Reference the Shoffner arborist reports:

<https://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=4450498>

or prior version:

<http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=3879095>

[2] How did the subdivision of this long single-family zoned site consider the requirements of

subdivisions to maximize the retention of existing trees?

Site Plan for: 12055 NE 20th NE clear cut

<https://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=3868368>

ALONG WITH <http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=4424567>

[3] Possible fines: This clear-cutting was reported to be another Gamut 360 developer clear-cutting for mini-mansions. Gamut 360 has been in the news for their clear-cut of 25 trees on: 11345 - 20th Ave NE Record Number: 6621671-CN 3030 square feet 473 soft detached garage, 11347 20th Ave. NE Record Number: 6621656-CN 3261 square feet with 582 soft detached garage. In this new development, the stripped everything except for two trees at the easement and clear cut to the property lines. Will the easement trees also be cleared? Did they remove the wrong trees? If so, apply the fines per the Director's Rule on excess tree removal without permits. How will the loss of the existing tree canopy be replaced? There appears to be violations of Seattle Municipal Code sections 25.09 and 25.11.040 and ...050 and ...060 and ...090. Will you pursue these fines and stop this developer from this senseless development and others like them?!

We need you to protect our trees and pass a much stronger tree ordinance that truly protects our canopy and mature trees for our future. The expense to our city of this clear-cut development will only compound exponentially for our future with our climate crisis and urban density. TREES ARE ESSENTIAL FOR OUR HEALTH AND THE HEALTH OF OUR CHILDREN. Please pass the recommended tree ordinance by our Urban Forestry Commission now!

Thank you,

Kjersten Gmeiner, MD

Kjersten Gmeiner

[gmeiner.k@gmail.com](mailto:gmeiner.k@gmail.com)

12051 14th NE

Seattle, Washington 98125

**From:** Susan Walker <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 24, 2019 10:55 PM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Please Protect Seattle's Trees

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
2. Require the replacement of all Significant Trees removed with trees that in 25 years will reach equivalent canopy volume – either on site or pay a replacement fee into a City Tree Replacement and Preservation Fund. Allow the Fund to also accept fines, donations, grants and set up easements.
3. Retain current protections for Exceptional Trees and reduce the upper threshold for Exceptional Trees to 24" DBH, protect tree groves and prohibit Significant Trees being removed on undeveloped lots.
4. Allow removal of no more than 2 Significant non-Exceptional Trees in 3 years per lot

outside development

5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.
6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Susan Walker

[jeffsusanw@gmail.com](mailto:jeffsusanw@gmail.com)

3832 24th Ave W

Seattle , Washington 98199

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**From:** Gayle Janzen <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 24, 2019 10:59 PM

**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>

**Subject:** Another lot clear cut by Gamut 360

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Gamut 360 has a history of clear cutting lots instead of protecting as many trees as possible, so why is the city granting building permits to this developer for yet another residential lot being cleared of its trees on 12047 to 12051 20th Ave NE when alternatives to this tree loss were available? It seems like the city really doesn't care much about saving our trees, especially the large, old growth ones.

Climate change is here so it is vitally important to be retaining our mature trees and canopy matter even more than ever as we increase density in our city. There is no excuse other than

that developers don't want to work around trees and do not value trees for community, health and environmental benefit. In this recent case, the city should ensure that developers have plans that build both new housing and retained trees on development lots. Why are you being so passive about saving our trees??

[1] There once existed sufficient open space on this parent lot of 24,914 sq ft to build or expand three homes without removing more than a couple significant trees. The arborist report included 21 trees on this lot which included 9 Exceptional Trees.

Reference the Shoffner arborist reports:

<https://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=4450498>

or prior version: <http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=3879095>

[2] How did the subdivision of this long single-family zoned site consider the requirements of subdivisions to maximize the retention of existing trees?

Site Plan for: 12055 NE 20th NE clear cut

<https://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=3868368>

ALONG WITH <http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=4424567>

[3] Possible fines: This clear-cutting was reported to be another Gamut 360 developer clear-cutting for mini-mansions. Gamut 360 has been in the news for their clear-cut of 25 trees on: 11345 - 20th Ave NE Record Number: 6621671-CN 3030 square feet 473 soft detached garage, 11347 20th Ave. NE Record Number: 6621656-CN 3261 square feet with 582 soft detached garage. In this new development, they stripped everything except for two trees at the easement and clear cut to the property lines. Will the easement trees also be cleared? Did they remove the wrong trees? If so, apply the fines per the Director's Rule on excess tree removal without permits. How will the loss of the existing tree canopy be replaced? There appears to be violations of Seattle Municipal Code sections 25.09 and 25.11.040 and ...050 and ...060 and ...090. Will you pursue these fines and stop this developer from this senseless development and others like them?

Again, as I have written before, we need you to protect our trees and pass a much stronger tree ordinance that truly protects our canopy and mature trees for our future. The expense to



our city of this clear-cut development will will only compound exponentially for our future with our climate crisis and urban density. Please pass the recommended tree ordinance by our Urban Forestry Commission now and enforce it, otherwise it is just words on paper.

For the trees,  
Gayle Janzen

Gayle Janzen  
[cgjanzen@comcast.net](mailto:cgjanzen@comcast.net)  
11232 Dayton Ave N  
Seattle, Washington 98133

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From: heidi calyxsite.com <heidi@calyxsite.com>  
Sent: Monday, September 23, 2019 2:23 PM  
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
Subject: FW: Tree Legal Demo permit issued ; so about the 4 to 5 exceptional trees

CAUTION: External Email

Heidi Siegelbaum

(206) 784-4265

<http://www.linkedin.com/in/heidisiegelbaum>

-----Original Message-----

From: tree-ordinance-legal@googlegroups.com <tree-ordinance-legal@googlegroups.com> On Behalf Of David Moehring  
Sent: Monday, September 23, 2019 2:18 PM  
To: DOT\_LA <DOT\_LA@seattle.gov>; PRC <PRC@seattle.gov>; parkseattlellc@gmail.com; SCI\_Code\_Compliance <SCI\_Code\_Compliance@seattle.gov>  
Cc: Magnolia-tree-keepers\_all@googlegroups.com; Tree Ordinance Legal <tree-ordinance-legal@googlegroups.com>; ruth@dannerdata.com; Pederson, Art <Art.Pederson@seattle.gov>  
Subject: Tree Legal Demo permit issued ; so about the 4 to 5 exceptional trees

Urgent matter:  
3509 W Thurman St

Regarding building Permit application #6724738 And Demo permit approved on Sept 20,2019 #6743356

Applicant Park Seattle LLC has been copied here.

Please provide the site plans for retaining the existing 4 to 5 code-protected exceptional trees to be retained per the SMC title 23 and 25 Codes.

The new Development plan shows no existing trees:  
<http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=4509539>

Past Request from Art Pederson:  
<http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=4618053>

The arborist report has no information relative to tree protections during new construction and demolition.

Thank you,  
David Moehring  
For  
Magnolia TreeKeepers

Sent using the mail.com mail app

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You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "Tree Ordinance Legal" group.

To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to [tree-ordinance-legal+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com](mailto:tree-ordinance-legal+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com).

To view this discussion on the web visit <https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/tree-ordinance-legal/trinity-a13d75e9-2e7e-438a-a9a6-b2753422b878-1569273474033%40msvc-mesg-gmxus008>.

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**From:** Scott Alspach <[info@sg.actionnetwork.org](mailto:info@sg.actionnetwork.org)>

**Sent:** Monday, September 23, 2019 3:45 PM

**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <[Sandra.Pinto\\_de\\_Bader@Seattle.gov](mailto:Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov)>

**Subject:** 43rd District Democrats urges the city of Seattle to update its Tree Protection Ordinance

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

The following resolution was adopted by our organization.

