

## Draft 2020 Urban Forest Management Plan

### Public input survey – text responses

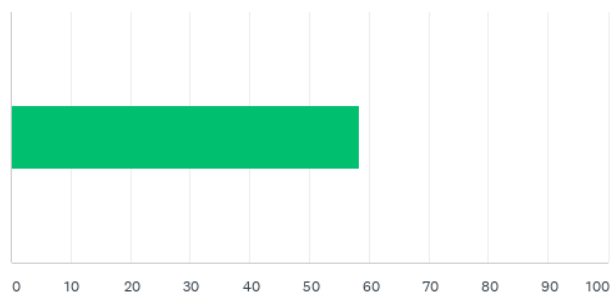
12/2/20

The City's urban forestry team created an online input form to gather public comment on the draft 2020 Urban Forest Management Plan. We received 163 responses to the survey with 89 participants providing specific details. We also received input through 11 direct emails with comments.

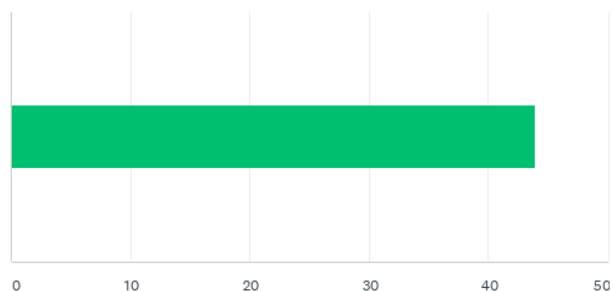
The Urban Forestry Core Team will be discussing all input in detail and will provide a summary of input. This document is meant to share the raw data/comments for transparency.

Below are graphs showing survey results as well as the detailed input provided by respondents.

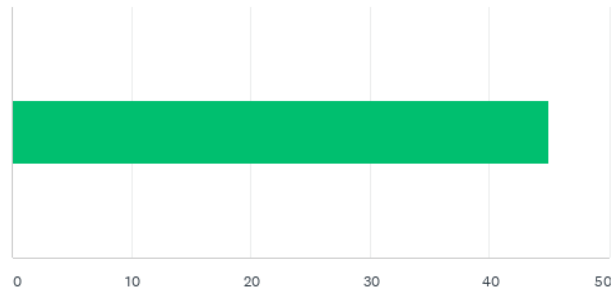
Q1 How much do you support the implementation of the Urban Forest Management Plan in its current form?



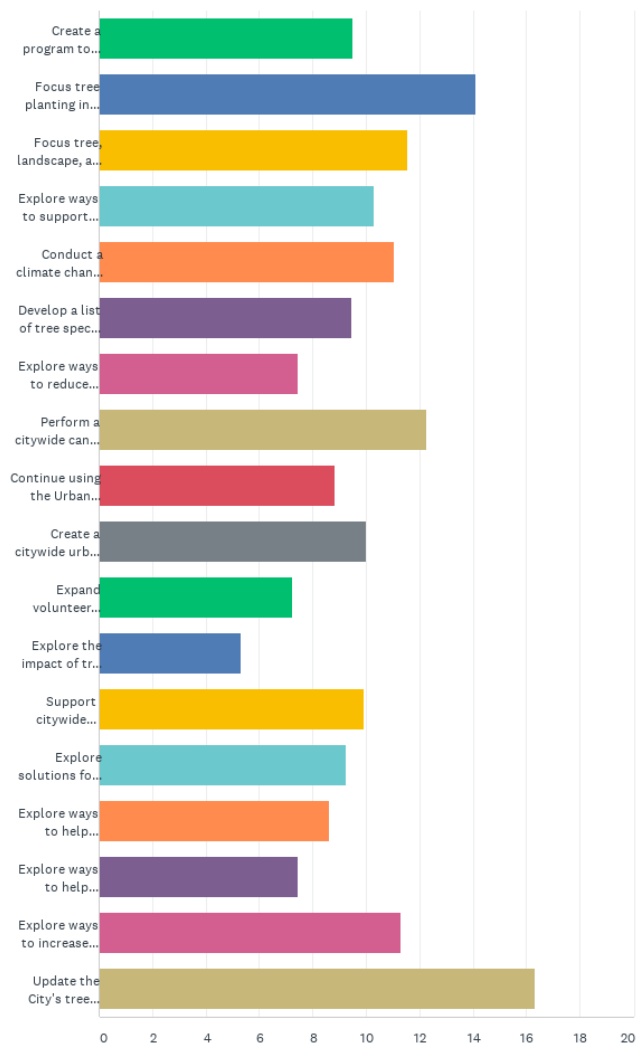
Q2 How well are your concerns about the management of Seattle's trees addressed by this plan?



Q3 How well do you feel your community's needs are addressed by the plan?



Q4 Of the 18 actions outlined in the plan, which are your highest priorities?



Specific comments provided:

1. This is long overdue! With CLIMATE CHANGE bearing down upon us we need to do more than ever to have trees support our health and oxygen and shade and flood control and all their many, many uses.
2. I question the inclusion in the draft report that we have 4 million trees. This is contrary to previous studies. For example: "Seattle has between 1.6 and 3 million trees and a diversity of understory plants occurring within a diverse range of environments, from natural areas with multi-story plants to downtown areas with individual trees planted in small tree pits." Page 34, 2013 Seattle Urban Forest Plan For the one page outlining the benefits of tree, it should be clearly stated that the bulk of the environmental benefits come from larger trees of 20 inches and greater in diameter, and Evergreen trees of that size provide even more benefit because of their year long duration. You take away the large sized trees from our city and those benefits disappear for the short term. That is why, in my opinion, we can't skim over tree size and solely use the more vague canopy measure. Additionally, I believe that the report should include that 64% of the trees are 12 inches in diameter or less. It is important to give readers a sense of what our trees consist of from a size perspective from the last time we looked. (And it is okay to say our information is limited and further studies are required.) "City-wide, about 34 percent of trees are 6 inches in diameter at standard height (DSH) or smaller and 64 percent of trees are 12 inches in diameter or smaller. The prevalence of smaller-sized trees suggests that most trees are well below their growth potential; however, without additional data it is not possible to distinguish the cause of this pattern, which could be due to the predominance of small species trees, frequent removal, or even to an increase in the planting of new trees." Page 40, 2013 Seattle Urban Forest Plan Overall, the subject selection and presentation of this draft report reflects an editorial perspective of a capitulation on the protection of large trees in the city. This is disappointing considering some very stellar previous urban forestry reports.
3. please put energy into stopping existing trees from being cut down and secondly plant plant plant trees and maintain the young ones.....anything else is optional.
4. Earlier this month I watched and listened as a 80ft Deodor Cedar was taken down limb by limb and removed from the place it had resided for over 25 years. Aside from some sidewalk upheaval, there was no apparent reason for it's removal - perhaps development is scheduled for the coming year? Perhaps the homeowner was tired of the needle drop? Or the neighbors asking them to limb it up for the water view? Irregardless, in the same way proposed buildings must have a public posting, people should also have notification when heritage trees are being considered for removal. Ultimately, the outcome of the tree may have been the same, but it would have offered clear explanation, perhaps alternative solutions might have arisen, but at minimum, it would have offered information about what was happening to counter the loss (tree planting elsewhere, fee to plant trees in other areas needing more canopy, etc.). This would go along way in acknowledging the importance of trees in our community. This tree was on a private residential lot, but everyone in the neighborhood has benefited from this tree, whether they know it or not. It would be great if the City of Seattle would finally acknowledge that a good portion of their tree canopy exists in residential lots and offer some assistance for the care of large trees to those who otherwise may not be able to afford it and also look for more creative ways to balance the need for affordable housing with the need for tree canopy preservation. It should also prioritize communities that have little or not tree canopy to right this inequity. I encourage you to adopt all the recommendations

put forth by the Urban Forestry Commission. Unlike many other cities, in Seattle: - no permits are required to remove most trees on private property - no tree replacement by developers of exceptional trees and trees over 24 inches DBH even when required by law since 2001 are usually not replaced - no in lieu fee is in place if trees cannot be replaced on site; significant trees removed are not required to be replaced - maximizing retention of existing trees during development is not required - arborists are not required to be licensed and sign off on knowledge of tree regulations, a separate detailed tree inventory prior to any development is not required and the list goes on and on. From the priority ranking of action items, I noted there were a lot of words like "explore more". It is beyond time for exploring. How much consulting and exploring do you need to do before you move and address what is clearly a problem? It is well beyond time that the City of Seattle moves forward with updating it's tree ordinance. It is shameful it has taken so long. - Rebecca Watson

5. Please enforce the developers/builders who cut down trees for lots to be developed, before there is any documentation filed with the city. If there is any way to stop developers from telling property sellers that there is a contingency that they won't buy (at a premium price), unless they understand that all greenery will be removed from the property.....
6. Seattle needs a permitting system for tree removal and replacement! Many other large cities have this and we need it protect the trees we have and to track loss and replanting. This will create a data stream for future decisions and will give trees the protections their critical functions deserve. There should be fees for any significant tree that is removed no matter the reason that is then used to fund replacement and restoration elsewhere it replacement is not on the same property. Protect the trees we have now! Replanting has a 30+ year lag before any significant value is gained. We need a Tree Protection Ordinance NOW, 11 years to too long for inadequate "interim" regulations!
7. Without ENFORCEMENT all the well intentioned plans in the world amount to nothing.
8. It is past time to implement it! We need to update the city's tree regulations, pass the pending tree ordinance and focus tree planting in environmental equity priority communities now.
9. The draft Seattle 2020 Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) needs to be strengthened to more aggressively protect Seattle's existing trees and urban forest citywide. The following Priority Actions listed in the 2013 Plan have been removed. They should be added back with their more detailed explanation.
  - Preserve existing trees. Because it takes decades for most trees to reach their ultimate size, trees already growing in Seattle generally provide immediate and ongoing benefits that cannot be matched by small/younger replacement trees. ...Focus especially on Evergreen Trees...Mid-large trees...Forests, woodlands and tree groves...Unique wildlife habitat.
  - Maintain existing trees
  - Habitat restoration and maintenance
  - Plant new trees
  - Increase awareness of the value and proper care of trees. Inclusive community involvement is a vital part of the solution, but the same development pressures facing areas with lots of trees also affect all communities, including the BIPOC and low-income communities. As the 2013 Urban Forest Stewardship Plan noted, replanting of trees to compensate for large trees cut down will take decades to compensate for the benefits lost, no matter where they are planted in the city. The loss

is even more significant to the traditionally underserved communities that have low tree canopy to start with. Thank you!

