

**Seattle Urban Forest Stewardship Plan
2016 Work Plan Progress Report**

Strategy	2016 Actions (Lead department)	2016 Progress report
Community Approach		
Inspire, inform, and engage the community in active stewardship of Seattle’s urban forest	Strengthen public outreach, education, and engagement, building on efforts already underway. (Trees for Seattle – T4S)	66% increase in people on newsletter distribution list, 29% increase in Facebook followers. Engaged 2,424 people in T4S events.
	New urban forestry outreach brand to launch. (UF Core Team)	Trees for Seattle brand launched at Green Seattle Day.
	Update City urban forestry websites through interdepartmental effort to ensure a coordinated approach and public usability (OSE, Trees for Seattle, IDT)	Trees for Seattle webpage updated with new brand.
	Maintain outreach and education programs provided by the Green Seattle Partnership (GSP) (Parks, SPU, OSE)	GSP hosted a Forest Steward orientation and a skills-building training session. The Washington Native Plant Society and Seward Audubon delivered 20 trainings for Forest Stewards with topics such as beginning and intermediate plant ID, bird habitat, and winter twig ID. GSP held a volunteer appreciation event in August.
	Provide volunteer stewardship opportunities through the Green Seattle Partnership, “Friends of” groups, Tree Ambassador, and other programs (Parks, SPU, OSE, Trees for Seattle)	GSP volunteers invested 71,903 volunteer hours and Tree Ambassador volunteers contributed 2,788 volunteer hours to improving our urban forest.
	Work closely with the Urban Forestry Commission on development of policies and programs to implement and achieve UFSP goals (OSE, Urban Forest IDT)	City departments briefed the UFC on urban forestry budgets and led field trips to showcase good work and talk about challenges.
	Core Team to host the interdepartmental 2016 Arbor Day celebration (Core Team)	The Arbor Day celebration was scheduled to take place at Virgil Flaim Park in Lake City but had to be cancelled due to inclement weather with high winds.
Ecological Approach		
Understand the character and complexity of the urban forest resource	Undertake comprehensive LiDAR-based canopy cover assessment (OSE, IDT)	OSE and Core Team worked with consultant to get a comprehensive canopy cover assessment using 2016 leaf-off LiDAR.

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	Work with local universities and research institutions to pursue the Research Agenda. (OSE, IDT)	Worked with University of Vermont on understanding canopy cover assessment implications.
Resource Management Approach		
Coordinate interdepartmental and interagency communication, cooperation, and decision-making	Produce recommendation to enhance urban forestry efforts in response to OSE’s management leadership proposal (OSE, Core Team)	Core Team produced recommendations
	Convene the Urban Forest Cabinet consisting of Directors of all eight departments with urban forestry mandates, tasked with meeting twice a year to set citywide priorities on trees that all departments work to achieve. (OSE, Cabinet)	Urban Forestry department directors met in August to review the Core Team recommendation and provide input.
	Convene the Urban Forest Core Team formed by staff from key departments (Parks, SPU, SDOT, SCDI, SCL and OSE) and tasked with drafting the work plan to deliver on the Urban Forestry Cabinet’s identified priorities and rapid response to emerging situations. (OSE, Core Team)	The Urban Forest Core Team met several times a month to produce a recommendation for UF Cabinet and to provide rapid response to emergent urban forestry issues.
	Convene Urban Forest Interdepartmental Team as the group primarily responsible for working on strategies and tactics to support UFSP goals, share information on day-to-day operations, and elevate issues to the core Team. (OSE, IDT)	OSE convened the Urban Forest Interdepartmental Team monthly.
	Monitor UFSP performance and issue an annual report. (OSE)	OSE and Core Team produced UFSP 2016 progress report.
Preserve, restore, and enhance the urban forest on City property	Implement Street Tree Master Maintenance Plan (SDOT)	In the first year implementing the Street Tree Master Maintenance Plan, SDOT updated the inventory and pruned trees in three management units in 2016.
	<u>Trees planted and maintained by the City:</u> Plant two trees for each tree removed across all departments (All Departments – report on number of trees planted and number of trees removed) Plant 100 trees in Developed Parks (Parks) Plant 200+ trees under BTG and Capital Projects (SDOT)	Parks planted 142 trees. SDOT planted 535 street trees.
	<u>Trees funded by the City, planted, and maintained by residents:</u>	Trees for Seattle distributed 1,015 trees among Seattle residents.

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	Assist community members in residential areas with low canopy cover to plant and care for 1,000 trees through the Trees for Neighborhoods project. (Trees for Seattle)	
	Continue restoration on 1,200 acres of forested parkland. Begin restoration on 100 new acres. (Parks)	1178 acres were enrolled as of the beginning of 2016. 131 acres were enrolled in restoration in 2016 for a total 1,309 acres in restoration.
	Maintain 1,500 trees per year. Inventory 1,500 trees for risk. (Parks)	Parks maintained 3,372 and inventoried in 6,669.
	Maintain 3,000 trees/year (SDOT)	SDOT maintained 5,785 trees.
	Prune trees away from 480 miles of electrical distribution for electrical safety and reliability. (SCL)	SCL pruned trees along 493 miles of electrical distribution lines.
	City-wide tree planting total: City-wide tree removals total: Net gain (loss):	2,410 <u>810</u> 1,597
Regulate private property to ensure minimum standards for care of the urban forest	Work on the 10-year update of the Right-of-way Improvements Manual (SDOT)	SDOT finalized the 10-year update of the Right-of-Way Improvements Manual.
	Undertake a tree regulations research project to determine whether current tree protection regulations are effective (OSE, SDCI)	SDCI and OSE finalized Phase I of the tree regulations research project and recommended engaging in Phase II to evaluate how effective current code language is in protecting trees on SF , Multi-family, and Lowrise zones.