

SEATTLE URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION

Weston Brinkley (Position #3 – University), Chair • Steve Zemke (Position #1 – Wildlife Biologist), Vice-Chair
Elby Jones (Position #2 – Urban Ecologist - ISA) • Sarah Rehder (Position #4 – Hydrologist)
Stuart Niven (Position #5 – Arborist – ISA) • Michael Walton (Position #6 – Landscape Architect – ISA)
Joshua Morris (Position #7 – NGO) • Steven Fry (Position #8 – Development)
Blake Voorhees (Position #9 – Realtor) • Neeyati Johnson (Position #10 – Get Engaged)
Whit Bouton (Position #11 – Environmental Justice)
Jessica Jones (Position #12 – Public Health) • Shari Selch (Position #13 – Community/Neighborhood)

The Urban Forestry Commission was established to advise the Mayor and City Council concerning the establishment of policy and regulations governing the protection, management, and conservation of trees and vegetation in the City of Seattle

December 11, 2019

Meeting Notes

Seattle Municipal Tower, Room 2750 (27th floor)
700 5th Avenue, Seattle

Attending

Commissioners

Weston Brinkley – Chair

Steve Zemke - Chair

Whit Bouton

Neeyati Johnson

Elby Jones

Jessica Jones

Josh Morris

Stuart Niven

Sarah Rehder

Shari Selch

Blake Voorhees

Michael Walton

Staff

Sandra Pinto de Bader - OSE

Guests

Kym Foley – UW grad student

Public

None

Absent- Excused

Steven Fry

NOTE: Meeting notes are not exhaustive. For more details, listen to the digital recording of the meeting at: <http://www.seattle.gov/urbanforestrycommission/meetingdocs.htm>

Call to order

Weston called the meeting to order.

Public comment

Steve mentioned that the PLUZ committee will have a briefing next Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. Agenda – state of the City’s move to update tree code based on Resolution 31902. It’s an opportunity for public comment. Encouraged Commissioners to attend and provide public comment as individuals (not speaking on behalf of the UFC).

Josh had a conversation with a staff from Portland and learned that they are updating their ordinance to address some weaknesses they found. Angie DiSalvo (UF unit with City of Portland) is willing to have

conversations with the UFC. Whit knows her and will look at the possibility of her coming to town or Sandra will coordinate a call.

Fee-in-lieu research project

Kym is a graduate student at UW's Urban Planning & Design, Environmental Planning Master's Candidate. She is interning with the Trees for Seattle program and is also working with SDCI doing research on fee-in-lieu as part of her capstone project. She is looking at what the possibilities for Seattle might be and whether or not this would be a good option for the City. She was a restoration ecologist for a number of years with a local non-profit and worked for the County as well. Kym just kicked off her research and would like to hear ideas and feedback from the UFC.

Research objectives:

1. Identify challenges and opportunities of a fee-in-lieu of tree replacement option as demonstrated by other cities around the country.
2. Determine general feasibility of the City of Seattle.
3. Establish a suite of best practices should the City decide to move forward with a fee-in-lieu program of its own.

She has been diving into case studies from other municipalities and looking at different pieces including:

- Tree replacement criteria
- Fee schedules
- Administration
- Challenges and opportunities

Resources she is using include published policies, regulations, ordinances, input from various City representatives and articles and academia literature.

General findings to date:

- Tree replacement criteria
 - o "Protected" trees requiring replacement varies by city
 - Small (6-12"), medium (13-20"), and large (21"+) classes
 - Critical areas, heritage status, protected species, etc.
 - o Little differentiation between species or type (i.e. conifer vs. deciduous)
 - Some replacement criteria exist around native vs. invasive species selection
- Fee-in-lieu threshold
 - o "Last resort" only when onsite replanting not feasible
 - o Los Angeles is the only with an open option to pay in regardless
- Fee structure examples:
 - o Correlation w/size of tree(s) removed, by diameter (standard height)
 - One for one tree replacement vs. inch for inch
 - Except Los Angeles, equity considerations lacking
 - o Fee considers cost of labor, materials, and maintenance typically 2-5 years
 - o Set fee schedule vs. case-by-case cost estimates, determined by city staff or certified arborist
 - Tree valuation methods = most accurate compensatory value

Fee structure examples:

| | High End | Low End | Los Angeles, CA |
|------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---|
| Tree Size | Portland, OR | Sunnyvale, CA | <i>Flat rate per tree, regardless of size</i> |
| Small | \$1,800 | \$400 | \$2612/tree (development tree) |
| Medium | \$3,600 | \$800 | \$1945/tree (public works tree) |
| Large | \$450/inch | \$1,600 | \$267/tree (Private property <4 dwellings) |