10. Make it illegal to remove health, large trees on private lots with fines that would actually result in more trees remaining.
11. 1. Make a commitment to buying, cultivating, and planting regional native species only. Benefits of regional native species: low maintenance, habitat quality improvement for urban birds and pollinators, increased habitat corridors for birds and pollinators to travel and reproduce, increased PNW pride and a sense of place for communities, support local organic nurseries. Examples: salal, mahonia, garry oak, evergreen huckleberry, vine maple, douglas maple, twinberry honeysuckle ect. Don't plant douglas fir trees which are over represented regionally. 2. Reduce lawn on sidewalk edges, pathways, and in parks and seed annual and perennial wildflowers (lupine, globe gillia, giant red paintbrush ect.) This increases urban beauty and supports birds and pollinators. For shadier areas, let moss grow. Moss lawns are increasingly desirable (soft, sturdy underfoot, resilient, beautiful, cheap). 3. Increase efforts to slow and control storm water runoff by utilizing native grasses, reeds, and rushes in bioswales, water retention ponds, and rain gardens. Remove unused and unstable buildings and replace them with stormwater retention areas or open parks. Impermeable surfaces in cities are the number 1 reason for stormwater and sewage flooding. 4. Increase awareness of invasive species and overuse of cultivars.
12. Your chart doesn't allow me to check ALL of the above. Please encourage the city to update and enhance tree protection and really maintain The Evergreen City. Thanks
13. I am submitting these comments on the draft UFMP to you today on behalf and in the name of the Laurelhurst Community Club. We have read through the draft plan and have the following concerns, which we hope you and the City Council will be able to address expeditiously:
  - Enforcement is key, if we are to maintain and enhance canopy cover. One way to enforce preservation of existing trees is to require developers to pay a fee in lieu, if it is absolutely impossible for them to retain existing trees on a site. The fee should be meaningful: we suggest a fee of \$1,000 per tree under 26" in diameter; \$3,000 per tree for larger trees. Such fees should be ear-marked for tree replacement planting.
  - In "Table 4, UFMP Key performance indicators": There should be added a Key Activity Metric which keeps track of the trees removed by private and public development. "Table 1, 2016 canopy cover by management unit" lists both the 2037 goal for canopy cover and the 2016 actual canopy cover. For the category "Single Family Residential," the 2037 goal is 33%; the 2016 actual cover is 32%. These figures make it seem like we have pretty much reached our 2037 goal already. However, most of the development of single family residential involves razing a smaller home with a big yard and replacing it with a much larger home with almost no yard and no room for trees. This means that the trend for single family residential is downward toward less canopy cover, not upward (2016 is still 1% short of the 2037 goal). We cannot reach the 2037 goal of 33% canopy cover with such a major downward trend.
  - To address this problem, there should be more forceful statements throughout the document to indicate that Seattle City government is serious about reaching the 2037 canopy goal. This should be the policy (!) for all departments to guide them when enforcement is required. Notably, SDCI is the sole grantor of permits for private development and has been lax in enforcing tree canopy goals. Developers merely have to say that their design requires the removal of trees, large or small, and a waiver is granted. Where in this plan is the notion that various City departments must adhere

to the overall policy goal of canopy cover? Instead, there are numerous statements that balancing housing needs and urban forest needs is challenging.

- There should be a statement that it is the policy of the City to prioritize housing development that retains canopy cover. Housing and urban forest enhancement need not be a zero-sum game. The final UFMP should state this clearly and explicitly.

- There should be a strong statement that the UFMP requires an update of Seattle's current tree ordinance. This was supposed to happen in 2020 but did not happen. Without such an update - one that takes into account the enormous population growth we have experienced and will continue to experience - the canopy cover goals are meaningless.

Dear Mr. Strauss, I am submitting these comments on the draft UFMP to you today on behalf and in the name of the Laurelhurst Community Club. We have read through the draft plan and have the following concerns, which we hope you and the City Council will be able to address expeditiously:

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Respectfully, Constance Sidles, trustee for environmental issues Laurelhurst Community Club

14. Trees are the most important plant on the planet. Seattle's devotion through policy and budget don't reflect this truth. Our trees need to be saved and cared for, they live many many years, require a bit and give back big. Seattle's trees have waited 11 years (and counting) for a Tree Protection Ordinance. Other cities large and small (Portland, Lake Forest Park, many East Coast

cities) have accomplished this work, not Seattle. People in Seattle love our trees, let's make sure our Government lives up to it. "Update the City's tree protection regulations" is the most important work for the urban forestry arm of Seattle. Tree activists and supporters have been working on this for years, step up City leaders!

15. The draft Seattle 2020 Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) needs to be strengthened to more aggressively protect Seattle's existing trees and urban forest citywide. Resolution 31902 passed by the Seattle City Council in 2019 lists a series of regulations and actions to be considered on protecting trees, however many items are missing from the UFMP. For example, the adoption of a fee in lieu if trees cannot be replaced on site, would help to provide needed funds to achieve Seattle's race and social justice goal of planting trees in low-income and low canopy neighborhoods where many people of color and low income people live. Portland, Oregon just amended their tree ordinance to charge a fee in lieu of \$450/inch for all trees removed by developers that are over 20 inches DSH. In 2018 when the fee in lieu applied to trees over 36 inches DSH, they collected some \$1.44 million for their Tree Removal and Replacement Fund. The 2020 draft UFMP devotes only one page to the "importance of urban trees" while the 2013 Urban Forest Stewardship Plan devoted 5 pages. However, five pages are still devoted to "challenges" and "competing uses." Please devote more explanation to the benefits and documentation of the importance of urban trees like was done in the 2013 Plan.
16. Trees on private land have few protections unless they fall under the critical area designation. Groups of trees, especially evergreens should have special protections from removal.
17. The draft Seattle 2020 Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) needs to be strengthened to more aggressively protect Seattle's existing trees and urban forest citywide. Resolution 31902 passed by the Seattle City Council in 2019 lists a series of regulations and actions to be considered on protecting trees, however many items are missing from the proposed UFMP. For example, the adoption of a fee-in-lieu if trees cannot be replaced on site, would help to provide needed funds to achieve Seattle's goal toward planting trees in low-income and low canopy neighborhoods. Portland, Oregon just amended their tree ordinance to charge a fee in lieu of \$450/inch for all trees removed by developers that are over 20 inches DSH. In 2018 when the fee-in-lieu applied to trees over 36 inches DSH, they collected some \$1.44 million for their Tree Removal and Replacement Fund. The 2020 draft UFMP devotes only one page to the "importance of urban trees" while the 2013 Urban Forest Stewardship Plan devoted 5 pages. However, five pages are still devoted to "challenges" and "competing uses." Please devote more explanation to the benefits and documentation of of the importance of urban trees as was done in the 2013 Plan. The following Priority Actions listed in the 2013 Plan have been removed. They should be added back with their more detailed explanation.
  - Preserve existing trees. Because it takes decades for most trees to reach their ultimate size, trees already growing in Seattle generally provide immediate and ongoing benefits that cannot be matched by small/younger replacement trees. ...Focus especially on Evergreen Trees...Mid-large trees...Forests, woodlands and tree groves...Unique wildlife habitat.
  - Maintain existing trees
  - Habitat restoration and maintenance
  - Plant new trees
  - Increase awareness of the value and proper care of trees.

18. I ranked 'Develop a list of tree species resilient to climate change and pests' because if those are the only factors used to choose tree species, you ignore the habitat requirements for animals and insects that live in urban areas. When choosing species to install or sell, I strongly suggest only the use of native trees and shrubs that have evolved within the temperate rainforest ecosystem of the PNW. They are more resilient to climate change provide crucial food and shelter for resident and migrating animals. For example, instead of planting a Japanese maple, there are two small growing native species to choose from; vine maple and douglas maple. The native species are better adapted to this region, have better wildlife value, and are arguably more beautiful. You can't make an Urban Forest Management Plan without considering the effects of canopy species changes on populations of native animals and insects. With insect extinctions skyrocketing, native trees planted in urban areas could be a crucial step in protecting insect populations which are the start of an ecosystem service domino-effect. The use of PNW native species will improve bird and insect populations which are crucial elements of building resilience to climate change. Also, please plant more White (Garry) Oaks. Other thoughts: Planting more trees in undeserved communities and industrial areas provides a health benefit to people and to wildlife. Carbon storage could be improved depending on the number of trees planted and species chosen.
19. Seattle needs to keep the trees we have--urban canopy is not optional, not merely an aesthetic attraction for our city, but is key to drainage and air quality and birds and insects, all of which we really need. Please protect our existing trees, young and old, and don't let the developers take them away for their own greedy gain. We need trees. We are losing them fast. As well as planting new ones, we desperately need to protect the ones that have taken decades to grow. Please: protect the existing canopy, require developers to maintain trees, and help homeowners and renters to maintain their existing trees. We need stronger regulations for canopy. We must demand that developers treat trees as valuable--they won't, left to their own motives. So much more can be done. So much more needs to be done.
20. Keeping large healthy old trees is so important. Once these are gone, they cannot be replaced. Developers should not have free-reign to cut down historic trees and replace with single-family homes. Fines for knowing violation should be high.
21. It would have been very helpful to get this survey earlier than the day it's due. Really bad process. Where's the time for residents to think about this? The perception easily could be that this is a great way to get this approved with little or no thoughtful input from the communities you talk about. I'd say crappy planning.
22. While I would like to see more trees planted in low-canopy areas of the city, I am concerned that the City is emphasizing services and jobs programs for EEPQs as an excuse to ignore the destruction of the existing canopy elsewhere in Seattle. For example, much of the "multi-family" residential canopy is on private lots that still have single-family houses on them and that, under existing regulations, will be clearcut for new development that will allow very little room for replacement canopy. In the current budget environment, money for trees and direct tree services should not be diverted to social programs. Environmental education is important, but without any proposed budget breakdown it's not clear that the City's efforts won't be in social services rather than tree services. Canopy should be measured by volume. The LIDAR assessment gives equal weight to sequoias and tall shrubs of the same projected area.
23. In summary: The Tree Protection regulations are critical and have been postponed for ELEVEN YEARS! Low tree canopy in the historically under-resourced areas of Seattle has resulted in health



and other related disparities for people of color and low income people. This is a shameful situation for our so-called Emerald City that prides itself on progressive and environmental values. The draft Seattle 2020 Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) needs to be STRENGTHENED to more aggressively protect Seattle's existing trees and urban forest citywide. BECAUSE I CARE ABOUT SEATTLE'S TREES, I attended the 2019 Seattle City Council meeting when Resolution 31902 was passed. I support Resolution 31902's requirements that a series of regulations and actions to be considered on protecting trees. However MANY OF THESE ITEMS ARE MISSING from the UFMP. For example, the adoption of a fee in lieu if trees cannot be replaced on site, would help to provide needed funds to achieve Seattle's race and social justice goal of planting trees in low-income and low canopy neighborhoods where many people of color and low income people live. Portland, Oregon just amended their tree ordinance to charge a fee in lieu of \$450/inch for all trees removed by developers that are over 20 inches DSH. In 2018 when the fee in lieu applied to trees over 36 inches DSH, they collected some \$1.44 million for their Tree Removal and Replacement Fund. The 2020 draft UFMP devotes only one page to the "importance of urban trees" while the 2013 Urban Forest Stewardship Plan devoted 5 pages. However, five pages are still devoted to "challenges" and "competing uses." Please devote more explanation to the benefits and documentation of the importance of urban trees like was done in the 2013 Plan. The following Priority Actions listed in the 2013 Plan have been removed. They should be added back with their more detailed explanation.