Organization Resolution in Support of the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission's Draft Tree and Urban Forest Protection Ordinance

WHEREAS Seattle is losing not only its biggest trees, but much more of its green cover, as developers frequently scrape properties clean of trees to maximize their buildable area; and  
WHEREAS Seattle has failed to require developers to replace all "exceptional" trees and trees over 24" DBH (diameter at 54" high) as prescribed by SMC 25.11.090; and  
WHEREAS Seattle, unlike Portland and other major cities, has not instituted a permit system to govern tree removal on developed property or property being developed, but relies instead on a complaint-based system that is applicable only to already-developed property and does not protect trees even there; and  
WHEREAS the Seattle City Council voted in 2009, and again by Resolution 31870 in March 2019, to support an updating of its Tree Protection Ordinance; and  
WHEREAS the City concluded, in its 2017 Tree Regulations Research Report, that "Current code is not supporting tree protection" and that "we are losing exceptional trees (and groves) in general"; and  
WHEREAS Seattle's trees and urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure that (a) reduces air pollution, stormwater runoff, and climate change impacts like heat-island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife, and (b) is important for the physical and mental health of Seattle residents: and  
WHEREAS the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission has drafted, at the suggestion of several City Council members, an updated Tree and Urban Forest Protection Ordinance consistent with the eight recommendations specified by the Council in Section 6 of its Resolution 31870, which would:

- a. increase protections for Seattle trees and tree canopy volume by requiring, in each land-use zone in the city, a permit for removal and replacement of any tree over 6" DBH, whether on developed property or property being developed;
- b. require two-week on-site posting of tree removal and replacement applications (as SDOT

already requires);

c. require on-site tree replacement equivalent, in 25 years, to the tree canopy volume removed, or payment of a fee into a Tree Replacement and Preservation Fund for planting and 5-year maintenance of trees elsewhere in the city;

d. retain current protections for exceptional trees and reduce the definitional upper threshold for exceptional trees to 24" DBH;

e. allow no more than two significant non-exceptional trees to be removed over 3 years on developed property;

f. require registration of all tree services providers with the city;

g. track all significant tree loss and replacement; and

h. provide adequate funds to administer and enforce the ordinance.

Therefore, be it resolved that, in recognition of the environmental importance of trees and the urgent need to update and strengthen Seattle's current ordinance, we urge the Seattle City Council to enact, and the Mayor to sign and enforce, the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission's June 14, 2019 draft Tree and Urban Forest Protection Ordinance.

Resolution adopted by 43rd District Democrats, Scott Alspach, Chair

Scott Alspach

[chair@43rddemocrats.org](mailto:chair@43rddemocrats.org)

P.O. Box 95433

Seattle, Washington 98145

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**From:** annie sensingvitality.com <annie@sensingvitality.com>

**Sent:** Monday, September 23, 2019 8:24 PM

**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>

**Subject:** Why is the city allowing Clear-cutting practices with our Current Climate Crisis?

**CAUTION: External Email**

Dear Ms. Pinto De Bader,

I've written the Mayor and others about this recent development. Why is the city granting building permits to this developer Gamut 360 for yet another **residential lot being cleared of its trees on** 12047 to 12051 20th Ave NE when alternatives to this tree loss were available with no way (or payment fees) to replace this tragic loss of canopy?

With the effects of our local climate changes, retaining our mature trees and canopy matter even more than ever as we increase density in our city. There is no excuse other than that developers don't want to work around trees and do not value trees for community, health and environmental benefit. In this recent case, the city should ensure that developers **should have plans that build both new housing and retained trees** on development lots.

[1] There **once existed sufficient open space** on this parent lot of 24,914 sq ft to build or expand three homes without removing more than a couple significant trees. **The arborist report included 21 trees on this lot which included 9 Exceptional Trees.**

Reference the Shoffner arborist reports:

<https://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=4450498>

or prior version:

<http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=3879095>

[2] How did the subdivision of this long single-family zoned site consider the **requirements of subdivisions to maximize the retention of existing trees?**

Site Plan for: 12055 NE 20th NE clear cut

<https://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=3868368>

ALONG WITH <http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=4424567>

[3] Possible fines: This clear-cutting was reported to be another **Gamut 360 developer clear-cutting for mini-mansions**. Gamut 360 has been in the news for their clear-cut of 25 trees on: **11345 - 20th Ave NE** Record Number: 6621671-CN 3030 square feet **473 soft detached garage, 11347 20th Ave. NE** Record Number: 6621656-CN **3261 square feet with 582 soft detached garage**. In this new development, the stripped everything except for two trees at the easement and clear cut to the property lines. Will the easement trees also be cleared? Did they remove the wrong trees? If so, apply the fines per the Director's Rule on excess tree removal without permits. **How will the loss of the existing tree canopy be replaced?** There appears to be violations of Seattle Municipal Code sections 25.09 and 25.11.040 and ...050 and ...060 and ...090. Will you pursue these fines and stop this developer from this senseless development and others like them?

We need you to protect our trees and pass a much stronger tree ordinance that truly protects our canopy and mature trees for our future. The expense to our city of this clear-cut development will will

only compound exponentially for our future with our climate crisis and urban density. Please stop these kinds of senseless developments and pass the recommended tree ordinance by our Urban Forestry Commission now!

Thank you,

Annie Thoe  
206-271-4270

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**From:** Barbara Bernard <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

**Sent:** Monday, September 23, 2019 8:37 PM

**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>

**Subject:** Please Update Seattle's Tree Ordinance

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
2. Require the replacement of all Significant Trees removed with trees that in 25 years will reach equivalent canopy volume – either on site or pay a replacement fee into a City Tree

Replacement and Preservation Fund. Allow the Fund to also accept fines, donations, grants and set up easements.

3. Retain current protections for Exceptional Trees and reduce the upper threshold for Exceptional Trees to 24" DBH, protect tree groves and prohibit Significant Trees being removed on undeveloped lots.
4. Allow removal of no more than 2 Significant non-Exceptional Trees in 3 years per lot outside development
5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.
6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Barbara Bernard

[barbara\\_bernard@yahoo.com](mailto:barbara_bernard@yahoo.com)

3010A 31st Ave W

Seattle, Washington 98199

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**From:** Deborah Stewart <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 23, 2019 8:37 PM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Save our Trees!

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Let's keep the Emerald City green! For not only the beauty of this place but for all the good things that trees give us, from sucking CO2 and other pollutants out of the air, giving us

oxygen we need to live, cooling our summers, and protecting our wildlife. A healthy city -- and a healthy planet -- requires abundant trees. Keeping Seattle's trees intact and healthy requires stewardship that the updated ordinance will provide. Please pass it.

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
2. Require the replacement of all Significant trees removed with trees that in 25 years will reach equivalent canopy volume – either on site or pay a replacement fee into a City Tree Replacement and Preservation Fund. Allow the Fund to also accept fines, donations, grants and set up easements.
3. Retain current protections for Exceptional Trees and reduce the upper threshold for Exceptional Trees to 24" DBH, protect tree groves and prohibit Significant Trees being removed on undeveloped lots.
4. Allow removal of no more than 2 Significant non-Exceptional Trees in 3 years per lot outside development
5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.
6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.



7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Deborah Stewart

[dstewart98109@icloud.com](mailto:dstewart98109@icloud.com)

7501 GREENWOOD AVE N, Unit 301

SEATTLE, Washington 98103-4641

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**From:** Barbara Bernard <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 23, 2019 8:38 PM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Please Strengthen Seattle's Tree Ordinance

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Subject: Another tree clear cut in Victory Heights 12047 to 12051 20th Ave NE

Why is the city granting building permits to this developer for yet another residential lot being cleared of its trees on 12047 to 12051 20th Ave NE when alternatives to this tree loss were available?

With the effects of our local climate changes, retaining our mature trees and canopy matter even more than ever as we increase density in our city. There is no excuse other than that developers don't want to work around trees and do not value trees for community, health and environmental benefit. In this recent case, the city should ensure that developers should have plans that build both new housing and retained trees on development lots.

[1] There once existed sufficient open space on this parent lot of 24,914 sq ft to build or expand three homes without removing more than a couple significant trees. The arborist report included 21 trees on this lot which included 9 Exceptional Trees.

Reference the Shoffner arborist reports:

<https://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=4450498>

or prior version: <http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=3879095>

[2] How did the subdivision of this long single-family zoned site consider the requirements of subdivisions to maximize the retention of existing trees?

Site Plan for: 12055 NE 20th NE clear cut

<https://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=3868368>

ALONG WITH <http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=4424567>

[3] Possible fines: This clear-cutting was reported to be another Gamut 360 developer clear-cutting for mini-mansions. Gamut 360 has been in the news for their clear-cut of 25 trees on: 11345 - 20th Ave NE Record Number: 6621671-CN 3030 square feet 473 soft detached garage, 11347 20th Ave. NE Record Number: 6621656-CN 3261 square feet with 582 soft detached garage. In this new development, the stripped everything except for two trees at the easement and clear cut to the property lines. Will the easement trees also be cleared? Did they remove the wrong trees? If so, apply the fines per the Director's Rule on excess tree removal without permits. How will the loss of the existing tree canopy be replaced? There appears to be violations of Seattle Municipal Code sections 25.09 and 25.11.040 and ...050 and ...060 and ...090. Will you pursue these fines and stop this developer from this senseless development and others like them?

We need you to protect our trees and pass a much stronger tree ordinance that truly protects our canopy and mature trees for our future. The expense to our city of this clear-cut development will will only compound exponentially for our future with our climate crisis and urban density. Please pass the recommended tree ordinance by our Urban Forestry Commission now!

