Urban Forest Management Plan Update

Freight Advisory Board Presentation
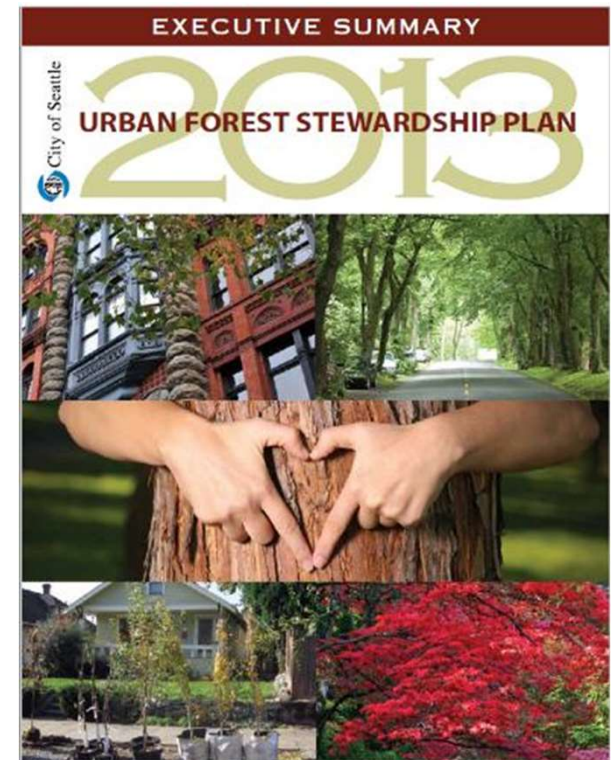Jana Dilley (SPU) and Darren Morgan (SDOT)

October 16, 2018

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Urban Forest Management Plan

- Management of trees:
  - Along streets
  - In parks
  - On private property
  - Near power equipment
- Work across 9 departments
- Guides goals and actions

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Hopes for New Plan

- Data driven approach
  - Canopy cover
  - Street tree inventory
- Emphasis on equity
- Impacts of climate change
- Measurable actions / accountability
- Robust public engagement

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Focus on Equity

- Committed to:
  - Dedicating most resources to engaging historically under-represented communities
  - Seeking input prior to drafting goals or actions
  - Valuing feedback equitably
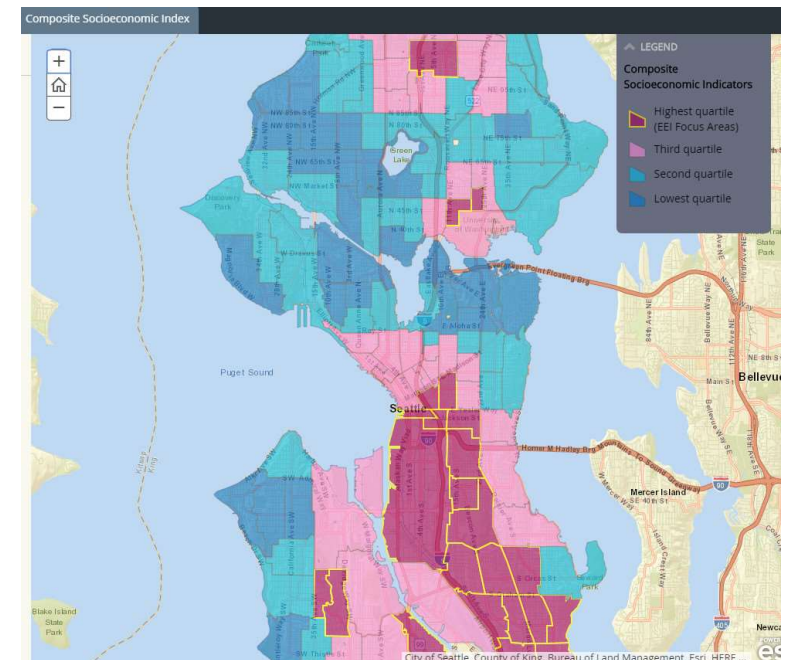 - Transparency

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Inclusive Public Engagement Phase I

- Public input prior to plan drafting
- Avenues for input:
  - Engaging EEI communities:
    - SPU's Community Connections
    - DON's Community Liaisons
  - Listening sessions
  - Boards & Commission
  - Online comment input form