- PRESERVE EXISTING TREES. Because it takes decades for most trees to reach their ultimate size, trees already growing in Seattle generally provide immediate and ongoing benefits that cannot be matched by small/younger placement trees. ...Focus especially on Evergreen Trees...Mid-large trees...Forests, woodlands and tree groves...Unique wildlife habitat.
- MAINTAIN existing trees
- RESTORE AND MAINTAIN habitat
- PLANT new trees
- INCREASE AWARENESS of the value and proper care of trees.

Eighteen Action items are mentioned in the current Draft. One of the most important items is listed last and is not bolded as a priority item. "Update the City's tree protection regulations." Seattle City Council Resolution 31902 specifically says, "Submit legislation in 2020 for consideration by the Council." The specific lack of emphasis on the need to update SMC 25.11, the City's Tree Protection Ordinance, is unfortunately consistent with the city's current ELEVEN YEAR DELAY in modernizing and updating the ordinance. The proposed key metric does NOT track is tree removal. SDCI is not included in tracking tree replacement or tree loss in key activity metrics. As noted, SDCI's private property oversight covers some 72% of the trees in Seattle and should be the entity doing the most tracking of tree retention, loss, and replacement. They should do this by requiring permits to remove and replace trees as many other cities have been doing for years. All metrics should be tracked on a quarterly basis and publicly posted on the city website.

24. Focus attention and understanding on the detrimental impacts of removing mature trees for development purposes. The replacement of mature trees with saplings that are often non-native and/or species that don't grow well in this climate are not going to meet the canopy cover goals. It's also unclear with many of the townhouse/zero lot line builds as to who is ensuring that the trees actually survive since there isn't any 'ownership' in the landscaping especially that in the ROW. I would also like to see the core members work with the City as a whole on the homeless encampments in forested areas. However, I do understand that this is a key issue facing the entire City and not one that this group can fix by themselves.
25. Suggested comments on draft Urban Forest Management Plan: The draft Seattle 2020 Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) needs to be strengthened to more aggressively protect Seattle's existing trees and urban forest citywide. Resolution 31902 passed by the Seattle City Council in 2019 lists a series of regulations and actions to be considered on protecting trees, however many

items are missing from the UFMP. For example, the adoption of a fee in lieu if trees cannot be replaced on site, would help to provide needed funds to achieve Seattle’s race and social justice goal of planting trees in low-income and low canopy neighborhoods where many people of color and low-income people live. Portland, Oregon just amended their tree ordinance to charge a fee in lieu of \$450/inch for all trees removed by developers that are over 20 inches DSH. In 2018 when the fee in lieu applied to trees over 36 inches DSH, they collected some \$1.44 million for their Tree Removal and Replacement Fund. The 2020 draft UFMP devotes only one page to the “importance of urban trees” while the 2013 Urban Forest Stewardship Plan devoted 5 pages. However, five pages are still devoted to “challenges” and “competing uses.” Please devote more explanation to the benefits and documentation of the importance of urban trees like was done in the 2013 Plan. The following Priority Actions listed in the 2013 Plan have been removed. They should be added back with their more detailed explanation. Preserve existing trees. Because it takes decades for most trees to reach their ultimate size, trees already growing in Seattle generally provide immediate and ongoing benefits that cannot be matched by small/younger placement trees. ...Focus especially on Evergreen Trees...Mid-large trees...Forests, woodlands and tree groves...Unique wildlife habitat. · Maintain existing trees · Habitat restoration and maintenance · Plant new trees · Increase awareness of the value and proper care of trees. Eighteen Action items are mentioned in the current (2020 UFSP) draft. One of the most important items is listed last and is not bolded as a priority item. “Update the City’s tree protection regulations.” Seattle City Council Resolution 31902 specifically says, “Submit legislation in 2020 for consideration by the Council.” The specific lack of emphasis on the need to update SMC 25.11, the City’s Tree Protection Ordinance, is unfortunately consistent with the city’s current 11 year delay in modernizing and updating the ordinance. The proposed key metric tracking does not track is tree removal. SDCI is not included in tracking tree replacement or tree loss in key activity metrics. As noted, SDCI’s private property oversight covers some 72% of the trees in Seattle and should be the entity doing the most tracking of tree retention, loss, and replacement. They should do this by requiring permits to remove and replace trees as many other cities have been doing for years. All metrics should be tracked on a quarterly basis and publicly posted on the city website.

26. Below please find comments on the current draft Urban Forestry Management Plan. Policy and action
- Need examples of policy- what actions? And are actions different from policy?
  - Need to link ecosystem services to explain what this term means
  - HOW do trees support character?
  - HOW do trees support “quality of life?” What IS quality of life?
  - “Supports Seattle’ public health” HOW?
  - Need explanation of stormwater
  - Puget sound IS the Salish Sea- many don’t recognize the latter name
  - Heat Island Effect needs explanation
  - Don’t say there is a relationship between the “natural environment” and improved health- clarify that trees are part of the biophilia- things that are alive –and that there is a demonstrable correlation between human health and exposure to trees
  - Emerald ash borer is not local- needs a links
  - Reference to Urban ag on page 3 very unclear- you are referring to the thousands of fruit trees- what else?
  - Seattle relationship to trees conveniently excises all the attempts to write a cogent and enforced tree ordinance. Current one is 11 years old and not enforced
  - <https://friends.urbanforests.org/coalition-for-a-stronger-tree-ordinance/>

- <https://www.seattle.gov/Documents/Departments/OSE/SeattleEquityAgenda.pdf> Suggested

Framework for the UFMP

<https://www.kirklandwa.gov/Assets/Planning/Planning+PDFs/Urban+Forest+Management+Plan.pdf>

We would recommend you conduct a cumulative impacts assessment of the services lost from allowing up to, 4000 mature trees to be cut each year and link our urban forestry plan with our Climate Action Plan, Green New Deal and other city-wide initiatives. Our trees policies feel very siloed.

- Environmental Equity Assessment/Environmental Justice “Screen” : Build on the existing equity assessments in the City and community to create a cumulative impacts assessment methodology that deepens understanding of the interactions of multiple environmental hazards rather than only a single pollutant at a time. This assessment should include the impact of systematic removal of mature trees on air quality, asthma, flooding and heat island effect. The assessment or screen must further consider how issues of racial discrimination, lack of economic opportunity and other social conditions are exacerbating residents’ and workers’ exposures to environmental hazards. This will require partnerships with agencies such as Puget Sound Clean Air Agency and King County Public Health, as well as other city departments. This tool must be shaped through community-based participatory research and include collecting community stories to augment data. It should consider community conditions (transit, housing, food access/insecurity, parks, air quality, sidewalks, climate resiliency, youth development, cultural hubs, etc.) and others to be determined.
- Page 4 timeline: You need to put in the years that tree ordinances were enacted. It feels this was purposely excised.
- Page 8: You write that the city has an important regulatory and supporting role for private trees yet you don’t say what or how.
- Public Meetings: I never heard a thing about public meetings about the unfolding strategy – you held 3 listening sessions at 3pm in the middle of the day, a time when many people are working-really? This is your transparency and outreach plan?
- The Plan does not appear to address the comments from 9/14/18 in which tree advocates had comments on enforcement, the failure to enact a current tree ordinance, how to protect existing trees etc. You must address these important topics in the UFMP.
- P. 7- you fail to note that most trees in Seattle are on private property and that the urban forest includes trees on private property

Barriers • Maintenance costs: It is true that maintenance costs are expensive but, in many cases, maintenance is undertaken by residents, not the city. You also have contracts with Forterra and other community groups for park maintenance. We would recommend you step up your efforts to publicize the value and care of trees in all departments and particularly in your Trees for All program. This program needs significantly more emphasis on stewarding existing trees. You could also reach out to our new residents to engage them in place-based care through Amazon, Google and Facebook user groups. <https://urbanforestry.indiana.edu/doc/publications/2018-Hauer-Volunteer-Partnership-Baseline.pdf> <http://efc.web.unc.edu/2013/08/09/financing-urban-forestry/>

- Page 14/Views: Yes, of course everyone wants views and sun but we live in Seattle. When trees are cut for views, there are often erosion and landslide issues, lead to slope destabilization. You could shortcut this by simply enacting laws that prevent mature trees from being removed for views. If you are unwilling to do this, you could message more directly to homeowners much in the same way SPU messages to homeowners about natural yard care, and related land use issues.
- Transportation Infrastructure: Given the value and multiple benefits of trees, every effort should be made and required under law, to accommodate large trees and their root systems.