Other cities she has looked at are Duvall, WA; Shoreline, WA; Austin, TX; San Francisco, CA; Raleigh, NC; Glenview, IL; and Yountville, CA

- Tree planting and preservation fund – Portland OR
 - o The goal of the fund is “...to advance the City’s goals for the urban forest and to achieve equitable distribution of tree-related benefits across the City” (city code 11.15.101)
 - o Funding sources include fees-in-lieu, restoration fees/compensatory mitigation enforcement, and charitable contributions
 - o Applicable uses
 - Tree installation, 5 yrs. maintenance on private and public property
 - Land acquisition, conservation easements
 - o Administered by the City Forester
 - Independent of General Fund; may carry over annually

Next steps:

- Wrap up fee-in-lieu case study research (mid-December)
 - o How much money does fee-in-lieu generate annually? Analysis based on various fee structures
 - o How have those funds been administered to date? Report on outcomes
 - o Develop estimates of total funds and number of trees a Seattle program may yield
 - o Develop programmatic recommendations for Seattle.
- Geographic analysis of potential tree planting sites (Jan-Mar 2020)
 - o Quantify potential receiving areas (acres) by landscape type: ECAs, SDOT row, private property
 - o Overlay potential receiving areas with existing geographic data
 - Racial and Social Equity index (or similar)
 - Areas with deficient canopy cover (<24%)
 - Heat island “hot spots”
 - Other priority areas TBD
 - o Develop estimate for total capacity in number of trees
- Fee-in-lieu and opportunities within the larger urban forestry context (March-June 2020)
 - o Aligning the program with other planning and regulatory measures
 - New and existing tree-related code
 - Comprehensive Plan 2035
 - Climate Action Plan
 - Equity & Environment Initiative
 - Pest Readiness
 - Urban Forest Management Plan

UFC comment: It would be great if she would include an update of what SDCI is doing to update 25.11.090 – specifically, that developers are to replace trees removed from a site.

Response: It's not within her scope to determine what's a protected tree (she is working side-by-side with SDCI staff working on this). The biggest challenge for Portland has been code compliance. Having the capacity and the bandwidth to hold developers accountable has been a problem.

UFC/comment: It would be helpful that she brings attention to the fact that current code already asks for trees 24" and larger or are exceptional need to be replaced in all zones citywide (there is no need to update the code in this case).

UFC comment/question: It's good that you are looking into other cities besides Portland. Is there anything that you've learned about the reason behind those different fees? It's not just what's been done by others, but lessons to be learned from others. For example, are Portland's non-compliance issues related to the fee structure? It would be also useful to hear from community leaders besides from municipalities' staff. Has there been analysis about cost levels for developers and the equity impact for low-income families? It would be nice to hear about novel ways to address the issue from different cities.

Response: besides LA's rough breakdown there is no consideration for how fees impact different socio-economic levels. Seattle's current tree valuation is ad-hoc on a tree-by-tree basis looking at what the value of the lost tree is and then use that, plus establishment costs, to see what the real value for tree replacement would be. But it's unlikely that it would be enforced due to lack of capacity.

UFC comment: Would be great to see development scenarios to truly contextualize recommendations for Seattle's situation. This would provide a better sense of the threat being experienced by Seattle. Or to also contextualize the ecosystem values. Different locations can accommodate different types of trees. Tree size should also be contextually relevant for Seattle. It would be nice to see what cities are using the fee-in-lieu funds.

Response: she hasn't gotten into the details of the legal challenges for different types of uses for the funds.

UFC comment: There is a big difference between maintenance and establishment. It would be good to be able to use funds to maintain not only public but private trees. It would be interesting to see if there are municipalities that looked into fee-in-lieu and ended up not implementing it.

Sandra will invite Kym to provide another update again the Spring.

These meeting notes are not exhaustive. To hear the full discussion, including Q&A, please listen to the digital recording of the meeting under the [Meeting Documents page](#) of the Urban Forestry Commission website, under the meeting date.

Chair and vice-chair elections

ACTION: Commissioners voted to reelect Weston Brinkley as chair and elected Sarah Rehder as vice-chair for 2020.

Draft 2019 Annual Report review continues

Commissioners discussed and provided feedback to the draft document. Sandra will incorporate the feedback and produce a new version for further discussion.

ACTION: A motion to formally thank Sandra for her support of the UFC was made, seconded, and approved.

2020 Work Plan discussion continues

Commissioners discussed the draft work plan and agreed that it would be helpful to prioritize actions by placing an Asterix next to items that will be focused on in 2020. Commissioners will review the draft work plan and identify items they would like to be involved in.