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Equity & Environment Initiative Communities

- People of color

- Low-income populations

- Linguistically isolated households

- Foreign-born populations

- Native populations

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Inclusive Public Engagement Phase I

- Stakeholders listening sessions:
  - Tree advocates
  - City implementation partners
  - Partner government agencies
  - Private arborist companies

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Inclusive Public Engagement Phase I

- City Boards & Commissions:
  - Urban Forestry Commission
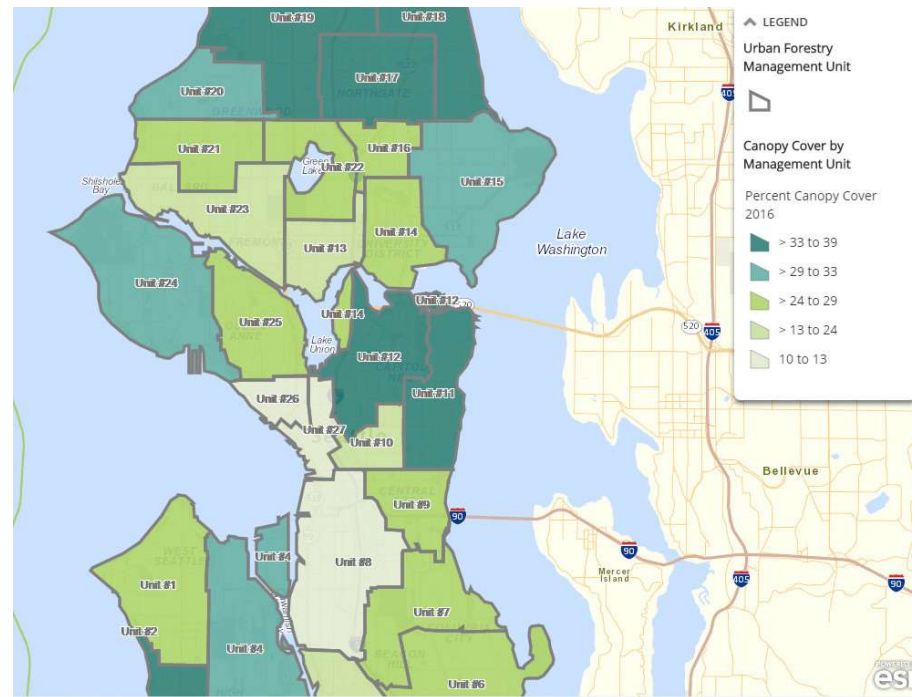 - Environmental Justice Committee
  - Freight Advisory Board

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Outside Technical Review

- Gap analysis of current polices & programs now

- Draft review in comparison to BMPs winter 2019
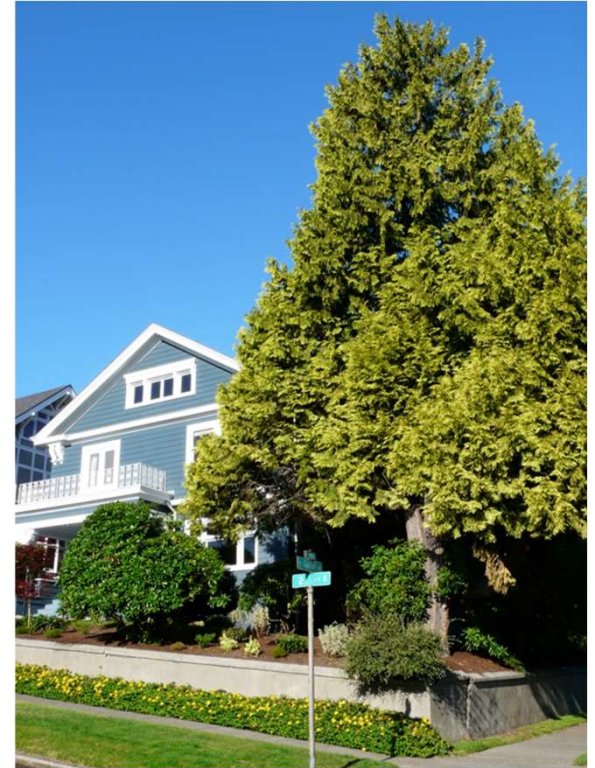
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Plan Development