- Page 15/Development and Urban Design: There are numerous ways to address this quandary:
  - (1) allow greater height and require developers to build around trees (yes, it's possible and we have many examples);
  - (2) close the 2010 Code Amendment loopholes which allow 4 and 6-pack unit developments with no room for ANY vegetation much less trees;
  - (3) enforce your own codes since they are routinely violated. Where is your enforcement record and how are the collected fines being used?
  - (4) Kathy Wolf at UW has written extensively on how to design street scapes and street trees for businesses; [https://nacto.org/docs/usdg/city\\_trees\\_retail\\_wolf.pdf](https://nacto.org/docs/usdg/city_trees_retail_wolf.pdf)
  - (5) there are also design guidelines for how to landscape for safety. Trees by themselves do not create dark spaces. Dense bushes and lack of lighting do. This sounds like a throw away excuse. Did the development community write this section? It sure seems like it as written as it's just a series of excuses for the City to avoid active problem solving. Some jurisdictions create assessment districts (Landscape and Lighting Assessment District) or issue general obligation bonds to help finance. Large trees should be protected from removal altogether given our 10-year window to address the worst of climate change impacts. You acknowledge on page 12 that trees sequester carbon yet you allow thousands of healthy trees to be cut each year. Trees and other forms of green infrastructure need to be incorporated into the city's Climate Action Plan.
- Need for Maps: There are NO MAPs in the report- when you refer to management units, you need GIS maps of where these are located to make sense
- P. 10- there are few trees in low canopy places because the trees were cut, not because there are apartment buildings. In many lots where apartment buildings are located, this is where some of our biggest trees are actually growing. This is particularly the case with older buildings.
- Need a Tree Inventory: It's unthinkable we have no inventory (page 11) and we need inventories on private land
- I- Tree program needs links
- Tree canopy discussion: You should have accompanying maps here to show relative canopy cover
- Existing Policies Conspicuously absent in this section is our current TREE ORDINANCE. Put reference in this section and include the City's Climate Action Plan. Please also include reference to the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency's policies: <https://pscleanair.gov/31/Priorities> Trees for Seattle contains many positive elements but it still lacks focus on helping homeowners take care of and cultivate a stewardship ethos around their existing private trees. This is a critical gap that needs to be addressed. It would also be very helpful if the City paid for some tree signage for public trees which indicate the environmental, health and social benefits of trees. Many cities have this including substantially smaller towns.
- Page 27/Regulations: All the regulations cited on this page should be hyperlinked for easy reference. More text is needed in this section because listing them alone does very little for building literacy around the topics and their role in urban forestry.
- Page 28/Balance Competing Priorities: This section reads like a Presidential Pardon. With this planet-sized statement, you could make the argument that all these issues eclipse the value and role of urban forests. It is your responsibility to ensure we have a thriving urban forest WHILE creatively addressing all these issues. A healthy, robust and distributed urban forest will help to support all the other focus areas in this section.
- Page 29/ UFMP strategies. THIS SECTION IS SERIOUSLY DEFICIENT. Strategies need targets, dates, persons accountable, budget and implementation detail. This is merely a laundry list and needs to have substance developed for each strategy. The UFMP action agenda does help but still needs dates, targets, budgets and people's names.

- Under Strategy 7, page 32, there needs to be more than “explore ways to help property owners.” Which property owners? Residential, property management companies and their landscapers? Commercial? Industrial? Even industrial parts of the city use green infrastructure. Given how long you have been working in urban forestry, these ways should already be a part of your knowledge and practice. This section is also deficient because it only targets forested parklands and not private property owners.
- Page 33/Funding: This section needs more analysis and needs to include more than just helping to remove invasive weeds.
- Page 35/Key Performance Indicators: You should add a KPI that addresses number of groves, mature trees, and exceptional trees that are SAVED from cutting regardless of location. Also, OSE appears to have no metrics.
- Healthy soils: The city currently permits clearcutting, soil scraping and compaction in development and redevelopment sites. This routine and profligate practice undermines healthy soil conditions.
- Page 36/Research Needs: Add: “Comparing the ecosystem benefits of 6 inch, 18 inch and 24 inch trees compared to seedlings and analyze how much time it will take for the seedlings to exhibit the same biological functions as their mature counterparts.” This research would support the impact of tree removal and seedling planting on the City’s ability to address climate change, stormwater, habitat, air quality and heat island effect issues currently in the City’s policy portfolio. Closing Remarks Thank you for your work on this draft plan. While it has the backbone of what a plan can be, it falls far short of being an actual management plan and needs considerably more work and analysis.

27. What is proposed is a lot of paperwork, not on-the-ground actions that will make an actual difference. What happened to the following proposals that would actually make a difference, not just push paper?

- Preserve existing trees. Because it takes decades for most trees to reach their ultimate size, trees already growing in Seattle generally provide immediate and ongoing benefits that cannot be matched by small/younger replacement trees. ...Focus especially on Evergreen Trees...Mid-large trees...Forests, woodlands and tree groves...Unique wildlife habitat.
- Maintain existing trees
- Habitat restoration and maintenance
- Plant new trees
- Increase awareness of the value and proper care of trees. Where I live, in View Ridge, trees keep coming down so ever bigger houses can be built on 50x100' lots. It's obscene. Until the City gets serious about actually doing something to keep what we have and grow more trees -- not study and explore, trees will continue to be whacked down to allow ever more construction, ADUs, etc. Too bad about the "emerald city". Please don't pretend this plan is worth the paper it's written on because it clearly is not. WHAT A DISAPPOINTMENT.

28. Some areas of Seattle are overbuilt with no vegetation on the property. Apartments often look like slums built by accountants instead of architects. The distribution of trees to people in the city is uneven around densely populated apartments. The health and well being of Seattle residents is suffering because of poor building regulations.

29. The draft Seattle 2020 Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) needs to be strengthened to more aggressively protect Seattle’s existing trees and urban forest citywide. Resolution 31902 passed by the Seattle City Council in 2019 lists a series of regulations and actions to be considered on

protecting trees, however many items are missing from the proposed UFMP. For example, the adoption of a fee-in-lieu if trees cannot be replaced on site, would help to provide needed funds to achieve Seattle's goal toward planting trees in low-income and low canopy neighborhoods. Portland, Oregon just amended their tree ordinance to charge a fee in lieu of \$450/inch for all trees removed by developers that are over 20 inches DSH. In 2018 when the fee-in-lieu applied to trees over 36 inches DSH, they collected some \$1.44 million for their Tree Removal and Replacement Fund. The 2020 draft UFMP devotes only one page to the "importance of urban trees" while the 2013 Urban Forest Stewardship Plan devoted 5 pages. However, five pages are still devoted to "challenges" and "competing uses." Please devote more explanation to the benefits and documentation of the importance of urban trees as was done in the 2013 Plan. The following Priority Actions listed in the 2013 Plan have been removed. They should be added back with their more detailed explanation.

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31. I listed my top 7. Continue to support building a climate resistant City by planting more trees throughout the City like GSP has done over the past 10 years. It is good for property value and good for climate long term
32. (1) The "Last 6,000" Program needs to be expanded. How about 100,000! We need to protect all large trees. (2) This entire survey above gives no mention to loss of tree canopy due to construction of homes and mega-mansions and condominiums. Replanting saplings and landscaping does little to replace the loss of our large, established, 50-years old + trees. The Urban Forest Management Plan of "planting two trees for every one removed" is NOT helpful. We need to keep big trees, protect them, have architectural plans build around them. (3) Most all of my friends have never heard of 'Trees for Seattle', where Seattle residents can get free trees each year. This needs to be advertised more. And special emphasis must be given to trees (large, small, and

power-line) that are native, if possible, drought tolerant, and adapted to our changing climate. (4) Perhaps not under 'Forest Management', but use of Round-up, pesticides, glysohates on lawn care and maintenance is killing the environment. How about a program of 'No Pesticides', 'No Lawns', Replacing lawns with native ground cover.

33. Firstly, asking to rank the above list is a waste of time. They are all important issues but all different from one another. They are also not covering all of the issues locally. My rating of them is not as I see them but the only way to fill out the form efficiently. The main problem I have with the UFMP is that it is already siding with development and presenting the increasing population in Seattle as an excuse for allowing trees to be removed, to prevent deforestation beyond the City, which will happen anyway as the other outlying municipalities all develop and grow. There needs to be a comprehensive 'development plan' produced by Seattle and King County and beyond to collectively work out how to manage population increases while limiting the impact on the natural resources we have around us, that already exist. Mature trees should not be cut down for any reason in Seattle. It is perfectly reasonable to work around them and plan accordingly but this must be part of the development code otherwise it will never happen. The UFMP needs to present this clearly to the reader, otherwise it is taken that trees are an expendable asset. Trees are essential and the best way to protect them is simply to put a moratorium on their removal. Designing new housing is easy and there are plenty of tree-free corridors already in existence so the City should simply make developers develop there and not allow the clearing of wetlands, critical slopes, single family properties and other natural areas where trees and other ecological features are in abundance, to place inappropriate housing, which is neither 'affordable' or increasing density, that simply profits the developer alone. This is destroying the City as we know it and before the next canopy assessment, there will likely be no real canopy left, given the rate of destruction. The UFMP must make this known and not focus on generalised conditions of the benefits of trees and how different departments 'manage' them, which on the face of it makes it sound good and positive but there are large gaps in the 'protection' and proactive care of trees in all departments, especially SDCI and Parks. Equity is very important but I feel there is far too much discussion of trees being expensive to manage when in actual fact they are not, especially if once they are planted, they can be pruned a few times in the first ten years to establish good form and future growth habit. People in lower income neighbourhoods need trees but the general conversation about trees is that they are expensive commodities but even large mature trees with structural issues are cheaper to maintain than a regular gas powered vehicle and certainly much cheaper than owning a property. Trees do not need to be pruned regularly; this is a myth created by the tree pruning industry. Once decent form is established, they need very little maintenance so they should not be discussed in ways that may scare possible tree owners or managers from investing in new trees. Trees exist more in the higher income areas but this is rapidly changing as older properties with more trees are being razed for larger new houses or two on one property as plots are being subdivided and trees are being lost by the dozen or two dozen at a time. All of Seattle needs more trees, regardless of area and the first point is stopping the removal of existing trees then pushing for planting more in all areas, especially those without trees. A plan for subsidizing taxes or something to incentivize lower income neighbourhoods may be a way forward but communication and education is essential. Heritage Tree Program sounds great but these are not special trees; they can be removed like any other 'exceptional' tree. Again, this needs to stop. All trees are important and essential. The goals are good in theory but none of this matters is development does not have to follow any of the same rules of tree protection as 'regular' properties. Until this changes, none of this UFMP means anything as trees will be removed from all areas, excluding parks but as climate change impacts our parks trees, and they fail and decline, these areas will struggle also and there will not be enough



funding to re-tree our parks and development will likely buy them and basically turn Seattle's open spaces, as well as all residential neighbourhoods into busy, over populated residential and commercial area with no trees and inadequate public services. Seattle is going down the shitter, faster than anyone is seeing or caring to think about.