Public comment

None

New Business

Adjourn

Public input:

(see next page and posted notes)

From: Carrie Lafferty <info@email.actionnetwork.org>

Sent: Thursday, December 5, 2019 12:40 PM

To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>

Subject: Save our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation

- (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6” and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
2. Require the replacement of all Significant trees removed with trees that in 25 years will reach equivalent canopy volume – either on site or pay a replacement fee into a City Tree Replacement and Preservation Fund. Allow the Fund to also accept fines, donations, grants and set up easements.
 3. Retain current protections for Exceptional Trees and reduce the upper threshold for Exceptional Trees to 24” DBH, protect tree groves and prohibit Significant Trees being removed on undeveloped lots.
 4. Allow removal of no more than 2 Significant non-Exceptional Trees in 3 years per lot outside development
 5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.
 6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
 7. Expand SDOT’s existing tree service provider’s registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
 8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Carrie Lafferty

carrielaafferty99@gmail.com

705A N. 102nd St

Seattle, Washington 98133

From: Stephen Elder <71columbia@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 5, 2019 3:29 PM
To: TreesforSeattle <TreesforSeattle@seattle.gov>
Subject: Downtown trees eviscerated!!

CAUTION: External Email

Construction crews at Columbia and Western 'accidentally' removed all the foundation around a tree Friday before last.

Clearly, vacuuming out all the dirt around it caused it to fall down. See date and time stamped pics below.

Today, they have decided to just go ahead and cut the trees down so they can do their work.

This city has the capability to take down a concrete viaduct that's 4 inches from a building, dig a 2mile long hole under downtown, and yet they can't figure out a way to shore up an 80yr+ old tree and work around it.

Absolutely absurd.

Please send someone to investigate this before they cut down all the trees here.

