Seattle 2016 LiDAR Canopy Cover Assessment
Webinar questions
5-10-17 Final

Question	Answer
Questions submitted via the chat box during the webinar	
Will OSE release a data set with only the buildings and their heights?	Building outlines are being updated with the 2016 LiDAR. It is not done yet, but should be ready within the next couple of months.
Why is the 2037 tree canopy cover goal only 30%, when according to 2016 LIDAR data we are already at 28%? Shouldn't we have more aggressive tree cover goal for the next 20 years?	Answered during webinar Q&A
Should there be goals for sub areas of the city, particularly in neighborhoods where there is disproportionately low tree cover?	Answered during webinar Q&A
Map of SDOT units? Categories of Street tree management units?	SDOT's map can be found here: https://www.seattle.gov/transportation/docs/SDOT_UrbanForestry_Tree_Mgmt_Units_08Feb2016_JFR.pdf
Has there been any attempt to measure and quantify the eco-benefits of Seattle's urban forest, e.g. CO2 sequestration, air quality and human health, water quality, storm water management, albedo, habitat, eco-diversity, etc.?	Answered during webinar Q&A
Is there a map of property redevelopment that can be paired with tree canopy?	Answered during webinar Q&A
Is height of trees correlated to dripline width?	Not calculated as part of this project.
If tree size data is available, what percentage of canopy is from large trees?	Not calculated as part of this project.
Would it be accurate to state we are down to 6,338 exceptional trees left in the city	Answered during webinar Q&A
Any data on tree age?	Answered during webinar Q&A
Can we differentiate trees with a heavy density of invasive ivy/clamatis to plan better for targeting stewardship/invasive removal?	Answered during webinar Q&A
We should also be measuring and tracking changes to pervious surface as an environmental goal.	Impervious surface is not currently available publicly, but requests can be made for the data from Sandra Pinto de Bader. The data is from 2012.
The canopy will increase due to maturation of existing trees. But for the increase to continue, we need to plant many more trees. What is the data on new or replacement plantings?	The City of Seattle plants around 2,000 new trees every year. This includes the Trees for Neighborhoods project, street tree planting, trees in developed parks, and trees associated with capital projects. The Green Seattle Partnership (Seattle Parks and Recreation and

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	Forterra) plants between 5,000 and 7,000 native seedlings annual (with an approximate 60% survival rate). We don't have numbers for trees planted by residents on their private property.
What is the date of the actual lidar photos?	Collection dates: 02/24/2016 - 03/28/2016
Can inspections of trees in development permit applications, and inspections by City staff be used to create a tree database?	This issue was not part of the project's scope of work. The Urban Forestry Team will consider issues such as this one as they discuss the project findings and as part of the update of the Urban Forest Stewardship Plan.
Why was 40% canopy cover goal in comp plan not referenced in UFSP, or this presentation	Answered during webinar Q&A
The Greater Duwamish seems like a priority area. It is an intersection of industrial use, -4 canopy cover progress, a historic watershed, and a low socioeconomic demographic area. What goals are set that would increase canopy there?	The Urban Forestry Team will consider issues such as this one as they discuss the project findings and as part of the update of the Urban Forest Stewardship Plan. The City has been working on de-paving/tree planting projects and youth engagement in the area.
Does data differentiate between large shrubs like laurel versus trees?	Answered during webinar Q&A
What would it take to measure impervious surface citywide?	Impervious surface is not currently available publicly, but requests can be made for the data. The data is from 2012.
Do we have an agreed to reference canopy cover pre-Euroamerican settlement?	Answered during webinar Q&A
Does the 30% goal also include any impacts and/or forecasts due to climate change?	Answered during webinar Q&A
Can the lidar find and map tree loss between photos (automatically, not manually looking)	Answered during webinar Q&A
Sandra, can you speak to some of the specific strategies recommended to increase stewardship on single-family lots?	Answered during webinar Q&A
Seattle comp plan long term goal is 40%. Isn't it time to update time with more accurate data?	Answered during webinar Q&A
Does the data about development impacts on canopy provide a basis for moderating the extent of construction and types of construction practices? For instance, detached accessory houses may eliminate all trees in the backyards used, and most construction even in SF areas seems to entail clear-cutting as first step.	This issue was not part of the project's scope of work. The Urban Forestry Team will consider issues such as this one as they discuss the project findings and as part of the update of the Urban Forest Stewardship Plan.
When will these targets be incorporated in Green Streets designations online? The best maps I can find are from 2005 + 2006: http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/rowmanual/	This issue was not part of the project's scope of work. The Urban Forestry Team will consider issues such as this one as they discuss the project findings and as part of the