34. Preserve existing trees. Because it takes decades for most trees to reach their ultimate size, trees already growing in Seattle generally provide immediate and ongoing benefits that cannot be matched by small/younger placement trees. ...Focus especially on Evergreen Trees...Mid-large trees...Forests, woodlands and tree groves...Unique wildlife habitat. Plant more young trees  
Increase awareness of taking proper care of trees
35. Plan replacement planting for end of life and climate change impact on existing urban trees, for example, London Plane trees in Pioneer Square area.
36. A big thank you to the city for focusing on trees in Seattle! I would add that I feel the city needs to allocate funds and efforts to remove Ivy from hundreds/thousands of trees annually. In addition, to cut down a much blackberry as possible. Homeless encampments, Blackberry and Ivy are having horrible impacts on the quality of life in our great city.
37. The draft Seattle 2020 Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) needs to be strengthened to more aggressively protect Seattle's existing trees and urban forest citywide. Resolution 31902 passed by the Seattle City Council in 2019 lists a series of regulations and actions to be considered on protecting trees, however many items are missing from the proposed UFMP. For example, the adoption of a fee-in-lieu if trees cannot be replaced on site, would help to provide needed funds to achieve Seattle's goal toward planting trees in low-income and low canopy neighborhoods. Portland, Oregon just amended their tree ordinance to charge a fee in lieu of \$450/inch for all trees removed by developers that are over 20 inches DSH. In 2018 when the fee-in-lieu applied to trees over 36 inches DSH, they collected some \$1.44 million for their Tree Removal and Replacement Fund. The 2020 draft UFMP devotes only one page to the "importance of urban trees" while the 2013 Urban Forest Stewardship Plan devoted 5 pages. However, five pages are still devoted to "challenges" and "competing uses." Please devote more explanation to the benefits and documentation of the importance of urban trees as was done in the 2013 Plan. The following Priority Actions listed in the 2013 Plan have been removed. They should be added back with their more detailed explanation.
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proposed key metric tracking does not track tree removal. SDCI is not included in tracking tree replacement or tree loss in key activity metrics. As noted, SDCI's private property oversight covers some 72% of the trees in Seattle and should be the entity doing the most tracking of tree retention, loss, and replacement. They should do this by requiring permits to remove and replace trees as many other cities have been doing for years. All metrics should be tracked on a quarterly basis and publicly posted on the city website. There needs to be more details around the push for increased housing density and construction in the city. Lots are literally being clear-cut across the city, removing trees not even in the proposed building footprint. Many trees are being lost, including large old trees that provide the most benefits to people living and working in the city. The city and this plan are not attaching a cost to this loss of trees and their benefits or looking for ways to both build and protect more trees. SDCI is not even willing to incorporate the phrase requiring developers "to maximize the retention of existing trees" in landscaping plans. Meanwhile Portland, OR in 2018 amended their tree ordinance to require permits to remove any tree outside the building development footprint to reduce the unnecessary loss of existing trees. Seattle should follow suit and also aggressively work with builders to develop alternative building design plans that could save more trees. Inclusive community involvement is a vital part of the solution, but the same development pressures facing areas with lots of trees also affect all communities, including the BIPOC and low-income communities. As the 2013 Urban Forest Stewardship Plan noted, replanting of trees to compensate for large trees cut down will take decades to compensate for the benefits lost, no matter where they are planted in the city. The loss is even more significant to the traditionally underserved communities that have low tree canopy to start with.

39. Having a Tree Protection Ordinance with substantive regulations is the most important step that the City can take for an Urban Forest Management Plan. Our trees should be valued and an adequate "in lieu fee" should be part of the Plan to encourage the protection and maintenance of trees rather than an attitude of just cutting down and getting that tree out of the way. And, if such removal of a tree must be done, a substantial fee should be paid to provide plantings somewhere else.
40. There should be an immediate way to protect urban trees from being felled by developers when trees are more than 10 years old. This should include ways to protect and designate heritage trees without permission from landowner. (If we must wait for landowners to agree to protect trees on their property we will continue to lose important older evergreen trees.) Neighbors of old growth trees should be able to get large evergreens protected before the building department is asked to review building plans for development. I think that anyone purchasing property in Seattle should be given a copy of Seattle tree protection ordinances so that no one can claim ignorance of the need to protect trees. Heritage trees should be part of all home sale and property sale declarations. (Just like historical homes.) This information should be widely available to real estate agents and prospective buyers.
41. We are losing our tree cover (canopy) in our urban area. Education is vitally needed to reverse this trend. Too many actions in removing trees in the city are taken too quickly and mindlessly, and once these natural features are gone they are gone forever and will take centuries to recover. A strong tree policy needs to slow this process down. We need time and programs to educate citizens, slow and change actions, and use monetary penalties/rewards to help retain our NW image of 'evergreen state'. We need to defend and maintain our quality of life.
  - Maintain existing trees
  - Habitat restoration and maintenance

- Plant new trees
  - Increase awareness of the value and proper care of trees. Eighteen Action items are mentioned in the current (2020 UFSP) draft. One of the most important items is listed last and is not bolded as a priority item. “Update the City’s tree protection regulations.” Seattle City Council Resolution 31902 specifically says, “Submit legislation in 2020 for consideration by the Council.” The specific lack of emphasis on the need to update SMC 25.11, the City’s Tree Protection Ordinance, is unfortunately consistent with the city’s current 11 year delay in modernizing and updating the ordinance. The proposed key metric tracking does not track tree removal. SDCI is not included in tracking tree replacement or tree loss in key activity metrics. As noted, SDCI’s private property oversight covers some 72% of the trees in Seattle and should be the entity doing the most tracking of tree retention, loss, and replacement. They should do this by requiring permits to remove and replace trees as many other cities have been doing for years. All metrics should be tracked on a quarterly basis and publicly posted on the city website.
42. If trees cannot be replaced on site, there should be meaningful and robust fees charged in-lieu to provide funds to achieve Seattle’s goal of planting trees in low-income and low canopy neighborhoods. Require permits to remove any tree outside a building development footprint to reduce the unnecessary loss of existing trees.
- Preserve existing trees. Because it takes decades for most trees to reach their ultimate size, trees already growing in Seattle generally provide immediate and ongoing benefits that cannot be matched by small/younger replacement trees.
43. I did not find a proposal to put emphasis on maintaining existing large trees. I want to see habitat restoration and maintenance on this list. What is the goal for planting new trees? If there is no tracking of tree removal, how can we keep our canopy coverage in sight? Where is the responsibility of SDCI’s tracking of tree retention, loss, and replacement? All City agencies should report to ONE tree czar so we all can see what is happening as it is happening: a monthly report or on-going report. All tree removal should be by permit and by certified/approved tree removal companies and persons.
44. My biggest concern is the need to increase tree conservation of existing trees on commercial and residential lands
45. As a resident observing the Urban Forest areas for a while now, my highest concern is the high percentage trees are positioned in residential areas. I read 'Effective protection for trees on private property is a key element of our citywide strategy to keep Seattle livable especially as we continue to grow.' and saw it on the end of the list. Without the private property trees being carefully protected, the other items on the list, will be more challenging to succeed as all newly established efforts are dependent on a healthy current and expanded tree canopy. Many homeowners and landlords are not educated about the importance of the tree canopy, especially regarding urban heat maps and the benefits and importance of trees in general. Many many backyard trees are removed daily. I think it’s a major issue for the city as the higher temperatures will make it harder for any other urban trees to survive over time. We already have a big tree failure on many native trees, Cedars, Alders, Maples, Madronas and Pines. 1. We need a strong tree protection rule for private properties that is clear to communicate. We need every backyard tree within the City. People are not educated and don’t understand the importance. There needs to be an information campaign on news channels and schools. 2. We need Landscaping companies to be trained on consulting and preventing healthy trees from being removed and a reporting system

for tree removal on private properties, identifying the companies not complying. I don't think Seattle can afford to lose one single healthy backyard tree in regards of the accelerated climate change and the impact the higher temperature has on any city tree - street, park or backyard. 3. We need to protect every healthy tree and offer incentives to maintain every tree or all the other trees will fail over time as well. 4. Many homeowners fear failing trees damaging their buildings and take out big healthy trees. We need to make sure insurance covers all tree failure damages and homeowners will not need to worry and prematurely take out healthy trees.

46. I have provided extensive markup comment on the .pdf. I can share that doc if you wish. Kathleen Wolf, Ph.D., U of WA, [kwolf@uw.edu](mailto:kwolf@uw.edu)
47. The company that Seattle City light contracted with butchered my neighbors tree and crushed my plants and landscaping with the dropped limbs. I urge the City of Seattle to hire reputable companies that respect the tax payers property.
48. I would like to see: --more specific ideas for mitigating tree removal in re residential/commercial development. Ideally, ESTABLISHED trees (most useful for carbon capture) could simply be relocated nearby. And/or, introduce some sort of OFFSET system where developers/homeowners DONATE same/greater amount of trees to some other block (ideally to neighborhoods most in tree need) --a living tree count page/spreadsheet showing tree species/age/replacement timelines - -some plan for focusing/plotting tree "avenues" on streets or our "villages" with high vehicle/pedestrian traffic (ie, capturing carbon, improving mentality) --along with that list planned for best trees to survive our changing climate, like to see trees that are least dangerous/damaging to our sidewalks (for safety of users, lessen cost re repairs) --as well as their irreplaceable carbon capture factor, like to some more attention paid to the health and wellness aspect of trees (particularly concerning our tree-and-income poor areas). See: <https://phys.org/news/2019-07-urban-trees-mental-health.html>
49. It does not go far enough and needs to be "radicalized " We have a lot of nice talk about trees but lack any real action. There is too much fluff not enough substance. It is like we are trying to avoid the subject, for as long as possible. We have rezoned much of the city where 70% of the trees are, and then done nothing to protect or prioritize their existence. Even though protection was "promised" by our city leaders, as part of the upzones. No inspectors. No protections. Managed by the "building Dept". Our plans for canopy rely on volunteers, planting of new trees, in industrial zones or communities that have been shortchanged over time. But we don't even have any in lieu fees. We're so far behind other cities. I appreciate the environment that we here now have been able to enjoy. The current plan will not provide that same opportunity to future residents. What really matters is for leaders of the city to stand up for canopy and fund that goal appropriately.
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- Increase awareness of the value and proper care of trees. Eighteen Action items are mentioned in the current (2020 UFSP) draft. One of the most important items is listed last and is not bolded as a priority item. “Update the City’s tree protection regulations.” Seattle City Council Resolution 31902 specifically says, “Submit legislation in 2020 for consideration by the Council.” The specific lack of emphasis on the need to update SMC 25.11, the City’s Tree Protection Ordinance, is unfortunately consistent with the city’s current 11 year delay in modernizing and updating the ordinance. The proposed key metric tracking does not track tree removal. SDCI is not included in tracking tree replacement or tree loss in key activity metrics. As noted, SDCI’s private property oversight covers some 72% of the trees in Seattle and should be the entity doing the most tracking of tree retention, loss, and replacement. They should do this by requiring permits to remove and replace trees as many other cities have been doing for years. All metrics should be tracked on a quarterly basis and publicly posted on the city website. The City’s policy should include more details around the push for increased housing density and construction in the city. Lots are literally being clear-cut across the city, removing trees not even in the proposed building footprint. Many trees are being lost, including large old trees that provide the most benefits to people living and working in the city. The city and this plan are not attaching a cost to this loss of trees and their benefits or looking for ways to both build and protect more trees. SDCI is not even willing to incorporate the phrase requiring developers “to maximize the retention of existing trees” in landscaping plans. Meanwhile Portland, OR in 2018 amended their tree ordinance to require