Thanks

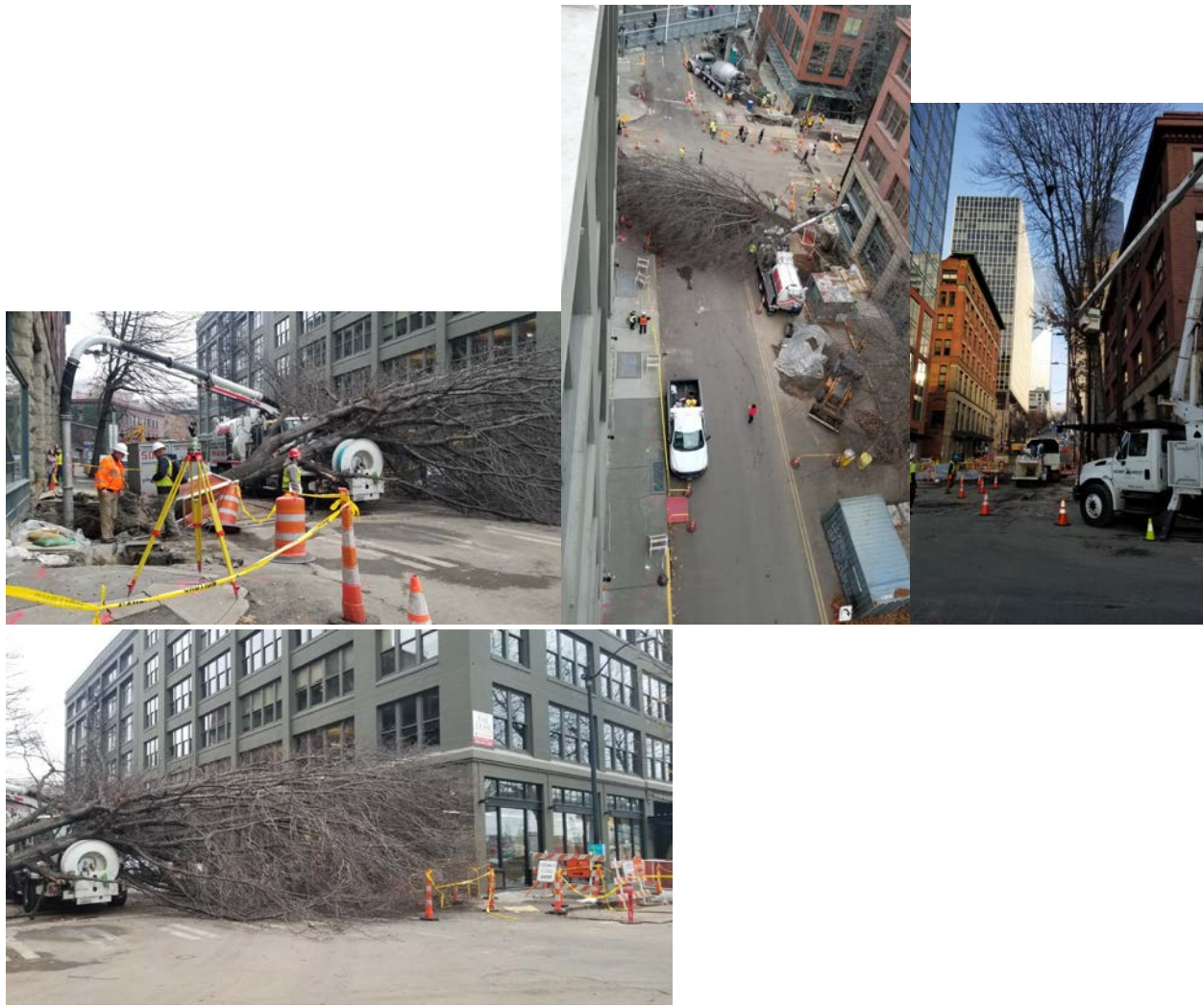
Stephen Elder

Superintendent

Polson/619 Western Buildings

206 423 2969

71columbia@gmail.com



From: David Moehring <dmoehring@consultant.com>

Sent: Thursday, December 5, 2019 8:22 PM

To: PRC <PRC@seattle.gov>

Cc: neighborhoodtreekeepers@gmail.com; DOT_LA <DOT_LA@seattle.gov>; Graves, David <David.Graves3@seattle.gov>; Pedersen, Alex <Alex.Pedersen@seattle.gov>; Bagshaw, Sally <Sally.Bagshaw@seattle.gov>; Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>; Strauss, Daniel <Daniel.Strauss@seattle.gov>

Subject: 11340 and 11344 23RD AVE NE functionally-related lot with 49 trees

CAUTION: External Email

Dear PRC -

Please provide a **public meeting** on the development being proposed at **11340-11350 23RD AVE NE** - if for anything a SEPA Determination.

It is most confusing how the large parent lot of 44,976 sq feet with 49 trees trees on it be readied for redevelopment with an arborist report identifying 10 Exceptional trees that are not being required to be retained. Should not also SDCI be considering the tree groves that must be protected by Code? Note that 28 of these trees are at least 24-inches in diameter at breast height (DBH). The biggest tree on the site plan being a 71"-DBH Western Red Cedar that is going to be mowed down just to provide a center driveway! The Code requires alternative configurations of the functionally-related lot in order to retain protected trees.

This parent lot was purchased by one developer under the business of PAR or RAR 36, LLC on May 17, 2018 from a single person for \$720,000. Somehow the deed shows 3 parcels sold, yet the lot boundary adjustment has created 5 parcels (whereas LBA are not allowed to create additional parcels). Yet, it is one developer who will develop one functionally-related residential market-rate project connected by a 20-foot-wide emergency access easement. The tree canopy cover runs between 65% at the street to 97% at the back of the parent lot. The site slopes over 30 feet from the street to the rear of the lot.

The recent comment from the SDCI Planner is about planting new trees rather than retaining existing large exceptional trees and tree groves. Mr. Graves states on July 26 to the architect of the construction permit #6674332-CN:

"2. Pursuant to 23.44.020.A.1.a, you are required to provide *7 caliper inches of trees* (with each tree at least 1.5 inches in diameter). The only information on trees provided in the plan show removal of a tree."

This request is headed in the right direction, it seems, but is far from the requirements for trees on this or even a portion of the parent lot. Per the Seattle Code on SF-7200 lots, **at least two-inches of tree caliper for every 1,000 sq foot of land area** must be retained or replanted. Mr. Graves' request for just 7 caliper inches would only be adequate for a lot sized 3,500 sq ft which is less than 10% of the total parent lot area. I must be missing something...? Moreover, the 5 new buildings must be planned to **retain the maximum possible number of Exceptional trees**. There is no evidence this tree protection requirement is even being considered. There are many qualified arborists and

architects that may help RAR 36 LLC develop this to it's potential while respecting the environment. Especially given the expected revenues will exceed \$6,000,000. The arborist inventory is not enough. The arborist will also need to be engaged with the architect as the development is mapped out.