Thank you,

Barbara Bernard

[barbara\\_bernard@yahoo.com](mailto:barbara_bernard@yahoo.com)

3010A 31st ave w

Seattle, Washington 98199

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**From:** Lianne Lindeke <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 23, 2019 8:51 PM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Another tree clear cut in Victory Heights 12047 to 12051 20th Ave NE

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Why is the city granting building permits to this developer for yet another residential lot being cleared of its trees on 12047 to 12051 20th Ave NE when alternatives to this tree loss were available?

With the effects of our local climate changes, retaining our mature trees and canopy matter even more than ever as we increase density in our city. There is no excuse other than that developers don't want to work around trees and do not value trees for community, health and environmental benefit. In this recent case, the city should ensure that developers should have plans that build both new housing and retained trees on development lots.

[1] There once existed sufficient open space on this parent lot of 24,914 sq ft to build or expand three homes without removing more than a couple significant trees. The arborist report included 21 trees on this lot which included 9 Exceptional Trees.

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[2] How did the subdivision of this long single-family zoned site consider the requirements of subdivisions to maximize the retention of existing trees?

Site Plan for: 12055 NE 20th NE clear cut

<https://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=3868368>

ALONG WITH <http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=4424567>

[3] Possible fines: This clear-cutting was reported to be another Gamut 360 developer clear-cutting for mini-mansions. Gamut 360 has been in the news for their clear-cut of 25 trees on:

11345 - 20th Ave NE Record Number: 6621671-CN 3030 square feet 473 soft detached garage, 11347 20th Ave. NE Record Number: 6621656-CN 3261 square feet with 582 soft detached garage. In this new development, the stripped everything except for two trees at the easement and clear cut to the property lines. Will the easement trees also be cleared? Did they remove the wrong trees? If so, apply the fines per the Director's Rule on excess tree removal without permits. How will the loss of the existing tree canopy be replaced? There appears to be violations of Seattle Municipal Code sections 25.09 and 25.11.040 and ...050 and ...060 and ...090. Will you pursue these fines and stop this developer from this senseless development and others like them?

We need you to protect our trees and pass a much stronger tree ordinance that truly protects our canopy and mature trees for our future. The expense to our city of this clear-cut development will will only compound exponentially for our future with our climate crisis and urban density. Please pass the recommended tree ordinance by our Urban Forestry Commission now!

Thank you,

Lianne Lindeke

[llindeke@hotmail.com](mailto:llindeke@hotmail.com)

12003 36th Ave NE

Seattle, Washington 98125

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**From:** kevin orme <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

**Sent:** Monday, September 23, 2019 10:05 PM

**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>

**Subject:** Save Our Trees - NOW! Quit Stalling and taking Martin Selig's/developer money!

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

You may have seen the front page article in the Seattle Times today about the unmatched capability of old-growth trees to combat climate change - if not - READ it:

<https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/environment/how-restoring-old-growth-forest-in-washington-state-could-help-fight-climate-change/>

and note that we have plenty of large, exceptional, old-growth sized and age trees in Seattle city limits - BUT, you are letting DCI 'permit' them out of existence by

1) not enforcing our own 2009 Interim Tree Ordinance - how can we trust our own laws when you don't ENFORCE them?

2) not making critical improvements to eliminate loopholes and strengthen our ability to combat climate change in that same law - the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission has already given you the information and tools to do the right thing - GET IT DONE ALREADY!?!

3) I'm on Mayor Durkan's email list - she sent an email a few letters ago warning of heat islands, polluted air and climate change in Seattle - yet the next day, an NPR article came out that addressed the most effective and cost-efficient way to address this - protecting existing and planting more TREE CANOPY IN THE CITY - yet every action the SeaCC and Mayor take does exactly the opposite - you aren't even listening to your own words????

<https://www.npr.org/2019/09/04/755349748/trees-are-key-to-fighting-urban-heat-but-cities-keep-losing-them>

<https://cnsmaryland.org/interactives/summer-2019/code-red/role-of-trees.html#story>

We need you to

1) protect our trees and

2) pass a much stronger tree ordinance that truly protects our canopy and mature trees for our future. The effect on our city, health, climate and urban wildlife of this rampant,

unchecked and ever-faster clear-cut development will already reverberate for decades to come, unless YOU do something about it!?!)

Pass and ENFORCE the recommended tree ordinance by our Urban Forestry Commission now!

Thank you,

kevin orme

[bi670@scn.org](mailto:bi670@scn.org)

502 N 80th

seattle, Washington 98103

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**From:** Anne Siems <[info@sg.actionnetwork.org](mailto:info@sg.actionnetwork.org)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 24, 2019 8:53 AM

**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <[Sandra.Pinto\\_de\\_Bader@Seattle.gov](mailto:Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov)>

**Subject:** Please Protect Seattle's Trees

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

DEAR CITY OF SEATTLE, YOU MAY NOT HAVE NOTICED.BUT WE ARE IN A CLIMATE CRISIS.

THIS SI WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW: WE HAVE TO STOP CUTTTING TREES. WE HAVE TO INCREASE PLANTING AND CARE OF NEW TREES.PERIOD.

WATCH THIS VIDOE FROM THE GUARDIAN:

WE must increase trees.We Have to stop cutting ANY down. PERIOD>

my<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/sep/19/greta-thunberg-we-are-ignoring-natural-climate->

solutions?utm\_source=instagramstories&utm\_campaign=Thunberginterview+film

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
2. Require the replacement of all Significant Trees removed with trees that in 25 years will reach equivalent canopy volume – either on site or pay a replacement fee into a City Tree Replacement and Preservation Fund. Allow the Fund to also accept fines, donations, grants and set up easements.
3. Retain current protections for Exceptional Trees and reduce the upper threshold for Exceptional Trees to 24" DBH, protect tree groves and prohibit Significant Trees being removed on undeveloped lots.
4. Allow removal of no more than 2 Significant non-Exceptional Trees in 3 years per lot outside development
5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.
6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.

8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Anne Siems

[siems.art@gmail.com](mailto:siems.art@gmail.com)

6548 21st Ave NW

Seattle, Washington 98117

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**From:** Muriel Lawty <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 24, 2019 10:31 AM

**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>

**Subject:** Please Update Seattle's Tree Ordinance

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

I have fibromyalgia that is "triggered" by air pollution (among other things). I am only one of many that need a clean healthy environment to be healthy. Please protect our trees.

I agree with the letter below and the message from this website:

Subject: Another tree clear cut in Victory Heights 12047 to 12051 20th Ave NE

Why is the city granting building permits to this developer for yet another residential lot being cleared of its trees on 12047 to 12051 20th Ave NE when alternatives to this tree loss were available?

With the effects of our local climate changes, retaining our mature trees and canopy matter even more than ever as we increase density in our city. There is no excuse other than that developers don't want to work around trees and do not value trees for community, health and environmental benefit. In this recent case, the city should ensure that developers should have plans that build both new housing and retained trees on development lots.



[1] There once existed sufficient open space on this parent lot of 24,914 sq ft to build or expand three homes without removing more than a couple significant trees. The arborist report included 21 trees on this lot which included 9 Exceptional Trees.

Reference the Shoffner arborist reports:

<https://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=4450498>

or prior version:

<http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=3879095>

[2] How did the subdivision of this long single-family zoned site consider the requirements of subdivisions to maximize the retention of existing trees?

Site Plan for: 12055 NE 20th NE clear cut

<https://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=3868368>

ALONG WITH <http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=4424567>

[3] Possible fines: This clear-cutting was reported to be another Gamut 360 developer clear-cutting for mini-mansions. Gamut 360 has been in the news for their clear-cut of 25 trees on: 11345 - 20th Ave NE Record Number: 6621671-CN 3030 square feet 473 soft detached garage, 11347 20th Ave. NE Record Number: 6621656-CN 3261 square feet with 582 soft detached garage. In this new development, the stripped everything except for two trees at the easement and clear cut to the property lines. Will the easement trees also be cleared? Did they remove the wrong trees? If so, apply the fines per the Director's Rule on excess tree removal without permits. How will the loss of the existing tree canopy be replaced? There appears to be violations of Seattle Municipal Code sections 25.09 and 25.11.040 and ...050 and ...060 and ...090. Will you pursue these fines and stop this developer from this senseless development and others like them?

We need you to protect our trees and pass a much stronger tree ordinance that truly protects our canopy and mature trees for our future. The expense to our city of this clear-cut development will only compound exponentially for our future with our climate crisis and

urban density. Please pass the recommended tree ordinance by our Urban Forestry Commission now!