permits to remove any tree outside the building development footprint to reduce the unnecessary loss of existing trees. Seattle should follow suit and also aggressively work with builders to develop alternative building design plans that could save more trees. Inclusive community involvement is a vital part of the solution, but the same development pressures facing areas with lots of trees also affect all communities, including the BIPOC and low-income communities. As the 2013 Urban Forest Stewardship Plan noted, replanting of trees to compensate for large trees cut down will take decades to compensate for the benefits lost, no matter where they are planted in the city. The loss is even more significant to the traditionally underserved communities that have low tree canopy to start with.

52. The following detailed Priority Actions in the 2013 Plan should be reinstated. Preserve and maintain existing trees. Emphasize habitat restoration and maintenance. Plant new trees. Educate the public about the value and care of trees. The draft Seattle 2020 Urban Forest Management Plan needs to be strengthened. This includes the adoption of a fee in lieu if a developer removes a tree over 20 inches diameter at standard height on a construction site. Such a program has been implemented successfully in Portland, Oregon.
53. Seattle is losing its trees at an alarming rate. Large numbers have been removed in our neighborhood for development, view preservation, and even by SDOT because the trees interfered with traffic mobility or visibility. Each one that comes down is a loss to our community. The City's much-lauded tree planting doesn't replace this loss, because the newly planted saplings rarely survive, and are frequently low-value species such as crabapple or flowering cherry. I'm very concerned that in building density without tree protection, we are intentionally creating a concrete canyon which will be devoid of any wildlife, and also hot and extremely polluted. This is obviously harder on lower-income neighborhoods. On the survey above, I ranked tree protection first for this reason. I believe all of the other actions are admirable and would love to see 100 percent of them adopted! But a caveat about tree-planting: without care, these young trees die. Take a look at the Maple Leaf Reservoir park, which is a virtual graveyard of newly-planted trees, nearly every one of them dead. This is a poor use of our resources! Better not to spend the time/money planting a tree if there is no plan in place to care for it until it is established. Thank you!
54. With increasing climate change producing hotter summers, the need for the shade provided by mature trees will only increase. I have witnessed too many large trees cut down in my Wallingford neighborhood during the 25 years I have lived there. Most of them were not replaced, or if they were, it will be many many years before they will provide adequate shade and wildlife habitat. It is crucial that we protect the existing mature trees in this city.
55. I HAVE BEEN SHOUTING THIS FOR YEARS AND NO ONE WILL LISTEN: Remove ivy and blackberry that is killing trees along public right of ways-Lake Wa Blvd, Roanoke Dr, Lake City Way, Madrona Park, countless other roadways and parks and also on private property. Currently only the fancy sexy parks get ivy removed. Meanwhile thousands if not tens of thousands of trees in our city are being lost to ivy. If you don't believe me, I'll take you on a tour. Make it illegal to just negligently let all the trees on a private property fall to invasive ivy. Remove the ivy from all the trees on all public rights of way. Lining our beautiful streets. Make it a job you can easily get community service hours for. Vastly increase the number of access points for this work, and locales. Do it. Oh also: for the love of God, instead of letting developers pay for breaking laws about removing trees, jail them. Don't let them just pay a fine. Jail them.
56. The following needs to be done:

- Preserve existing trees. Because it takes decades for most trees to reach their ultimate size, trees already growing in Seattle generally provide immediate and ongoing benefits that cannot be matched by small/younger replacement trees. ...Focus especially on Evergreen Trees...Mid-large trees...Forests, woodlands and tree groves...Unique wildlife habitat.
- Maintain existing trees
- Habitat restoration and maintenance
- Plant new trees (please plant native trees and not non-native trees)
- Increase awareness of the value and proper care of trees
- Incorporate the phrase requiring developers “to maximize the retention of existing trees” in landscaping plans. Portland, OR in 2018 amended their tree ordinance to require permits to remove any tree outside the building development footprint to reduce the unnecessary loss of existing trees. Seattle should follow suit and also aggressively work with builders to develop alternative building design plans that could save more trees.

57. The draft Seattle 2020 Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) needs to be strengthened to more aggressively protect Seattle’s existing trees and urban forest citywide.

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62. Of the list above, I have provided my top 4 priorities for this plan. I found it challenging to rank all of the either items but attempted to do so. I listed update tree protection regulations as priority 1 because this is long overdue. We need to protect the largest trees in Seattle's tree canopy to fight climate change and provide habitat for birds and other wildlife. We need a more comprehensive definition for exceptional trees, licensing requirements for arborists and enforcement when trees come down illegally. Thank you.
63. We need a new tree ordinance now that truly protects trees when properties are being developed, whether by a developer or the owner. All oversight of trees on private property should be done by bona fide arborists who are not under SDCI, but who work in a separate department, which has as its duty to protect trees from being cut down and promotes the planting of more trees. This department should have full authority to disapprove a project that would cut down mature trees, and to require re-design in order to protect trees. Generally, there needs to be a mantra and ethos that cutting trees is bad. There should be no cutting down of trees because an owner believes the tree is a nuisance or because the roots have grown and broken a sidewalk. There should be SUBSTANTIAL FEES AND PENALTIES for cutting down any tree without a permit, to be administered by the new department, not SDCI. And no permits to remove a tree should be given unless a tree is truly hazardous. Even with hazardous trees, there should be a requirement that the tree must be replaced to the greatest extent possible with the size and species of tree that was removed. No large conifers should be removed unless hazardous, subject to replacement. All of the above list should be carried out ASAP. Most of the above list is merely educational, which would not be unduly expensive. Other than a few, I have not ranked them. The parks should not be used at all by homeless people. Parks in large part contain fragile environments that are being destroyed. We also need many more parks in areas where there are few. The way to prevent the use of our parks by homeless people is to provide homes where people can be warm and safe. It is truly a disgrace

the way Seattle has not provided housing for those in need and has not provided the full scale of services to help people stay in homes including as mental health and drug rehabilitation services.

64. Some small text edits: Page 21: Capitalize D in "development" in first paragraph. Last sentence on the page needs a period after "urban forest". Page 23: First paragraph, "storm water" should be one word. Page 27: "storm water" should be one word in Stormwater rates item. Page 34: Extra T in first paragraph Page 35: First table fourth column header should read "citywide target." Third table should be qualitative, not quantitative.
65. The positive aspects of the report: 1. Recognizing the valuable resources of multiple generations: "Expand volunteer programs focused on the elders and children" (page 32): This action will tremendously enrich the program, by engaging multiple generations, each of which can bring its own history, experience, and education to produce a greater, more lasting commitment to our Urban Forest and its contributions to the health, safety, and well-being of our larger community. Furthermore, it renews a lost connection between two seemingly disparate generations, both of which are valuable contributors to the upbringing of our young people. 2. Addressing invasive species and allergies 3. Addressing the cultural aspects of various groups, including the indigenous people, whose wealth of experiences and rich history of respect for the environment provide both inspirational and practical guidelines for all residents of Seattle. 4. Realizing the importance of the tree canopy to our non-human neighbors – insects, wildlife, etc. This includes the vibrancy of multi-sensory input, which fosters human contentment – from the colors, sounds, textures, and aromas presented to us within a rich Urban Forest. Especially important, too, is the recognition of the salmon populations which are at risk from past human behavior. 5. Balancing the expansion of trees with the need for safety, visibility, property protection, and privacy. 6. Supporting our residents regarding tree selection, upkeep, removal, replacement, and planting locations. 7. Creating a network of cooperation among various City Agencies and Departments to enforce and nurture the goals of the Urban Forest Plan: This includes the assignment of responsibilities to each department. 8. Acknowledging and balancing competing uses, such as solar technology, views, utilities, and transportation infrastructure 9. Addressing sidewalks and ADA requirements, with respect to tree locations, root damage, etc. 10. Inspiring our youth to become engaged in creating a new vibrant Urban Forest legacy: "Create a program to improve access for people in environmental equity priority communities to internships, apprentices, and jobs in urban forestry." (page 31) This is an admirable goal, provided it doesn't lead just to another "jobs program" with a bloated administrative body. Some negative aspects of the plan: 1. PERMEABLE PAVEMENTS: The plan missed the opportunity to discuss new advancements which could address the negative impact of trees vs. pedestrians and below ground infrastructure, especially those along paved areas. Specifically, there is no mention of any recent improvements in pavement materials, especially those with increased permeability. Such materials would decrease the pooling of rainwater on sidewalks and paths (and in the winter, the creation of slick ice sheets), and would allow that water to soak more effectively and efficiently into the soil, providing nourishment and nutrients to the tree roots and preventing the need for those roots to push ever deeper underground to the sewer systems or into people's yards, etc. While these options might still be limited, discussion of and on-going research into any such new products should become officially part of the long-term plan. 2. EDUCATION: A blatantly obvious omission is that the City of Seattle missed the opportunity to include the Seattle Education System as a source of outreach and as a means of engaging the next generation, from younger ages, in ecological and environmental issues. 3. ROOF-TOP GARDENS IN NEW DEVELOPMENTS: This plan doesn't even mention the rapid increases in such gardens, including trees, which developers are now touting as major contributors to the city's tree canopy.

These trees must not be that relevant, since they are not included in the City's assessment. Furthermore, they cannot even be appreciated from the sidewalk, as they are only assets to the residents.