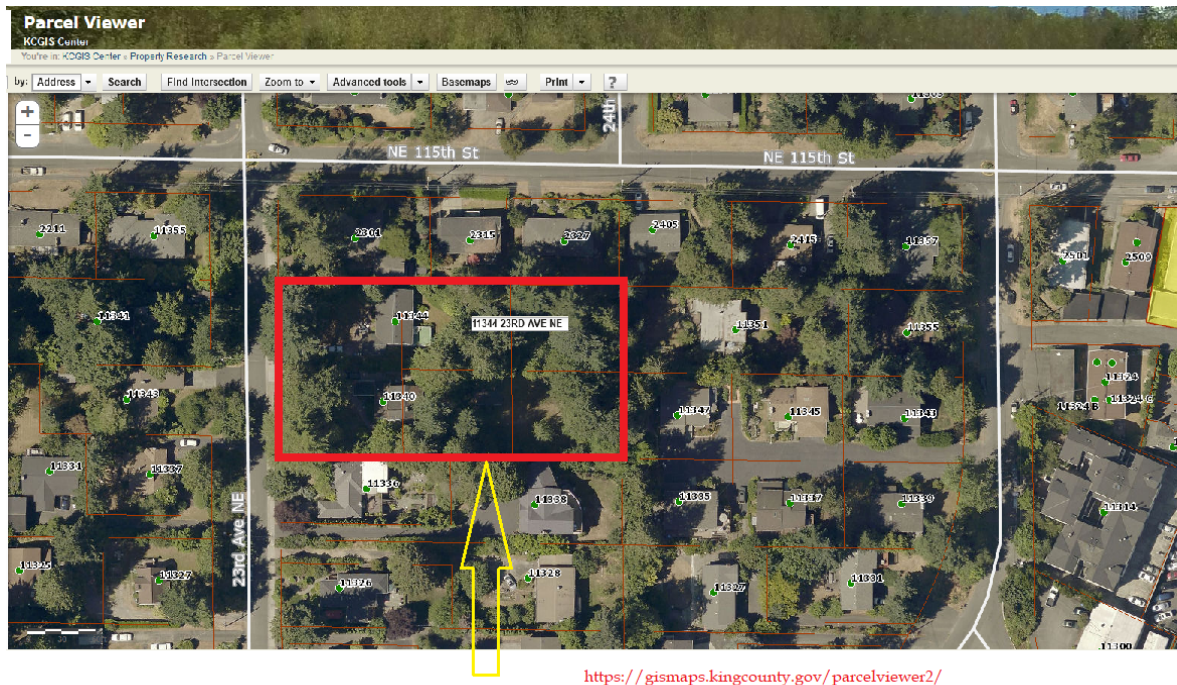
In addition to a **stronger tree ordinance** in compliance with the former mayor's Executive Order of 2017, we need **better enforcement** instead of our city stewards looking to appease anonymous development LLC's who believe it is their individual right to clearcut Seattle despite our City's proclamation to act on climate change.

Sincerely,

David Moehring
A Member of TreePAC



| | | | | |
|---|---------|----------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Record Snapshot | 212 KB | 06/25/19 | 6674332-CN | Construction Permit |
| Approved Plan Set - Land Use Permit | 1279 KB | 07/25/18 | 3030102-LU | Master Use Permit |
| Permit | 22 KB | 07/25/18 | 3030102-LU | Master Use Permit |
| Record Snapshot | 212 KB | 07/25/18 | 3030102-LU | Master Use Permit |



When recorded return to:
 RAR 36, LLC
 16330 Inglewood Place Ne
 Kenmore, WA 98028

STATUTORY WARRANTY DEED

THE GRANTOR(S) Shirley J. Falk, A Single Woman

4177
 OLD REPUBLIC TITLE LTD
 11-26814

for and in consideration of \$10.00 and good and other valuable consideration in hand paid, conveys, and warrants to RAR 36, LLC, A Washington Limited Liability Cor the following described real estate, situated in the County of King, State of Washington:

Legal Attached hereto as "Exhibit A"

Abbreviated Legal: Parcels A, B and C, City of Seattle Short Subdivision No. 880696 9004040266

*SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING AND ALL ITEMS AS SHOWN ON "EXHIBIT B" ATTACH PART OF.

THE SELLER HAS NOT HAD THE PROPERTY SUVEYED AND MAKES NO WARR ENCROACHMENTS

Tax Parcel Number(s): 890100-1620-01, 890100-1615-08

From: Suzanne Grant <suzanne@grantharper.net>
Sent: Thursday, December 5, 2019 9:26 PM
To: PRC <PRC@seattle.gov>; DOT_LA <DOT_LA@seattle.gov>; Graves, David <David.Graves3@seattle.gov>; Pedersen, Alex <Alex.Pedersen@seattle.gov>; Bagshaw, Sally <Sally.Bagshaw@seattle.gov>; Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>; Strauss, Daniel <Daniel.Strauss@seattle.gov>
Cc: Annie Thoe <neighborhoodtreekeepers@gmail.com>; David Moehring <dmoehring@consultant.com>
Subject: Re: 11340 and 11344 23RD AVE NE functionally-related lot with 49 trees

CAUTION: External Email

Dear PRC -

Please provide a **public meeting** on the development being proposed at **11340-11350 23RD AVE NE**.