Thank you,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
2. Require the replacement of all Significant Trees removed with trees that in 25 years will reach equivalent canopy volume – either on site or pay a replacement fee into a City Tree Replacement and Preservation Fund. Allow the Fund to also accept fines, donations, grants and set up easements.
3. Retain current protections for Exceptional Trees and reduce the upper threshold for Exceptional Trees to 24" DBH, protect tree groves and prohibit Significant Trees being removed on undeveloped lots.
4. Allow removal of no more than 2 Significant non-Exceptional Trees in 3 years per lot outside development
5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.

6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Muriel Lawty

[m.g.lawty@gmail.com](mailto:m.g.lawty@gmail.com)

3018 NE 137th St #3

Seattle, Washington 98125

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**From:** Cynthia Rose <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 24, 2019 12:04 PM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Another tree clear cut in Victory Heights 12047 to 12051 20th Ave NE

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

I think we are on the way to have Pinehurst be called Stumphurst as Seattle seems to be granting building permits to this developer for yet another residential lot being cleared of its trees on 12047 to 12051 20th Ave NE. Alternatives to this tree loss have been available, but developers do not want to work around trees and do not value them for community, health, and environmental benefit.

With the effects of our local climate changes, retaining our mature trees and canopy matter even more than ever as we increase density in our city. . In this recent case, the city should ensure that developers should have plans that build both new housing and retained trees on development lots.

[1] There once existed sufficient open space on this parent lot of 24,914 sq ft to build or

expand three homes without removing more than a couple significant trees. The arborist report included 21 trees on this lot which included 9 Exceptional Trees.

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[2] How did the subdivision of this long single-family zoned site consider the requirements of subdivisions to maximize the retention of existing trees?

Site Plan for: 12055 NE 20th NE clear cut

<https://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=3868368>

ALONG WITH <http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=4424567>

[3] Possible fines: This clear-cutting was reported to be another Gamut 360 developer clear-cutting for mini-mansions. Gamut 360 has been in the news for their clear-cut of 25 trees on: 11345 - 20th Ave NE Record Number: 6621671-CN 3030 square feet 473 soft detached garage, 11347 20th Ave. NE Record Number: 6621656-CN 3261 square feet with 582 soft detached garage. In this new development, the stripped everything except for two trees at the easement and clear cut to the property lines. Will the easement trees also be cleared? Did they remove the wrong trees? If so, apply the fines per the Director's Rule on excess tree removal without permits. How will the loss of the existing tree canopy be replaced? There appears to be violations of Seattle Municipal Code sections 25.09 and 25.11.040 and ...050 and ...060 and ...090. Will you pursue these fines and stop this developer from this senseless development and others like them?

We need you to protect our trees and pass a much stronger tree ordinance that truly protects our canopy and mature trees for our future. The expense to our city of this clear-cut development will only compound exponentially for our future with our climate crisis and urban density. Please pass the recommended tree ordinance by our Urban Forestry

Commission now! The recommendations are listed at the bottom of this letter, so that it is easy for you to review them.

Thank you,

Cynthia Rose

FYI

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance, as recommended by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
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8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Cynthia Rose

[crose1453@gmail.com](mailto:crose1453@gmail.com)

11557 23rd Ave. NE

Seattle, Wa 98125

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**From:** John Thoe <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 24, 2019 12:17 PM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Keep Seattle Livable!

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

I'm furious that a developer can come into a neighborhood and destroy the entire complexion of that neighborhood without receiving a prison sentence. No thought at all to everyone who actually lives there. Worse, is the Seattle City council's vote of 7-0 on passing the building of DADU and ADU living spaces with no thought as to who can own them (out of city residents as well as foreigner investing in our land), live in them ( up to 12 unrelated people per residence), supplying only enough new living spaces for 4,000 ( a drop in the bucket and at a cost of replacing a family residence to a residence that can only be purchased, with 2 homes on it, by someone with only an immense collateral). Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the

Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
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7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

John Thoe

[johnthoe@gmail.com](mailto:johnthoe@gmail.com)

2201 NE 120th

Seattle, Washington 98125

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**From:** Dorothy Jung <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 24, 2019 12:45 PM

**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>

**Subject:** Please Strengthen Seattle's Tree Ordinance

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
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7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Dorothy Jung

[dorothy.jung@gmail.com](mailto:dorothy.jung@gmail.com)

800 Seneca St., Apt. 2609

Seattle, Washington 98101

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**From:** Rhiannon Bowen <[info@sg.actionnetwork.org](mailto:info@sg.actionnetwork.org)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 25, 2019 2:55 PM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <[Sandra.Pinto\\_de\\_Bader@Seattle.gov](mailto:Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov)>  
**Subject:** Please Update Seattle's Tree Ordinance

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
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3. Retain current protections for Exceptional Trees and reduce the upper threshold for Exceptional Trees to 24" DBH, protect tree groves and prohibit Significant Trees being removed on undeveloped lots.
4. Allow removal of no more than 2 Significant non-Exceptional Trees in 3 years per lot outside development
5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.
6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Rhiannon Bowen

[rulerofanime@gmail.com](mailto:rulerofanime@gmail.com)

5933 Longdin Road

FERNDAL, Washington 98248

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**From:** Jo Halverson <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 25, 2019 8:03 PM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Please Protect Seattle's Trees

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all

Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.

8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Please help preserve our health and quality of life.

Dr Halverson

Jo Halverson

[joannedhalverson@gmail.com](mailto:joannedhalverson@gmail.com)

6029 35th ave ne

Seattle, Washington Wa

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**From:** Annie Fanning <anniefanning@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, September 26, 2019 8:13 AM

**To:** TreesforSeattle <TreesforSeattle@seattle.gov>

**Subject:** NEW Idea for "Neighborwoods"

**CAUTION: External Email**

To the Urban Forestry Commission:

As a former Seattle tree ambassador, GSP forest steward, and community member of Thornton Creek Alliance, I feel that current outreach efforts (though admirable) are not enough to secure the watershed and to save our community from devastating canopy loss and stormwater damage. To mitigate the threat of climate change to our community, Seattle must make a greater effort to protect our trees, specifically our existing large conifers, which soak up stormwater, stabilize the soil, offer oxygen and cleaner air, cool us in the summers, and create habitat for a rich variety of insects and animals. To do that, may I suggest we see the forest for the trees.

Please consider putting together a pilot program in Northeast Seattle to support the urban forest in the Thornton Creek Watershed area. My idea is to offer financial incentive to property owners to preserve and maintain large conifers as part of their "neighborwoods." I propose that the City of Seattle offer property tax rebates for square footage of maintained urban forest, defined as anything from one enormous conifer to multiple properly sited young trees, to understory planting under conifers that are on neighboring property within 10 feet of the property line. The idea being that if the trees "pay rent" to property owners (and potentially their neighbors who support the tree with understory) every year that the owners (and neighbors) will come to value and respect their trees much more than they currently do. And if the city were paying the property owners for their square footage of managed urban forest, then the City would also have a financial stake in maintaining that square footage. If property with designated urban forest is subsequently sold and developed, the new owner would have to reimburse the financial value of that square footage of urban forest to the City, which in turn would be obligated to use that money toward gaining new urban forest square footage in the neighboring greenbelts by professionally restoring sections or by purchasing adjacent parcels to add to the creek buffer.

Because "community buy-in" is critical to the success of such an idea, I propose that such a neighborwoods program only go into effect if a certain number of property owners or a threshold of square acreage is met within the targeted Thornton Creek Watershed area. It must mean something to be a designated urban forest—it should be a measurable concept that includes a specific number of trees and a corresponding measure of understory planting. Likewise, designated natural areas should not immediately be granted urban forest status without meeting the same

urban forest guidelines as private property. I believe that the USDA Forestry Department actually does have guidelines specific to urban forests that may be helpful in this regard.

To achieve this threshold of designated urban woods on private property, the program must include a targeted outreach push, which hopefully dedicated volunteers with professional city support can achieve through community meetings and partnerships with other nonprofit stakeholders. I am certain that targeting specific property owners with existing large conifers with “lower your property taxes” messaging combined with an educational component about the value of urban forest as green infrastructure will be compelling enough to spur adoption. However as an additional incentive to join the neighborhood program, I propose that the City offer to restore matching square footage in the Thornton Creek natural areas for every confirmed homeowner-designated urban forest plot—and I suggest that the City make good on this pledge even if the ultimate threshold of participation to enact such a neighborhood program to get the property tax rebate is not met.

