



Becca Neumann (Position #4 – Hydrologist), Co-chair

Joshua Morris (Position #7 – NGO), Co-Chair

Laura Keil (Position #10 – Get Engaged), Co-Chair

Julia Michalak (Position #1 – Wildlife Biologist) • **Falisha Kurji** (Position #3 – Natural Resource Agency)

Stuart Niven (Position #5 – Arborist – ISA) • **Hao Liang** (Position #6 – Landscape Architect – ISA)

David Baker (Position # 8 – Development) • **Jessica Hernandez** (Position #11 – Environmental Justice)

Jessica Jones (Position # 12 – Public Health) • **Lia Hall** (Position #13 – Community/Neighborhood)

May 17, 2023

Eric Kramer
Reed Hilderbrand LLC
130 Bishop Allen Drive
Cambridge, MA 02139

RE:

Dear Eric,

Duwamish Lands (Seattle, WA) – The Urban Forestry Commission (UFC) would like to thank you for your informative presentation on April 19, 2023. The presentation was inspirational to the Commission's work in advising the City of Seattle on tree protection, social engagement, and future planning. We appreciate that you integrated tree strategies with planning and design.

Your presentation was timely as Seattle is updating its Tree Protection Ordinance and Comprehensive Plan. We were inspired by the success of Cambridge's updated Tree Protection Ordinance, namely that you shifted the narrative around the ordinance to one of regeneration and responsibility rather than punishment. Though Seattle is larger than Cambridge, we hope for similar results as we update our ordinance and participate in ongoing urban forestry dialogue. How you engage the public is incredibly important to realizing change, and your presentation provides us with unique perspectives to explore opportunities for developing a communications toolkit and best advocate for the urban forest. As the UFC considers how the zoning and implementation strategies you discussed can be translated to Seattle, we remain curious to know how the 'cool factor' is working for Cambridge.

Again, the UFC wishes to thank you for your time and presentation. Whether it's Seattle or Cambridge, we have the same vision of supporting an equitable urban forest and we share similar challenges inherent with urban dwelling. The UFC highly appreciated your presentation as your work further brings forth the benefits of urban forestry and the critical roles of communication strategies, public engagement, data, and analysis. Please engage with the UFC in the future and share with us your continuing work. Thank you again for your presentation and your work to advance urban forestry.

Sincerely,



Josh Morris, Co-Chair



Becca Neumann, Co-Chair



Laura Keil, Co-Chair

Patti Bakker, Urban Forestry Commission Coordinator
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