In addition to a **stronger tree ordinance** in compliance with the former mayor's Executive Order of 2017, we need **better enforcement** instead of our city stewards looking to appease anonymous development LLC's who believe it is their individual right to clearcut Seattle despite our City's proclamation to act on climate change.

Thank you.
Suzanne Grant

From: David Moehring <dmoehring@consultant.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 5, 2019 9:34 PM
To: PRC <PRC@seattle.gov>
Cc: seattle-tree-ordinance-working-grouplists.riseup.net <seattle-tree-ordinance-working-group@lists.riseup.net>; DOT_LA <DOT_LA@seattle.gov>; Herbold, Lisa <Lisa.Herbold@seattle.gov>; Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: CLEARCUTTING SEATTLE = KUBOTA VILLAGE

CAUTION: External Email

What may Seattle leaders do to halt the needless clearcutting of forested areas with natural habitats?

Please inform me for the following functionally-related 'Kubota Village' development numbers 3034697-LU, 3034698-LU, 3034699-LU, 3034700-LU, and 3034702-LU; and all permits involving the addresses related to these five site. KUBOTA VILLAGE 28 LLC

9676 9678 + LINDSAY PL S subdivision #3034702, 3034703-LU, 3034699-LU, 3034700-LU, and 3034703-LU

"Land use application to allow a 3-story single family residences. Parking for vehicles proposed. To be considered with 3034697-LU, 3034698-LU, for shared access."

We should also have a public meeting to discuss what is going on here. Comments may be submitted through:12/18/2019

David Moehring
Member of TreePAC

Two years: 2015 to 2017. The remaining grove just to the north may since have been cleared.



David Moehring
312-965-0634

From: Katherine Chesick <kchesick@earthlink.net>
Sent: Friday, December 6, 2019 12:46 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Protect Seattle's Trees

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
2. Require the replacement of all Significant Trees removed with trees that in 25 years will reach equivalent canopy volume – either on site or pay a replacement fee into a City Tree Replacement and Preservation Fund. Allow the Fund to also accept fines, donations, grants and set up easements.
3. Retain current protections for Exceptional Trees and reduce the upper threshold for Exceptional Trees to 24" DBH, protect tree groves and prohibit Significant Trees being removed on undeveloped lots.
4. Allow removal of no more than 2 Significant non-Exceptional Trees in 3 years per lot outside development
5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits

and to track changes in the tree canopy.

6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Katherine Chesick

kchesick@earthlink.net

1039 NE 127th Street

Seattle, Washington 98125

From: Chris Seidler <chris.seidler@siriuscom.com>

Sent: Saturday, December 7, 2019 9:03 AM

To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>

Subject: Save Our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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Chris Seidler

chris.seidler@siriuscom.com

1920 4th Ave #1104, Unit 1104

Seattle, Washington 98101

From: Lena Hart-Bundy <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Saturday, December 7, 2019 1:11 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Update Seattle’s Tree Ordinance

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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Lena Hart-Bundy
lenahartbundy@gmail.com
10045 13th Ave NW
Seattle, Washington 98177

From: katrina mercado <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Saturday, December 7, 2019 2:36 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Protect Seattle's Trees

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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Replacement and Preservation Fund. Allow the Fund to also accept fines, donations, grants and set up easements.

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katrina mercado

katrina.m.mercado@gmail.com

4220 s Othello st Apt 337

Seattle, Washington 98118

From: Richard Davidson <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Saturday, December 7, 2019 5:34 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Update Seattle's Tree Ordinance

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
2. Require the replacement of all Significant Trees removed with trees that in 25 years will reach equivalent canopy volume – either on site or pay a replacement fee into a City Tree Replacement and Preservation Fund. Allow the Fund to also accept fines, donations, grants and set up easements.
3. Retain current protections for Exceptional Trees and reduce the upper threshold for Exceptional Trees to 24" DBH, protect tree groves and prohibit Significant Trees being removed on undeveloped lots.
4. Allow removal of no more than 2 Significant non-Exceptional Trees in 3 years per lot outside development
5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.
6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Richard Davidson

richard.dee.davidson@gmail.com

17020 21st Ave Ct E

Spanaway, Washington 98387

From: SHAWN CAREY <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Saturday, December 7, 2019 5:34 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Save Our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

SHAWN CAREY

barbiebluestar6@aol.com

17020 21ST AVENUE CT E

Spanaway, Washington 98387

From: Dr Halverson <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Saturday, December 7, 2019 9:32 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Protect Seattle's Trees

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

We need to consider our future and act to preserve nature and in the process preserve our health and mental health. As a psychologist I know the research is definite that trees and nature reduce stress and improve our quality of life besides improving lung health etc. Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Dr Halverson

joannedhalverson@gmail.com

6029 35th ave ne

Seattle , Washington 98115

From: Michelle McKinney <info@email.actionnetwork.org>

Sent: Saturday, December 7, 2019 9:42 PM

To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>

Subject: Please Strengthen Seattle's Tree Ordinance

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all

Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.