The idea here is to empower property owners who have the same forest-type of trees (not just the same species, but the same group of “tree friends”) and who live adjacent to each other to declare their parcels as part of the same urban forest. Seattle, for its part would agree that urban forests are of greater value than the sum of their parts and should be both protected and valued monetarily by our government. Rather than battle for the life of each heritage tree, which is what many of my tree-loving cohort are currently doing, I think we should push people into recognizing that their trees communicate with other trees beyond their personal property lines and that here in North Seattle we live in a historic forest that is constantly trying to replant itself. The energy exists to change the community culture to one that values and supports large conifers. If the city offers private property owners a financial incentive to keep their large trees healthy, I believe we can halt canopy loss and potentially gain new urban forest.

The time to protect existing large conifers and build acceptance for the urban forest-dweller lifestyle is now. We will not survive the massive influx of water into our weather system from the melting glaciers without the large conifers to suck up the stormwater and stabilize the soil!

Thank you considering this idea,

Annie Fanning

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**From:** Jonathan Freedman <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

**Sent:** Thursday, September 26, 2019 11:14 AM

**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>

**Subject:** Keep Seattle Livable!

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle’s trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle’s rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. We have seen the effects of the outdated ordinance in our neighborhood, as home and office construction continues and mature trees are cut. It is

urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission. We are counting on you to sign a stronger tree ordinance into law.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
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4. Allow removal of no more than 2 Significant non-Exceptional Trees in 3 years per lot outside development
5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.
6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Jonathan Freedman

[jonathan.freedman@mac.com](mailto:jonathan.freedman@mac.com)

8222 38th Ave. NE

Seattle, Washington 98115

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**From:** Daniel Boyd <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 26, 2019 11:30 AM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Please Protect Seattle's Trees

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

It is in your hands. Please end the loss of our trees. All the things you will promise to do to offset the loss should be done anyway. But first, please stop cutting down our trees!

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Daniel Boyd

[boyddaniel@hotmail.com](mailto:boyddaniel@hotmail.com)

426 11th Ave E #5

Seattle, Washington 98102

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**From:** Kari Olson <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

**Sent:** Thursday, September 26, 2019 2:29 PM

**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>

**Subject:** Save Our Trees!

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital for everyone!!! Keeping our city healthy and livable, trees, the urban forest comprises of many levels of vitality and green infrastructure; reducing air and noise pollution, storm water runoff/water retention. Changing climate impacts such as heat island effects, and providing essential habitats for birds, other wildlife and people. No



question to the value of trees for our survival for the physical and mental health of all...

Seattle's outdated tree ordinance needs to be updated and strongly written and understood by all agencies, government, business, property owners, activists, stewards to remember it takes many years to grow a fine healthy tree and but one day to destroy it. An ultimatum is facing us straight in the face of urban growth...granted we're not going to be able to save all the trees, however, it is vitally urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of "Seattle's Emerald City" trees. Especially and particularly "Heritage" huge mature trees and rare tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity with like-kind trees...When conifer trees are removed, replant with a conifer, when a Big Leaf Maple is removed plant again with the same -- there is and are exceptions to this rule, but for the sake of our "Emerald City" status, Seattle must go above and beyond to protect our city and her trees with the best management practices, stringent rules governing removals and protection during construction practices.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
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5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits

and to track changes in the tree canopy.

6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budgets to implement and enforce the updated ordinances.
9. Education the Public, Businesses, Planning and Building Departments as well as others with posters (installed on park kiosks) brochures (on-line, mailings), workshops, free stewardship courses via local groups and agencies such as Green Seattle Partnership, King Conservation District, Washington Native Plant Society, EarthCorps, SDOT Tree Ambassador Program.
10. Provide websites and phone numbers to report incidents, vandalism, inquiries...

Kari Olson

[the4hrgardener@outlook.com](mailto:the4hrgardener@outlook.com)

1911 E. Eaton Place

Seattle, Washington 98112

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**From:** Deanna Calef <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 26, 2019 2:30 PM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Keep Seattle Livable!

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds

and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Deanna Calef

[deanna.lynnnapleycalef@gmail.com](mailto:deanna.lynnnapleycalef@gmail.com)

10345 Meridian Ave. N.

Seattle, Washington 98133

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**From:** gail crouch <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 27, 2019 10:18 AM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Keep Seattle Livable!

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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gail crouch

[gecrouch61@gmail.com](mailto:gecrouch61@gmail.com)

11334 19th Ave NE

SEATTLE, Washington 98125

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**From:** Mara Macdonald <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 27, 2019 1:34 PM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Save Our Trees!

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Mara Macdonald

[mara@biggerfish.net](mailto:mara@biggerfish.net)

Durland  
Seattle , Washington 98125

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**From:** Shasti Conrad <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 27, 2019 1:39 PM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** The King County Democrats urge the city of Seattle to update its Tree Protection Ordinance

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

The following resolution was adopted by our organization.

Organization Resolution in Support of the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission's Draft Tree and Urban Forest Protection Ordinance

WHEREAS Seattle is losing not only its biggest trees, but much more of its green cover, as developers frequently scrape properties clean of trees to maximize their buildable area; and  
WHEREAS Seattle has failed to require developers to replace all "exceptional" trees and trees over 24" DBH (diameter at 54" high) as prescribed by SMC 25.11.090; and  
WHEREAS Seattle, unlike Portland and other major cities, has not instituted a permit system to govern tree removal on developed property or property being developed, but relies instead on a complaint-based system that is applicable only to already-developed property and does not protect trees even there; and  
WHEREAS the Seattle City Council voted in 2009, and again by Resolution 31870 in March 2019, to support an updating of its Tree Protection Ordinance; and  
WHEREAS the City concluded, in its 2017 Tree Regulations Research Report, that "Current code is not supporting tree protection" and that "we are losing exceptional trees (and groves) in general"; and

WHEREAS Seattle's trees and urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure that (a) reduces air pollution, stormwater runoff, and climate change impacts like heat-island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife, and (b) is important for the physical and mental health of Seattle residents: and

WHEREAS the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission has drafted, at the suggestion of several City Council members, an updated Tree and Urban Forest Protection Ordinance consistent with the eight recommendations specified by the Council in Section 6 of its Resolution 31870, which would:

a. increase protections for Seattle trees and tree canopy volume by requiring, in each land-use zone in the city, a permit for removal and replacement of any tree over 6" DBH, whether on developed property or property being developed;

b. require two-week on-site posting of tree removal and replacement applications (as SDOT already requires);

c. require on-site tree replacement equivalent, in 25 years, to the tree canopy volume removed, or payment of a fee into a Tree Replacement and Preservation Fund for planting and 5-year maintenance of trees elsewhere in the city;

d. retain current protections for exceptional trees and reduce the definitional upper threshold for exceptional trees to 24" DBH;

e. allow no more than two significant non-exceptional trees to be removed over 3 years on developed property;

f. require registration of all tree services providers with the city;

g. track all significant tree loss and replacement; and

h. provide adequate funds to administer and enforce the ordinance.

Therefore, be it resolved that, in recognition of the environmental importance of trees and the urgent need to update and strengthen Seattle's current ordinance, we urge the Seattle City



Council to enact, and the Mayor to sign and enforce, the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission's June 14, 2019 draft Tree and Urban Forest Protection Ordinance.

Resolution adopted by King County Democrats, Shasti Conrad, Chair

Shasti Conrad

[shasti.chairkcdems@gmail.com](mailto:shasti.chairkcdems@gmail.com)

P.O. Box 65062

Shoreline, Washington 98155

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**From:** Karen Staley <[info@sg.actionnetwork.org](mailto:info@sg.actionnetwork.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 27, 2019 4:02 PM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <[Sandra.Pinto\\_de\\_Bader@Seattle.gov](mailto:Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov)>  
**Subject:** Please update tree ordinance

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Trees are a critical and finite resource that should not be squandered. They provide tangible benefits like reducing air pollution and the impact of storm runoff. Trees also enrich the lives of all residents. They contribute to the urban greenspaces that are so central to Seattle culture and livability. Older, larger trees are blooming extremely hard to replace.

Please protect this important resource by updating the appropriate ordinance.

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Karen Staley

[karensuestaley@gmail.com](mailto:karensuestaley@gmail.com)

14347 Linden Ave N #J101  
Seattle, Washington 98133

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**From:** Kimberly Christensen <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 27, 2019 4:04 PM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Keep Seattle Livable!

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
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6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Kimberly Christensen

[kimberlychristensen@live.com](mailto:kimberlychristensen@live.com)

3827 Bagley Ave N

Seattle, Washington 98103

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**From:** Sherry Howland <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 28, 2019 8:05 AM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Please Protect Seattle's Trees

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

I have lived in Seattle since 1981, and I never thought I would see the level of destruction to our green spaces. You all move your mouths to say all the pretty words about "caring" and "stewardship," and "environmental responsibility" but you continually sell out to the NON-taxpaying bazillionaires who own this city and our elected officials. DO what's right for ALL of us, not just your buddies with their own version of "green"

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Sherry Howland  
[slynnhowland@yahoo.com](mailto:slynnhowland@yahoo.com)  
330 3rd Ave W, Apt 840  
Seattle, Washington 98119

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**From:** Cindi Laws <cindilaws@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 28, 2019 8:11 AM  
**To:** Herbold, Lisa <Lisa.Herbold@seattle.gov>  
**Cc:** Bagshaw, Sally <Sally.Bagshaw@seattle.gov>; Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Save Our Trees!