4. PERIODIC ASSESSMENTS: The only reviews that appears in the document are the periodic 5-year assessment of the citywide canopy cover and the climate change assessment. This is unacceptable, as it assumes that other aspects of the plan will not require any periodic review. In fact, this is an on-going problem with much legislation passed by the City Council.

5. ASSURING THAT THE INTERDEPARTMENTAL COOPERATION IS A REALITY: It is wonderful that this objective has been stated in the plan, but the past does not forbode well that this can or will be accomplished.

6. POPULATION DENSITY ISSUES VS. A LOSS OF TREE CANOPY: These issues may be exacerbated in BIPOC and underserved communities, but they are not confined there. The plan asserts that the undue stress of tree loss on those communities is due to the lack of single-family homes with yards and the more prominent existence of apartment complexes without trees and vegetation. Yet, no solutions are proposed. Furthermore, the plan excludes consideration of other neighborhoods that have been up-zoned to create the same depletion in the tree-to-resident ratio. As long as the City places density, bulk, and height as the ultimate solution to population gains and fails to recognize and address the negative impacts of street rows of multi-unit apartment buildings sandwiched together, there will continue to be a loss in trees throughout the City, especially in the urban centers and villages.

7. THE NEW "NORMAL": If Covid19 taught us anything, it is that we cannot continue relying on the assumptions which were the basis of Seattle 2035 – "a 20 year vision and roadmap for Seattle's future", specifically: "Seattle is expected to grow by 70, 000 new households and 110,000 new jobs from 2015 and 2035" (pages 15 and 20):

a. People have become more mobile and even nomadic, as their lives transition to becoming more centered around the home. In a way, this is a greater source of upheaval than expected; there may no longer be any long-term commitment to individual neighborhoods and communities, as people uproot their families based on many factors – jobs, schools, tax concerns, etc.

b. Changing lifestyles and needs demand a proactive response by the City in order to influence future legislation, codes and zoning. These changes now create a challenge to Seattle and its efforts to add bulk and density to the detriment of healthy and safe living. No longer can the Planning Department push for cubical style housing units on the assumption that people just need a place to eat and sleep. Now that life at home includes working from home, studying from home, and entertaining from home, even the community areas within multi-unit apartment units can no longer provide practical options for the residents. They just cannot replace a vibrant outdoors, under the comforting shade of the tree canopy.

c. The new reality must challenge the given assumptions of population growth expectations built into our various city-wide planning tools: up-zones, ADU/DADU ordinances, tax legislation as a source of income for city obligations and improvement projects, etc. Seattle must also address, in more detail, the population movement trends in and out of various neighborhoods as well as in and out of the City, especially the drift into the suburbs: What types of individuals and families are migrating, to and from where, what they are seeking and for what incentives?

NOTE:

1. This survey was too complicated, with a list of 18 actions, in random order, to be prioritized 1 through 18. I tried to do the survey on line with much frustration, so I made a screenshot of the page in order to review the actual document with a printed copy of the list (which doesn't even match the order presented in that document). Then I returned to record my answers and complete the survey, only to discover that the items i the list were drastically altered again! The city should simplify the process if they expect people to take the time to submit their ideas.

2. I am sending you a more formal comment letter, via your email address, in order to reflect the concerns of our entire family. A copy of that letter will also be forwarded to CM Alex Pedersen and Mayor Durkan.

Thank you, Aileen

66. See separate letter
67. Please re-think the timeline on page 7. I don't feel like you all can commit to serving Native peoples and erase Native history to this degree. Do the work to include prior management- there could be chapters on this so a few extra bullet points could suffice.
68. Continue to streamline permit processes for tree management on private properties (action strategy 7-18). The Tree Risk Assessment Form published by the ISA is not a report, it is intended to be for notes. The form isn't a suitable requirement for permit applications to manage trees. The focus on the environmental equity relationship with social justice is fantastic! This will most certainly get more public and volunteer engagement to advance environmental sustainability initiatives. Consider the further analysis of the environmental benefits of trees using iTree. The concerns about allergens could be integrated into this research. BIPOC communities could also benefit from initiatives that create pathways into the business of tree care (Arboriculture). The City should consider offering more contracted tree work to WMBE and provide training opportunities.
69. Under Strategies section, I appreciate #7 emphasizes providing community support to “keeping” of trees before listing “removal”. It’s subtle but valuable. It’s good to see in the action agenda, that there will be, going forward, a coordinating of departmental work and collaborating on urban forestry citywide efforts. (So desperately needed). Strategy 1, #4, this section is where good partnership with volunteer tree/environmental organizations can be a strong asset. Also recommend partnering with Seattle Public Schools, environmental education/ biological science program and teachers. Connecting with youth is how to build a strong future for tree protection. To connect with the environmental justice needs, work with students who attend schools in BIPOC communities so they can learn about opportunities to participate in urban forestry, (ties back to Strategy 1, #1 as well as to Strategy 5, #10, 11 Strategy 3, #8, every 5 years is too long between assessments during this rapid pace of change. Recommend every other year for the first 6 years, then move on to every third year if it seems goals are being met. Once goals are met and demonstrate stabilization, transition to 5 years. Why is Strategy 7, #18 updating tree protections, the very last item and it is not in bold, is this not a priority action???? Finally, perhaps it is my oversight, but does this draft plan even acknowledge the loss of exceptional trees in the past 4 years since the lidar study or even introduce an inventory plan to account for loss trees moving forward?
70. This is a wacky form: I assume 1 is the highest priority and 18 is the lowest? All of the above are worthy activities. My comments on the Draft UFMP 2020: I reviewed both the summary and the entire Draft UFMP 2020. I also read documents referenced in the Draft, Executive Order 2017-11 and Seattle Resolution 31902. The Draft UFMP primarily appears to be an expansion of the Executive Order 2017-11. It's useful and nicely done. However I'm disappointed that most pressing and obvious problem for the urban canopy is NOT addressed: trees (including roots and canopy) need room to grow, and are on the losing end of most conflicts. The Draft Plan notes single family zoned neighborhoods have the most canopy coverage but neglects to state the reason: these neighborhoods have backyards that can accommodate large trees. My concern is the UFMP doesn't adequately address the development code as the cause of tree loss. The SDCL rules regarding setbacks and lot coverage need to be revised to require space for trees, both existing and future. For example one stated goal in the UFMP is to increase conifer coverage, but neglects the fact they need more room than deciduous trees if they're to be viable long term. I'm also concerned that trees are blamed for the housing crisis per page 36 under 'Research Needed': 'Understanding of how

planting trees and improving the urban forest may lead to gentrification and displacement.' At best this is a stretch. The benefits of trees are well established and documented, and they help the entire community. Kathleen Wolf with UW has already quantified these benefits in various studies. Under Incentives and Outreach on page 27, I'm in favor of utility incentives to retain trees. Trees intercept and help slow the amount of storm water reaching the combined sewer/drain system, which will help with water quality. I recall this was suggested in the past, but considered too difficult to implement. 'Departures from the development standards', noted on the same page, could save trees. But without monetary incentives or code requirements, I don't see this happening. Thank you for considering my comments. Tina Cohen Tina Cohen, ISA Certified Arborist #PN0245A ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualified Member American Society of Consulting Arborists Registered Consulting Arborist #473, retired

71. Overall, I see too much emphasis placed on bipoc communities which may have less tree canopy and resources, but not enough support for trees on private property and punitive legislation proposed to benefit arborists without balance to trees on private property that may be hazardous as trees become dangerous on small lots when they become so tall/ big that they may fall and do damage. Developers who constantly are clearing lots and the OPCD when issuing permits are responsible for most of the tree loss due allowing squeezing of a maximum number of units put on small lots. So how can developers be stopped from clear cutting to achieve lofty profit goals of more units and destroying trees? By contrast, residents not turning over their property for sale discover a problem tree then have hoops to jump thru that cost them time and possibly fines in punitive forms. The tree notification for 10 days proposed only invites property owners to be hastled or harassed by strangers if a tree is to be removed. Elevating the status of property owners who are not tearing down homes need to have their property rights built into decisions that support their rights as the owner. Trees are not community property on private property and support systems should be developed for property owners without creating drastic fines and replacement costs for property owners versus developers ( different goals for profit in units in mind). Outline more support for property owners now and get it in the plan particularly when trees create problems and potential damage for the house they live in. Removing a hazardous tree should not be a long drawn out process and no one should have to wait until the tree falls to be declared hazardous. If the owner wants it out they should be the last word not the city if it is on private property. Especially if the owner intends to stay on the property without any plans for tearing down the dwelling. Do not decrease the 30 inch threshold to 24 inches or 6 inches. This is too aggressive when it comes to private property.
72. My particular interest is finding ways to support backyard forest restoration, especially the removal of invasive plants from patches of privately owned forest in single-family residential neighborhoods. Closely related, would be finding ways to support removal of invasive plants from forests adjacent to private parcels, such as common areas, unimproved rights-of-way, and native growth protection areas.
73. Where is the Seattle Tree Ordinance ? Maybe another year ?
74. I would like to see an ongoing effort by the Urban Forestry Core Team to inform the public about the importance of maintaining and protecting our trees and on the importance of planting trees appropriately. Property owners need to know that there are regulations that pertain to the trees on their property. I would like to see this done in different ways and often so that the public gets the message and is reminded again and again. Public service announcements by radio, TV,

newspapers, posters, and on websites might be methods and I'm sure there are more that I don't know about.