8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Michelle McKinney

michmc@hotmail.com

4318 NE 60th St

Seattle, Washington 98115

From: Benjamin Risha <info@email.actionnetwork.org>

Sent: Sunday, December 8, 2019 8:40 AM

To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>

Subject: Save Our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Benjamin Risha

b.risha@gmail.com

11003 Sand Point Way NE

Seattle, Washington 98125

From: Anna Humphreys <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Sunday, December 8, 2019 8:07 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Save our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Dear Mayor Durkan, City Council, and Urban Forestry Commission,

As a graduate student of Public Health at UW Seattle, I have studied how urban tree planting enhances community wellbeing, from increased mental health and social gatherings, to lower

exposure to extreme heat and air pollution. Big, beautiful trees are among our "Evergreen City"'s greatest assets, and their continued loss in our city at a time when they should be proliferating lowers the aesthetic appeal to tourists, as well as our potential to mitigate and adapt to climate change. For these reasons and many others, I urge you to update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

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7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Thank you for addressing this matter. As the wise Lorax said, 'Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, Nothing is going to get better. It's not.'

Anna Humphreys

happyheart67@gmail.com

6031 1st Avenue Northwest

Seattle, Washington 98107

From: Susan Greenberg <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Monday, December 9, 2019 11:09 AM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Save Our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Susan Greenberg

landsgreenberg@yahoo.com

912 3rd Ave W, 201

Seattle, Washington 98119

From: nancy Hartunian <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Monday, December 9, 2019 12:36 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Update Seattle's Tree Ordinance

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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nancy Hartunian

misty.brown22@hotmail.com

1223 18th Ave E

Seattle, Washington 98112

From: julia vaquera <juliavaq@comcast.net>

Sent: Monday, December 9, 2019 5:28 PM

To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>

Subject: Save our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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julia vaquera
juliavaq@comcast.net
828 NE 104TH ST
SEATTLE, Washington 98125

From: Jack Burk <gailnjack@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, December 9, 2019 10:27 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Save our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Jack Burk

gailnjack@msn.com

11321 19th avenue n.e.

seattle, Washington 98125-6549

From: Lynn Brevig <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Monday, December 9, 2019 11:47 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Save Our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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Lynn Brevig

lynninseattle@yahoo.com

10742 Lakeside Ave. NE

Seattle, Washington 98125

From: Julie Hale <julie.hale@patagonia.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 10, 2019 7:27 AM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Save Our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Julie Hale

julie.hale@patagonia.com

200 Aloha St Apt 8 Apt 8 Apt 8

Seattle, Washington 98109

From: Margaret Martin <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Tuesday, December 10, 2019 5:21 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Save Our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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7. Expand SDOT’s existing tree service provider’s registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance. Seattle has been known for it's natural beauty If you allow these greedy developers access to all the land they will ruin Seattle. They ave already ruined much of Seattle and are still charging WAY too much for people to live. We need green spaces for our health and well being both physical and psychological. Trees cut down the noise and give us a multitude of environmental benefits. I beg you NOT to let these developers take away all of our gorgeous trees.

Margaret Martin

billybobmarg@gmail.com

1024 NE 127th Street

Seattle, Washington 98125

From: Evan Fischer <info@email.actionnetwork.org>

Sent: Wednesday, December 11, 2019 12:50 AM

To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>

Subject: Please Update Seattle’s Tree Ordinance

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is urgent to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

Please update Seattle's Tree Protection Ordinance as recommended in the latest draft by the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission.