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manual/pdf/12/6-6%20Green%20Street%20Locations.pdf	update of the Urban Forest Stewardship Plan.
Great project. I'm wondering though if 2001 LiDAR data is already obsolete, will the current data also be obsolete by the time of the next analysis?	Answered during webinar Q&A
Are there plans for the field methodology component that Jarlath indicated was important?	Answered during webinar Q&A
What are the goals for native v. non-native and evergreen v. deciduous percentages?	Answered during webinar Q&A
Can future Lidar studies do layering to get idea of canopy volume not just area measurements? Environmental benefits of 8 foot trees not sane as 100 foot tall trees	Answered during webinar Q&A
What is your figure of 67% of Seattle's land mass zoned single-family based on? Please site a source.	During the presentation we showed that the Single-Family management unit represents 56% of the land mass and that the Multi-Family management unit represents 11% of the land mass. Together, residential areas represent 67% of the land. These figures were obtained from the Urban Forest Management Plan Management Unit GIS layer created for the 2007 Urban Forest Management Plan.
What percent of the total urban tree canopy cover is on public land?	Answered during webinar Q&A
How can budget for tree maintenance needed be predicted if we don't know condition of trees?	Answered during webinar Q&A
How difficult is it to change the analysis with a different tree height cutoff? 8 foot tall trees are most likely significantly affecting the canopy assessment.	Answered during webinar Q&A
Regarding maintenance and/or protection for existing trees: Are there assumptions around relationships of canopy cover to stem density, dripline, and root extent?	That was not calculated as part of this project.
Could the representation of canopy have a representation of canopy that eliminates the overgrown invasive plants like English laurel and English holly?	Answered during webinar Q&A
How much funding is needed to leverage the EPA match and extend the LiDAR assessment to King County?	Jarlath doesn’t have a figure yet but he is happy to talk to anyone interested.
What is the canopy cover if we make 20 feet the cutoff of trees?	That analysis was not done as part of this project. But the project has height attributed to every single tree so one can query out tree canopy < 20ft

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Questions submitted via email after the webinar	
What is the anticipated process from this point and how do we get this information distributed further so we can expand the informed discussion? I was particularly interested in the sampling you made of development impacts over a 7 (?) year period and of the potential to use the information in guiding future modification of development regulations. For instance, how much canopy is removed by the development of detached accessory housing units? How extensive is the apparent process of developers removing all trees (even in single family areas) before at the start of new construction?	The Urban Forestry Team will review and discuss the assessment findings. There will be public engagement and outreach as part of the update of the Urban Forest Stewardship Plan. The canopy cover report and the GIS layer are available to the public on the Trees for Seattle website at: http://www.seattle.gov/trees/canopycover.htm It's important to emphasize that the mini-assessment referenced is not statistically significant or valid. The findings can't be directly extrapolated to inform, by themselves, policy decisions on development regulations moving forward.
Thank you so much for the fantastic webinar. I just completed an Open Space Vision Framework for the Georgetown neighborhood, for the Seattle Parks Foundation, and am particularly curious about how the data from the City's latest LiDar work relates to industrial neighborhoods. Georgetown now has an open space committee that will look at opportunities for improving and augmenting their tree canopy along with other priority projects. In your opinion, what are the best ways in which the community can partner with the city to augment their tree canopy?	The Urban Forestry Team will consider issues such as this one (canopy cover in industrial neighborhoods) as they discuss the project findings and as part of the update of the Urban Forest Stewardship Plan. Also, OSE's Duwamish Valley advisor and urban forestry advisor will meet with Georgetown community members and will explore opportunities to expand tree canopy. We also envision collaborating with Georgetown community members and other stakeholders on this important community priority through the ongoing work of the Duwamish Valley Action Team and the Duwamish Valley Program.