75. Regarding item 8: Please please please, use the same technology and parameters for each future aerial canopy assessment. No survey will be truly accurate, but a series can give some idea what's going on - if, and only if, each one of the series is conducted in the same way. Please make this an explicit part of action item 8 in the plan, so that 5 or 10 years down the road it will serve as a reminder when a new and improved technology is being considered.
76. We have had an incredibly discouraging experience with the work Green Seattle has done in the Mt. Baker neighborhood. Without ANY community input, Green Seattle has planted trees which will grow to obstruct the views at Mt. Clair Park, which is part of the historically designated Mt. Baker neighborhood, designed by the Olmsted Brothers, specifically for the views of Mt. Baker. In addition, the city has ceased any and all park maintenance, allowing the existing foliage to completely overgrow. The neighborhood has done everything in its power to have a productive dialogue with the Parks Department/Green Seattle. The neighborhood has volunteered to help with park maintenance that the city has neglected for months, and we have made ourselves available for meetings/walk-throughs. It feels like we are not making any progress, and the voice of the community is not being heard. This viewpoint does not just benefit the neighborhood, but is used by people from all over the city who cherish the views. No one objects to thoughtfully planted trees and slope management, but to purposefully obstruct an existing view feels vindictive. Reforesting the city should be about more than the number of trees/acre planted. It is not a one size fits all solution. Every neighborhood is unique and special, and one of a kind features like viewpoints should not be destroyed because of a formula. There are many types of trees which would not take away the views, and would provide for a stable slope as well as a canopy. The unmanaged overgrowth, such as it is, has attracted more than one homeless person, and provides cover for vandals and others involved in covert activities. I recently moved to the area from Northern California. The cities of Oakland and Berkeley would never allow such overgrowth as it is an extreme fire danger. During the Oakland Firestorm I watched overgrown hillsides go up in flames in minutes, spreading fire easily to nearby homes. I hope the city will reach out and work with our neighborhood to preserve this very special park and the incredible views. I wish someone would set up a time lapse camera for you to see the many and diverse people who spend time there every single day. A young couple recently set up a beautiful little table for a romantic sunset dinner. A group of teenagers choreographed a dance routine. A physical therapist did exercises with an elderly patient. School children sat social distance learning in a big circle. Dog owners, cyclists, kite flyers, babies in strollers, children of all ages, workers from all vocations/walks of life on lunch breaks take in the views. At night, young people gather and sometimes play guitars, or sing. Some come from the neighborhood, but the majority do not. It is a welcoming park WITH A VIEW!!! Please help us preserve it by planting trees that make sense for THIS park!
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78. The revised UFMP should provide more detail and actions the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI) can use to support canopy cover goals when permitting development projects. Please draft code language with incentives for tree canopy retention or innovative designs that preserve high-value trees. Tracking and metrics are key. Please create a system to document and track private property tree planting, tree removal, exceptional trees, and hazard trees. UFMP goals need to have short-term and long-term targets in order to demonstrate progress and success, and an annual "State of the Urban Forest Report" should be delivered. When a property is sold, please include in the title for the property the tree requirements that were part of the development permits, similar to an easement. City Council members and key decision makers should be coached to have a clear understanding and appreciation of the long-term goals and priorities of the UFMP. Stabilize program funding sources to secure adequate staffing for Green Seattle Partnership and Trees for Seattle to effectively manage volunteers. The Urban Forestry Core Team, which includes representatives from each of the seven departments and is responsible for coordinating management of Seattle's urban forest, should have a dedicated department funding stream and provide overarching policies for tree care standards. The UFMP should designate specific roles and responsibilities of individual departments and set associated goals and objectives. Each department should also include adherence to the UFMP objectives within their own plans and policies. Thank you!
79. Emphasize the longevity of canopy/trees and their plantings. The more trees in the right places and the longer they live the greater the benefit to the environment.
80. Large Maples were planted along Cascadie Avenue at the Mt Claire viewpoint blocking the view of Lake Washington from the public. We can barely see the lake now because the city has planted tall trees when they should have planted low bushes to secure the landscape. The planting of these

trees was not thoughtfully done; they block the view for anyone walking by or wanting to sit on the grass, as in all these years past and take advantage of the view. During Seafair, the viewpoint was packed with people watching the hydroplanes on race day. No one can see anything anymore. Historically, it was deemed to be a viewpoint not a forest. People came for the view not the tree canopies. Now the view is impinged upon. You can't see the lake walking by on Cascadia Avenue. Was there a fire sale on 30 foot Maple trees? The water view that we have cherished is quickly disappearing by these fast growing trees. The decision makers for this lovely strip of city view property were wrong to think that planting tall trees that block views was the correct move. Other plantings that are low and that can be easily maintained and are appropriate for hillsides are much more appropriate. Mt Baker residents are a respectful and concerned group of neighbors with sound ideas. It's so sad for our neighborhood. It was a wonderful meeting place and now it's nothing. Laurie Ritt

81. In reference to the "Urban Forest Management Plan," I believe that the public was misled. While it appeared to be a plan that would help remove invasive species and clean up public spaces, the "reforestation" aspect has over-reached. The consequences have been the elimination (due to large tree planting and lack of maintenance) of public viewpoints starting to disappear throughout the city. This decision by the Parks Department on official viewpoints that would be maintained was made in secret, without the opportunity for public comment.
82. 1. Most of the plan clarifies how the City currently deals with trees yet there needs to be more of a cross walk between how those departments connect or how their individual plans intersect - otherwise it seems like a series of siloed endeavors. 2. I did not see mention of how this intersects with King County Forestry plan. Are they aligned? 3. The strategies section are missing a timeline - they really need to include the timeframe for action. Or are all of them on a 5-year cycle? Just need to clarify. 4. Under the section on Priorities for New Funding - I would hope the City would prioritize MORE TREES in addition to the other items listed, or in place of one of those items if you're limited. 5. There is strong focus on the need for more research but no mention of partnering with our universities - they have research budgets and expertise so that the City can focus on implementation and they can (in partnership) provide the research and data. 6. There seems to be a lot of focus on the Trees for Seattle program, yet they run out of trees each year, are not set up to work in EJ communities, and the program is really designed for the home-owner-college-educated type. Perhaps, this program can be run in partnership with community groups who have the expertise in working with community. 7. Can the City partner with Seattle Public Schools? There is ample interest in the school community, a caring and involved audience and there is land. Trust for Public Land is doing some interesting work in South King County. 8. I'm shocked that there isn't yet a list of preferred trees that are resilient to climate change and pests and think this is something our universities could provide. 9. What is the City doing to encourage the departments to follow through on their responsibilities? For example, who monitors the parks department's tree replacement? Is it happening? How many years do they have to replace trees? Do they have the budget to do this? It seems that this type monitoring needs to be included in this plan otherwise, it falls by the wayside. 10. And finally, please consider partnerships that can amplify a more equitable distribution, care, maintenance and planting of trees. The City shouldn't reinvent, conduct its own research or start something if it can boost existing efforts and expertise. Thank you!

83. I like that you have changed the diameter to 6" of trees. I am concerned about the population of Seattle increasing and the value of home increasing and apartment rentals. I would like to see more homeless shelters.
84. I am very unhappy that trees were planted in the open space on Cascadia Avenue (at the end) where many people from diverse neighborhoods were able to see the view of the lake unobstructed by wealthy family homes. When we used to have Seafair, this was a spot for families to see the planes and boats, even if they did not have a home on the lake. When those saplings grow up, the view will be gone. Neighbors have petitioned to have them removed and as far as I can tell the city is ignoring the citizens' concerns.
85. Thanks for all your hard work and for soliciting public input. Preventing the loss of mature trees doesn't appear explicitly on the above list, so I inferred that it would be most likely to happen via updating tree protection regs...it quite simply should not be so easy to kill big healthy trees in our city as it is now.
86. I don't think the tree protections help native birds. Some research is showing native birds need 70% native plants. Stopping trees from being taken out in my neighborhood won't ever get my neighborhood to 30% tree canopy. Those trees are now gone. No one will plant them unless you require every single family yard to at least have one native large tree. I feel the protections fell short. I'm completely disappointed.
87. Comments to the 2020 Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) From Richard Ellison "The 2020 Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) provides a framework for policy and action that guides city government decision making to help Seattle maintain, preserve, enhance, and restore its urban forest." Pg 6 Importance of urban trees – missing mention of soils and functions- intercept water, improve water quality of runoff Pg 7 Timeline – missing- In 1997, the City Council protected the tallest Chinese Tree Privet in Washington State with a \$2500 bond, the first construction tree bond ever in Seattle. The City Council Urban Forest Work Group held meetings in 1997-2000 to find ways to protect the trees in Seattle. Pg 15 Challenges to the urban forest. – Missing impacts of invasive vegetation threatening mature trees, understory recruitment, biodiversity, slope stability, habitat quality, etc Natural capital assessment? Pg 18 - Development and urban design. Accommodating trees in urban areas pose additional issues. – missing discussion of building taller to maximize on ground open space allowing for mature trees and play space. Pg 19 – Invasive plants. It does not discuss economic effects of invasives, such as threats to habitats, steep slopes failing when saturated, or large broken branches overloaded with vines falling on roads in storms. Pg 20 Chapter 3: Existing management approach – missing a discussion of delays to update Tree Protection ordinance, and the impacts to tree canopy. Pg 25 – Existing Programs – No mention of the Seattle Urban Forest Commission efforts since 2009. Pg 26 – Green Seattle Partnership – No mention of the invasive problem on private properties, both adjacent to City properties and separate. Missed opportunities to educate community members how to control invasives, options to hire crews or create volunteer neighborhood control groups, and the risks of neglecting controls. Pg 27 - Management of public and street trees. Missing a discussion of the decline or death of many newly planted trees due to lack of watering in Parks and ROW's. Pg 31 - UFMP goals – Preserve History - Many trees have a human history that were planted for special events, like the International Peace Trees. Pg 32 - UFMP strategies – No mention of preserving and enhancing wildlife habitats, especially examples like heron rookeries, etc. Pg 33 - Chapter 5: Action agenda – No mention of supporting native wildlife (birds), their habitat needs, flyways Pg 34 Action Agenda-

Environmental Justice – missing is any discussion of the needs for focusing on open space for children, families, and retired people concurrent with the loss of open space for both affordable housing and denser housing. Lack of play yards and open space in new development projects leads to lower quality of life in a denser, urban island heat affected city.

88. Help homeowners have a better understanding on tree value and simple measures they can take to maintain and or improve there own trees
89. Not enough is being done to both protect existing urban trees from damage and destruction, and penalize people who damage trees. Weneed our trees to improve the quality of life for all; people who destroy these critical resources should be punished. There is a war on natural habitat: developers and vagrants are destroying trees and urban forests, unchecked. Rather than spend so many resources on infinite meetings, outreach and needlessly glossy pamphlets describing plans, just ENFORCE STRONG LAWS PROTECTING URBAN TREES, and plant and protect more trees than what is being done now. This is particularly needed in areas where mature trees have been decimated. The fact that the prioritized list in this survey actually lists an option of ‘making a list of species resistant to climate change and pests’ is an embarrassment to the office. You should not need a public prioritization exercise to consider this. Come on, people. I am disappointed by the ineffectiveness of both the 2020 Urban Forest Management Plan and the office, as not addressing very clear and obvious gaps in strategy. Seattle is losing far too many trees and not keeping up with maintaining and adding new trees in critical areas. Stop permissive neglect by enabling criminals and squatters to destroy city habitats. This isn’t a homelessness problem, it is a crime enforcement problem.