**CAUTION: External Email**

Councilmember Herbold,

Thank you for responding to my signature on the tree protection petition. You are the only Councilmember to respond. Again.

The timeline needs to be ramped up. Here in Southeast Seattle, we have dual pressures causing tremendous tree loss.

1) Gentrification. Most people are unaware there are scores of vacant lots south of Columbia City. And dozens more empty and extremely run-down businesses. These NEED to be developed (and not just low-income housing that further concentrates poverty). As development occurs, trees on those properties and next to streets must be preserved.

2) Home buyers and flippers. Southeast Seattle is one of the very few areas where people can buy homes under \$550,000. Many in my neighborhood are under \$400,000. Flippers are among the worst. The first thing that often happens is removal of trees. In other situations, people moving here from elsewhere cut down the trees shortly after moving in.

The attached photos are of a house on the corner of my street (Bangor S & 56th Ave S) that was being flipped. The magnificent old cedar trees were in the process of slaughter. I called DCI several times over 3 days, leaving messages with multiple people who did not respond. It was obvious the people cutting the trees were not professionals; because they had inadequate equipment, cutting halted for a few days. When I heard chainsaws again a few days later, I frantically called DCI and begged for someone to come out. I talked to 3 people before someone took action, which they did only after I cited the SMC. An inspector finally arrived a few hours later. I spoke with him as he was in an exchange with the mostly non-English speaking crew. The inspector knew nothing

about trees. As a Master Gardener, I was able to counter the crew. What they told the inspector was "tree rot" was actually old growth heart wood. I showed the inspector the tree crew was using unsafe and improper methods for cutting the trees. Fortunately, he took me seriously and halted the slaughter. But, as you can see from the photo, the inspector arrived too late for the backyard tree. The giant cedar in the front yard remains standing, but the flipper drilled into the tree and applied poison to kill it, since he couldn't fell it. So far, the poison has yet to have an obvious effect.

The tree ordinance needs to go farther.

A) It isn't enough to require tree professionals have certification and knowledge of the code. Professional arborists are less of a problem. We need to ensure that every business doing yard work, landscaping, grading, and more is aware of the ordinance, and suffers severe penalties if they cut. I have exchanged words with a local guy, Matthais, who claims his basic state business license (not a city one) allows him to do his landscaping & yard clearing work. Matthais recently cut down a 100 +/- year-old apple tree simply because the new homeowner wanted it gone, and he was going to "do whatever the homeowner pays him to do".

B) When a property is sold, the new buyer must be informed of the tree ordinance, and sign an agreement acknowledging understanding. It seems every yahoo with a chainsaw believes they can cut down trees. Many homeowners contact a friend with a chainsaw to remove trees, believing they "can do whatever they want with their property".

C) Penalties for cutting trees on adjacent properties must be severe and come from the City. My next door neighbor came on to my property last year and cut down three of my trees. I arrived home as the 3rd was being cut (3rd photo). Again, an unskilled pair of non-English speakers was hired. My neighbor tried to blame the damage as "a misunderstanding". However, between my broken Spanish and a translator App, the workers angrily admitted they were ordered to cut down my trees. My only recourse is to sue.

Thank you, CM Herbold, for your work on this. Keep me apprised, as I will eagerly testify in favor of a strong tree ordinance with punitive fines for violators.

*Cindi Laws*

[206-790-4232](tel:206-790-4232)

*Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE device*

----- Original message-----

**From:** Herbold, Lisa

**Date:** Thu, Sep 26, 2019 12:10 PM

**To:** [cindilaws@msn.com](mailto:cindilaws@msn.com);

**Cc:**

**Subject:**RE: Save Our Trees!

Dear Cindi,

Thank you for writing to me about the proposed Tree Legislation. After Rob Johnson left the City Council, Councilmember Bagshaw took the lead on this conversation. As you

may know, the Urban Forestry Commission (UFC) [drafted legislation](#), which they proposed the Council introduce. Unfortunately, the Department of Construction and Inspection contends that the UFC proposal is not implementable as it is currently drafted. Since Department of Construction and Inspection will be enforcing any law that the Council passes, it is important to have their staff at the drafting table to ensure strong and enforceable legislation is passed.

That said, Councilmember Bagshaw – in coordination with the Mayor – authored [a resolution](#) that includes a timeline and requests quarterly reporting on the progress of the development of the legislation from the Executive beginning January 31, 2020. In the resolution, the Council also requests that legislation prioritize:

- Retaining protections for exceptional trees and expanding the definition of exceptional trees.
- Adopting a definition of significant trees as trees at least 6 inches in diameter and creating a permitting process for the removal of these trees.
- Adding replacement requirements for significant tree removal.
- Simplifying tree planting and replacement requirements, including consideration of mitigation strategies that allow for infill development while balancing tree planting and replacement goals.
- Reviewing and potentially modifying tree removal limits in single-family zones.
- Establishing an in-lieu fee option for tree planting.
- Tracking tree removal and replacement on both public and private land throughout Seattle.
- Providing adequate funding to administer and enforce tree regulations.
- Requiring all tree service providers operating in Seattle to meet minimum certification and training requirements and register with the City.

Though I am disappointed that Council action to protect our tree canopy and exceptional trees is not imminent, overall this creates clear guidelines, parameters, and a timeline for which the Council can hold the Executive accountable. The Council voted unanimously to pass this resolution on Monday September 16<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you,

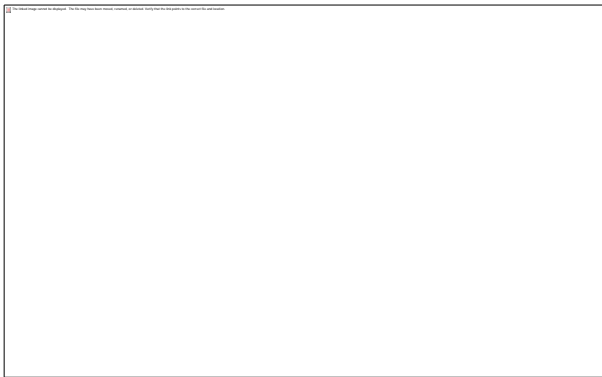




Lisa Herbold  
District 1 Councilmember, Chair Civil Rights, Utilities, Economic Development, and Arts  
Committee

[206-684-8803](tel:206-684-8803)  
[lisa.herbold@seattle.gov](mailto:lisa.herbold@seattle.gov)

P. S. Please feel free to [click on this link](#) to sign up for my weekly blog posts!



**From:** Cindi Laws [info@sg.actionnetwork.org](mailto:info@sg.actionnetwork.org)  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 08, 2019 11:05 AM  
**To:** Herbold, Lisa [lisa.herbold@seattle.gov](mailto:lisa.herbold@seattle.gov)  
**Subject:** Save Our Trees!

**CAUTION: External Email**

Lisa Herbold,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all

Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.

8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Cindi Laws

[cindilaws@msn.com](mailto:cindilaws@msn.com)

10747 56th Ave S

Seattle, Washington 98178

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**From:** Missy Liu <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 28, 2019 8:22 AM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Please Protect Seattle's Trees

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Missy Liu

[missy.m.liu@gmail.com](mailto:missy.m.liu@gmail.com)

2613 NE 184th pl

LFP, Washington 98155

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**From:** Jadon Welke <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 28, 2019 11:13 AM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Please Strengthen Seattle's Tree Ordinance

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.

8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Jadon Welke

[eavesofass@yahoo.com](mailto:eavesofass@yahoo.com)

10511 phinney ave n

Seattle, Washington 98133

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**From:** Marcia Appleton <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 28, 2019 12:43 PM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Please Strengthen Seattle's Tree Ordinance

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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Marcia Appleton

[mappleton48@gmail.com](mailto:mappleton48@gmail.com)

2908 East Columbia Street

Seattle, Washington 98122

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**From:** Alyson Bradshaw <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 28, 2019 12:51 PM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Keep Seattle Livable!