- Data sources:
  - Public input
  - Canopy cover
    - Analysis of canopy cover by land use and management unit
  - SDOT street tree inventory
  - Gap analysis findings

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Inclusive Public Engagement Phase II

- Spring / Summer 2019

- Public comment on draft plan

- Participants from Phase I will be invited to Phase II
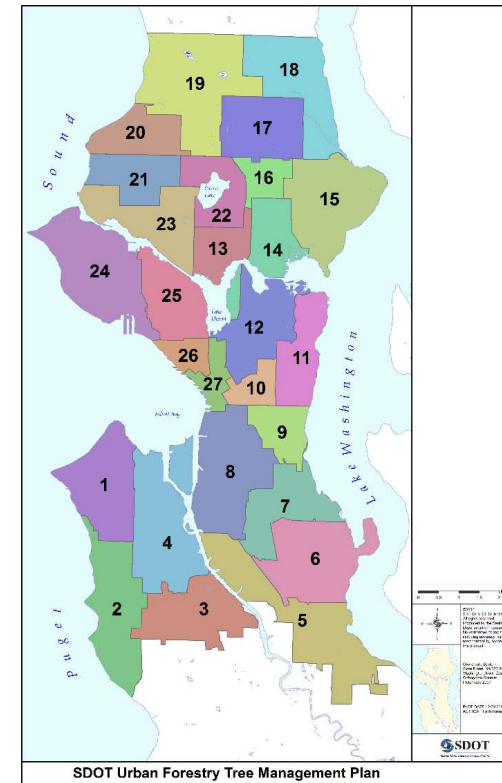
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Timeline

- Now – end of October: Public input period

- November - March 2019: Plan drafting

- April - June, 2019: Public engagement phase II (draft plan review)

- July - November, 2019: Final plan production

- November, 2019: Submittal to Mayor's Office for approval

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9-year Street Tree Management Plan

Goals

- Improve our understanding of existing conditions
- Leverage that knowledge to:
  - Improve efficiency of services
  - Improve equity of services
  - Improve forest resilience and diversity

SDOT Urban Forestry Tree Management Plan

Actions

Inventory

- Use ArcGIS Collector App to update street tree inventory with handheld devices

- Hire additional inventory support staff

- Inventory all street trees in Seattle

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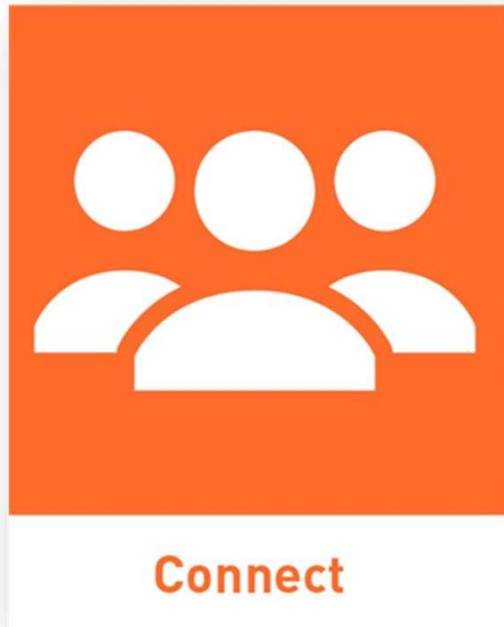
Actions

Maintain

- Scheduled pruning and maintenance (dedicate 2 of 3 crews)