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Alyson Bradshaw

[alibradshaw3@gmail.com](mailto:alibradshaw3@gmail.com)

2526 56th Ave SW

Seattle, Washington 98116

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**From:** Shellwyn Badger <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

**Sent:** Saturday, September 28, 2019 12:58 PM

**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>

**Subject:** Please Update Seattle's Tree Ordinance

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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Shellwyn Badger

[Shellwyn@gmail.com](mailto:Shellwyn@gmail.com)

4409 Greenwood Ave N

Seattle , São Paulo WA

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**From:** Anita Shelton <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 28, 2019 9:00 PM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Save our Trees!

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.

8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Anita Shelton

[anitamshel@gmail.com](mailto:anitamshel@gmail.com)

729 N 77th St

Seattle, Washington 98103

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**From:** Megan Slade <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

**Sent:** Saturday, September 28, 2019 9:29 PM

**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>

**Subject:** Please Strengthen Seattle's Tree Ordinance

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

This is a no-brainer. No time to delay, no need for further information. We need trees and the trees need us. Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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Megan Slade

[mvietz@gmail.com](mailto:mvietz@gmail.com)

1303 S Dakota St

Seattle, Washington 98108

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**From:** Mary Schlater <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 30, 2019 8:06 AM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Save our Trees!

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Subject: Another tree clear cut in Victory Heights 12047 to 12051 20th Ave NE

Why is the city granting building permits to this developer for yet another residential lot being cleared of its trees on 12047 to 12051 20th Ave NE when alternatives to this tree loss were available?

With the effects of our local climate changes, retaining our mature trees and canopy matter even more than ever as we increase density in our city. There is no excuse other than that developers don't want to work around trees and do not value trees for community, health and environmental benefit. In this recent case, the city should ensure that developers should have plans that build both new housing and retained trees on development lots.

[1] There once existed sufficient open space on this parent lot of 24,914 sq ft to build or expand three homes without removing more than a couple significant trees. The arborist report included 21 trees on this lot which included 9 Exceptional Trees.

Reference the Shoffner arborist reports:

<https://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=4450498>

or prior version:

<http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=3879095>

[2] How did the subdivision of this long single-family zoned site consider the requirements of subdivisions to maximize the retention of existing trees?

Site Plan for: 12055 NE 20th NE clear cut

<https://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=3868368>

ALONG WITH <http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument.aspx?id=4424567>

[3] Possible fines: This clear-cutting was reported to be another Gamut 360 developer clear-cutting for mini-mansions. Gamut 360 has been in the news for their clear-cut of 25 trees on:

11345 - 20th Ave NE Record Number: 6621671-CN 3030 square feet 473 soft detached garage, 11347 20th Ave. NE Record Number: 6621656-CN 3261 square feet with 582 soft detached garage. In this new development, the stripped everything except for two trees at the easement and clear cut to the property lines. Will the easement trees also be cleared? Did they remove the wrong trees? If so, apply the fines per the Director's Rule on excess tree removal without permits. How will the loss of the existing tree canopy be replaced? There appears to be violations of Seattle Municipal Code sections 25.09 and 25.11.040 and ...050 and ...060 and ...090. Will you pursue these fines and stop this developer from this senseless development and others like them?

We need you to protect our trees and pass a much stronger tree ordinance that truly protects our canopy and mature trees for our future. The expense to our city of this clear-cut development will only compound exponentially for our future with our climate crisis and urban density. Please pass the recommended tree ordinance by our Urban Forestry Commission now!

Thank you,  
Mary Schlater

Mary Schlater  
[mschlater7108@gmail.com](mailto:mschlater7108@gmail.com)  
12003 23rd Ave NE  
Seattle, Washington 98125

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**From:** Barbara Donaldson <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 30, 2019 9:15 AM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Please Update Seattle's Tree Ordinance

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
2. Require the replacement of all Significant Trees removed with trees that in 25 years will reach equivalent canopy volume – either on site or pay a replacement fee into a City Tree Replacement and Preservation Fund. Allow the Fund to also accept fines, donations, grants and set up easements.
3. Retain current protections for Exceptional Trees and reduce the upper threshold for Exceptional Trees to 24" DBH, protect tree groves and prohibit Significant Trees being removed on undeveloped lots.
4. Allow removal of no more than 2 Significant non-Exceptional Trees in 3 years per lot outside development
5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.
6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all



Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.

8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Barbara Donaldson

[barb.donaldson.206@gmail.com](mailto:barb.donaldson.206@gmail.com)

10624 Sandpoint Way NE

Seattle, Washington 98125

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**From:** Angeline Johnson <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

**Sent:** Monday, September 30, 2019 12:09 PM

**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>

**Subject:** Keep Seattle Livable!

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT’s existing tree service provider’s registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Angeline Johnson

[joanel@umich.edu](mailto:joanel@umich.edu)

PO Box 17932

Caucasian, Washington 98127

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**From:** Nancy Peacock <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 30, 2019 12:42 PM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Save Our Trees!

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all

Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.

8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Nancy Peacock

[nbpeacock@gmail.com](mailto:nbpeacock@gmail.com)

2504 NE 117th St

Seattle, Washington 98125-5304

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**From:** Julie Ratner <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

**Sent:** Monday, September 30, 2019 1:46 PM

**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>

**Subject:** Please Update Seattle's Tree Ordinance

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT’s existing tree service provider’s registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Julie Ratner

[jewel\\_3649@hotmail.com](mailto:jewel_3649@hotmail.com)

2514 E Spring St

Seattle, Washington 98122

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**From:** Cleo Faraone <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 30, 2019 3:59 PM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>  
**Subject:** Please Protect Seattle’s Trees

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.
6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all

Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.

8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

The Seattle I grew up with is long gone, but we retain a responsibility to those who live here now and those who will in the future. In this time of climate crisis, we should be expanding Seattle's green canopy, not reducing it. We can have both urban density and greenery. Please, protect our health, communities, and the environment by simply protecting our trees and urban forest.

Cleo Faraone

[cleofaraone@comcast.net](mailto:cleofaraone@comcast.net)

521 NE 88th St

Seattle, Washington 98115

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**From:** Evelyn DeRooy <[info@sg.actionnetwork.org](mailto:info@sg.actionnetwork.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 30, 2019 9:34 PM  
**To:** Pinto de Bader, Sandra <[Sandra.Pinto\\_de\\_Bader@Seattle.gov](mailto:Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov)>  
**Subject:** Please Protect Seattle's Trees

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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equity as trees are replaced.

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7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Evelyn DeRooy

[delightful111@gmail.com](mailto:delightful111@gmail.com)

1700 Taylor Ave N

Seattle, Washington 98109



-----Original Message-----

From: David Moehring <dmoehring@consultant.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 01, 2019 7:00 AM

To: SCI\_Code\_Compliance <SCI\_Code\_Compliance@seattle.gov>; DOT\_LA <DOT\_LA@seattle.gov>; O'Brien, Mike <Mike.O'Brien@seattle.gov>; Bagshaw, Sally <Sally.Bagshaw@seattle.gov>; Pacheco, Abel <Abel.Pacheco@seattle.gov>; Juarez, Debora <Debora.Juarez@seattle.gov>


Cc: Jessica Dixon-Horton <bardjess@msn.com>; Magnolia-tree-keepers\_all@googlegroups.com; seattle-tree-ordinance-working-group@lists.riseup.net; Steve ZemkeSAVEOURTREES <stevezemke@msn.com>; DOT\_SeattleTrees <Seattle.Trees@seattle.gov>; Abridged recipients <tree-ordinance-legal@googlegroups.com>; Annie Thoe <neighborhoodtreekeepers@gmail.com>; PRC <PRC@seattle.gov>; Strauss, Daniel <Daniel.Strauss@seattle.gov>; Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>


Subject: Too many Exceptional Trees are still coming down...


CAUTION: External Email

Every week another one of Seattle's Environmental work-horse trees falls victim without detection. See the attached tree from this week at 536 N 67th Street. This is why permits are needed to be able to check before trees are removed.

 <https://www.seattle.gov/Documents/Departments/UrbanForestryCommission/Resources/DR2008-16xExceptionalTrees.pdf>

 If a stronger tree ordinance was pursued rather than debated, this would not have happened.

 Do be sure that the removal of Exceptional trees is not lifted from the criteria to remove a project for SEPA.

 Restore tree planting requirements of at least 2-inches of tree caliper for every 1000 sq Ft of lot area that was just removed with the Accessory Dwelling Unit legislation. This despite early promises and an FEIS that indicated no changes would be made to existing tree protections.