- Emergency Response

- Hazardous Tree Removal

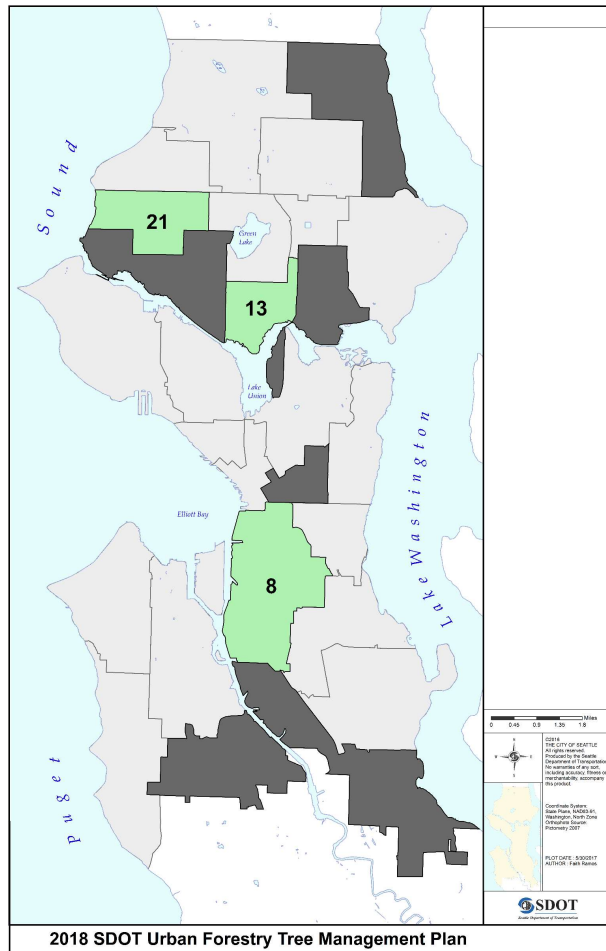- Establish recently planted trees

- Develop Key Performance Indicators

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Actions

Replace

- Plant at least two trees for every one removed

- Leverage existing gaps within SDOT tree "corridors"

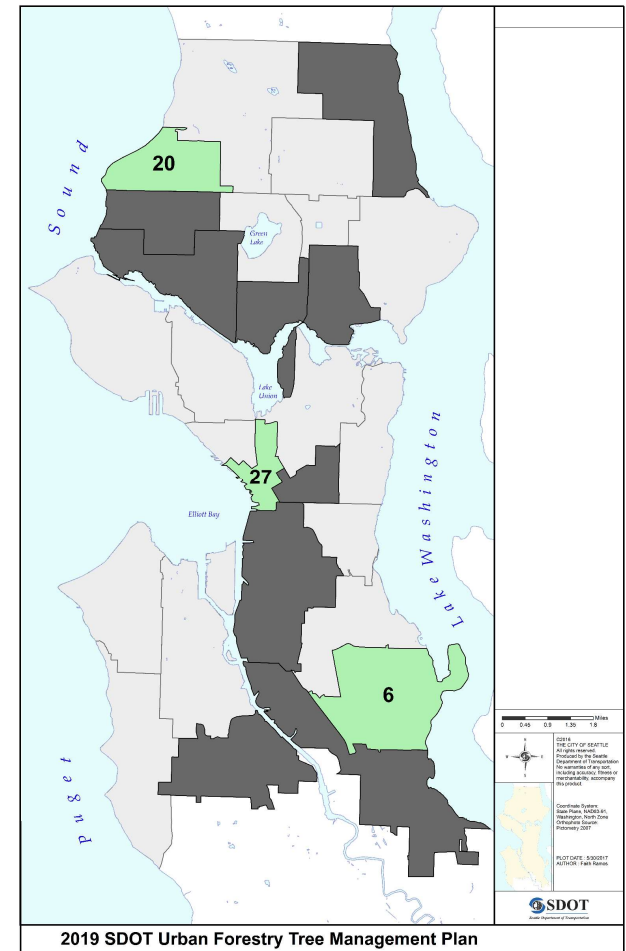- Use iTree analysis of inventory to make better decisions

Actions

Connect

- Conduct [Racial Equity Toolkit](#) Analysis to optimize benefits and minimize harm

- Survey the community

- Create fact sheets

- Multimedia awareness campaign

- Partnership with Department of Neighborhoods

2018

2019

2018 SDOT Urban Forestry Tree Management Plan

2019 SDOT Urban Forestry Tree Management Plan

October 16, 2018

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Urban Forest Management Plan Values

- **Ecosystem and human health:** Maximizing the mental health and human well-being, air quality, water quality, storm water runoff reduction, carbon sequestration, recreation, wildlife habitat, beauty, and other benefits of trees

- **Commitment to equity:** Including diverse perspectives and equitable distribution of urban forestry resources and program

- **Community stewardship:** Engaging the Seattle community, including residents and businesses, in appreciating and caring for the urban forest

- **Tree health, human safety, and property protection:** Keeping the urban forest healthy using best management practices with a focus on public and crew safety

- **Good governance:** Working in conjunction with other City and community goals such as transportation, utility provision, and housing

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What is the most critical challenge or issue that you believe this update needs to address?

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What specific actions
do you believe this plan
needs to include?

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