For TreePAC,  
Board member David Moehring



> [Man\_In\_Tree.JPG]

---

**From:** Anne Siems <annesiemsart@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 01, 2019 7:46 AM

**Cc:** SCI\_Code\_Compliance <SCI\_Code\_Compliance@seattle.gov>; DOT\_LA <DOT\_LA@seattle.gov>; O'Brien, Mike <Mike.O'Brien@seattle.gov>; Bagshaw, Sally <Sally.Bagshaw@seattle.gov>; Pacheco, Abel <Abel.Pacheco@seattle.gov>; Juarez, Debora <Debora.Juarez@seattle.gov>; Jessica Dixon-Horton <bardjess@msn.com>; Magnolia-tree-keepers\_all@googlegroups.com; seattle-tree-ordinance-working-group@lists.riseup.net; Steve ZemkeSAVEOURTREES <stevezemke@msn.com>; DOT\_SeattleTrees <Seattle.Trees@seattle.gov>; Abridged recipients <tree-ordinance-legal@googlegroups.com>; Annie Thoe <neighborhoodtreekeepers@gmail.com>; PRC <PRC@seattle.gov>; Strauss, Daniel <Daniel.Strauss@seattle.gov>; Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>

**Subject:** Re: Too many Exceptional Trees are still coming down...

CAUTION: External Email

PEOPLE!

How much longer are you going to sit idle ?!

Trees are dying by the minute and these tall power houses are not growing back so fast!

Not even your own children will benefit from their oxygen !

Wake up SEattle!

WE CITIZENS DEMAND ACTION!

Anne Siems, Ballard



Sent from my iPad

> On Oct 1, 2019, at 6:59 AM, David Moehring <[dmoehring@consultant.com](mailto:dmoehring@consultant.com)> wrote:

>

>

>

> Every week another one of Seattle's Environmental work-horse trees falls victim without detection. See the attached tree from this week at 536 N 67th Street. This is why permits are needed to be able to check before trees are removed.

> 🌳 <https://www.seattle.gov/Documents/Departments/UrbanForestryCommission/Resources/DR2008-16xExceptionalTrees.pdf>

>

> 🍃 If a stronger tree ordinance was pursued rather than debated, this would not have happened.

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> 🍎 Do be sure that the removal of Exceptional trees is not lifted from the criteria to remove a project for SEPA.

>

> 🍎 Restore tree planting requirements of at least 2-inches of tree caliper for every 1000 sq Ft of lot area that was just removed with the Accessory Dwelling Unit legislation. This despite early promises and

an FEIS that indicated no changes would be made to existing tree protections.

>

>

> For TreePAC,

> Board member David Moehring----

---

**From:** Barbara Bernard <barbara\_bernard@yahoo.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 01, 2019 8:05 AM

**To:** David Moehring <dmoehring@consultant.com>; SCI\_Code\_Compliance <SCI\_Code\_Compliance@seattle.gov>; DOT\_LA <DOT\_LA@seattle.gov>; O'Brien, Mike <Mike.O'Brien@seattle.gov>; Bagshaw, Sally <Sally.Bagshaw@seattle.gov>; Pacheco, Abel <Abel.Pacheco@seattle.gov>; Juarez, Debora <Debora.Juarez@seattle.gov>

**Cc:** Jessica Dixon-Horton <bardjess@msn.com>; DOT\_SeattleTrees <Seattle.Trees@seattle.gov>; Annie Thoe <neighborhoodtreekeepers@gmail.com>; PRC <PRC@seattle.gov>; Strauss, Daniel <Daniel.Strauss@seattle.gov>; Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>

**Subject:** Re: Too many Exceptional Trees are still coming down...

**CAUTION: External Email**

I would like to echo what David Moehring has stated below regarding the tree at 536 N 67th Street.

What is being done to preserve our protected exceptional trees?

Why is this acceptable?

---

**From:** John <john.nuler@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 01, 2019 10:06 AM

**To:** DOT\_SeattleTrees <Seattle.Trees@seattle.gov>; Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto\_de\_Bader@Seattle.gov>

**Subject:** Re: 34th Dems Support

**CAUTION: External Email**

Sandra,

This is the email I requested be posted. Can you show me where it is in the documents?

John

On Mon, Sep 16, 2019 at 4:01 PM John <[john.nuler@gmail.com](mailto:john.nuler@gmail.com)> wrote:

Sandra please post this from West Seattle Blog Report

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## 6 Replies to "From housing to trees @ 34th District Democrats"

**TREE RESOLUTION:** The group voted in favor of a [resolution supporting a revised city tree ordinance](#).

Key points:

- \*Trees 6" diameter and larger would be "significant trees," protected
- \*New policies for removing them
- \*Permit costs
- \*Replacement requirements
- \*New city fund that in-lieu fees would be paid into
- \*Limit non-development sites to 2 significant-tree removals in 3 years

•

JOHN SEPTEMBER 14, 2019 (5:12 PM)

[REPLY](#)

The Tree Resolution is akin to rearranging the deck chairs as the Titanic goes down. Do the 34th District Democrats believe in CLIMATE CHANGE? Do they know who our governor is and his platform for presidency? Why in this disintegrating world would my liberal friends jump on such a cynically contrived regressive tree code that will not increase tree canopy in any significant way? And no, our tree canopy is not necessarily shrinking as the recent studies were inconclusive (28%) Our Tree Code is already unfair in that it puts ALL of the costs on the property owner as it takes away their rights, while next door the neighbors have no trees at all and no costs or damages associated with trees. If trees are for the good of all, then all should have trees. This new law actually encourages homeowners with trees approaching six inches to remove them before losing them to the control of City.

•

DSA SEPTEMBER 14, 2019 (9:27 PM)

[REPLY](#)

If this goes through, many of my beloved trees may come down prematurely.

•

ANONYME SEPTEMBER 15, 2019 (7:50 AM)

[REPLY](#)

The nonsensical opinions expressed above are exactly why we need stronger tree protections that are real, not the meaningless proposals that were approved. Not only are many trees cut illegally and unnecessarily, but trees (especially conifers) are dying at an

alarming rate – making protection all the more urgent. If you're scared of big trees, move to Nevada. Your chance of being killed by a tree is infinitesimal compared to driving to Starbucks.

○ JOHN SEPTEMBER 15, 2019 (11:04 AM)

[REPLY](#)

ANONYME, It is defining to see you write that concerns about CLIMATE CHANGE are "nonsensical opinions". What is nonsensical about encouraging the planting of trees rather than continuing down the draconian failing system that punishes those with trees? What is nonsensical about everyone having trees? What is nonsensical about increasing significantly our tree canopy? Since ANONYME brought up being killed by a tree, I can cite examples of people killed by trees in our area recently (hey those infinitesimal odds strike someone!). Can ANONYME cite any people killed driving to Starbucks? Nonsensical?

○ JVP SEPTEMBER 15, 2019 (8:30 PM)

[REPLY](#)

Climate change is real. Forcing us to keep trees on our city lots is nonproductive and stupid. I love the cities, but I like our views too. I don't want a tree falling and killing families. This is insane. Get out into the mountains and real forests sometime. People supporting such draconian tree policies need to get out more. A few (often invasive) trees in our urban lots does nothing real. I can accept hefty fees to remove trees. Said money could then go to actually making an impact on our open spaces or preserving functional forests. Maybe funds could go to getting rid of the english ivy and planting native conifers in our urban open spaces. Use it for restoring our urban streams. But if some of us want to protect our home, protect our family, or (gasp!) protect our views, let us. It's far more environmentally sound to get high density in the cities, let those cities be nice (light and views), and protect actual forests. Prevent sprawl. There's lots of valuable things tree removal fees could go for. But this current and proposed policy is nuts. P.S. I've done a lot of real environmental restoration work out in actual forests and open spaces. I consider myself a "true" greenie. This city tree protectionism is just greenwashing.

▪ JOHN SEPTEMBER 16, 2019 (12:08 PM)

[REPLY](#)

Amen, JVP, and well spoken like a traditional Seattleite. I hope we are seeing the start of a turnaround exposing Seattle Tree Policies for what they are – unfair, unjust, ineffective and where they are going – an even more unfair continuation of a failed policy. On a positive note, Lisa Herbold knocked on our front door last week campaigning in Gatewood. I immediately invited her in to show her our trees and explain how the current regressive codes affect our once view property. I showed her the dozen Madrones that sprouted after the removal of a large sugar pine that had tormented our neighbors for 60 years. The

tree had cracked the retaining wall to their driveway and large brittle falling branches had damaged their cars not to mention the dripping pine pitch covering windshields cars and walkways. Someone heard the chainsaw and turned us in for tree removal. None of our neighbors have 'significant' or 'exceptional' trees to tend to while we have dozens. The cost to have a certified arborist trim our exceptional douglas fir to ANSI standards for safety of our house is \$2,000 - \$3,000. I tied up a good ten minutes of Lisa Herbold's door-belling time after which Lisa suggested that the proposed regulations would not pass. But Lisa Herbold did not re-assure me that she would oppose the proposal. I would like to see the Tree Inequity and Climate Change issue be raised in these candidate forums.