Here are the key provisions that need to be in the updated tree ordinance:

1. Expand the existing Tree Removal and Replacement Permit Program, including 2-week public notice and posting on-site, as used by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) – to cover all Significant Trees (6" and larger diameter at breast height (DBH)) on private property in all land use zones, both during development and outside development.
2. Require the replacement of all Significant Trees removed with trees that in 25 years will reach equivalent canopy volume – either on site or pay a replacement fee into a City Tree Replacement and Preservation Fund. Allow the Fund to also accept fines, donations, grants and set up easements.
3. Retain current protections for Exceptional Trees and reduce the upper threshold for Exceptional Trees to 24" DBH, protect tree groves and prohibit Significant Trees being removed on undeveloped lots.
4. Allow removal of no more than 2 Significant non-Exceptional Trees in 3 years per lot outside development
5. Establish one citywide database for applying for Tree Removal and Replacement Permits and to track changes in the tree canopy.
6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all

Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.

8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Evan Fischer

evanfischer@gmail.com

9730 3RD AVE NW

SEATTLE, Washington 98117

From: Lori Bjorklund <info@email.actionnetwork.org>

Sent: Wednesday, December 11, 2019 5:52 PM

To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>

Subject: Please Update Seattle's Tree Ordinance

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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Lori Bjorklund

lbjork76@gmail.com

2829 35th Ave W

Seattle , Washington 98199

From: Jacqui Smith-Bates <jacquisb@spu.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, December 11, 2019 7:18 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Update Seattle's Tree Ordinance!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water

runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

Seattle's rapid growth and an outdated tree ordinance are reducing these beneficial effects as trees are removed and not replaced. It is URGENT to act now to stop this continued loss of trees, particularly large mature trees and tree groves. It is very important to promote environmental equity as trees are replaced.

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7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

This issue is very important to me and to all Seattle residents' quality of life.

Jacqui Smith-Bates
jacquisb@spu.edu
4319 Wallingford Ave N
Seattle , Washington 98104

From: Julianna Ross <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Wednesday, December 11, 2019 7:56 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Save Our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

I agree with every word of this message:

Urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Julianna Ross

julianna.ross@gmail.com

8705 25th PI NE

Seattle, Washington 98115

From: Ross Beecher <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Wednesday, December 11, 2019 9:40 PM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Save Our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Ross Beecher

rosspb@icloud.com

4719 Whitman Ave N

Seattle , Washington 98103-6650

From: Xochil Squaglia <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Thursday, December 12, 2019 7:00 AM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Please Strengthen Seattle's Tree Ordinance

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

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and to track changes in the tree canopy.

6. Post online all permit requests and permit approvals for public viewing.
7. Expand SDOT's existing tree service provider's registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.

Xochil Squaglia

xochilsquaglia@yahoo.com

1201 North 44th Street, #5

Seattle, Washington 98103

From: Leila El-Wakil <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Thursday, December 12, 2019 11:20 AM
To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>
Subject: Save Our Trees!

CAUTION: External Email

Sandra Pinto de Bader,

Seattle's trees and urban forest are vital to keeping our city healthy and livable. Trees and the urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure. Trees reduce air pollution, storm water runoff and climate impacts like heat island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. They are important for the physical and mental health of our residents.

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7. Expand SDOT’s existing tree service provider’s registration and certification to register all Tree Service Providers (arborists) working on trees in Seattle.
8. Provide adequate funding in the budget to implement and enforce the updated ordinance.
9. Ask city design review to ensure adequate green space on development permit application. Many condos and apartments are being built with 5 ft setbacks, inadequate for most trees, no courtyards or patios and hence undesirable curb appeal, increased environmental cost, resulting in shorter term [sic], less community invested renters/owners. Allowing maximum space use appropriate for commercial/industrial buildings, but not for residential living. Surrounding vacancies should be assessed. Long term community development should be a higher priority than developers profit.

Leila El-Wakil
leilanadja@gmail.com
7742 19th Ave nw
Seattle , Washington 98117

From: Stuart Niven <panorarbor@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, December 12, 2019 8:13 AM

To: Pinto de Bader, Sandra <Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@Seattle.gov>; Emery, Chanda

<Chanda.Emery@Seattle.gov>; Torgelson, Nathan <Nathan.Torgelson@seattle.gov>; Pederson, Art <Art.Pederson@seattle.gov>; LEG_CouncilMembers <council@seattle.gov>; Durkan, Jenny <Jenny.Durkan@seattle.gov>; Humphries, Paul <Paul.Humphries@seattle.gov>; PRC <PRC@seattle.gov>
Subject: Fwd: SDCI Complaint Resolution

This relates to a property in Ravenna where over 10 trees, all larger than 6" DBH, including at least one 'Exceptional' poplar tree have been removed over the past couple of months. I have been submitting complaints through the portal while the work was happening which has likely been carried out by an unlicensed tree removal company given the way the site has been left with branches and wood all over the place and trees being removed in stages, suggesting the workers do not know what they are doing.

This IS in violation of SMC 25.11 and the DR16-2008 as no 'Hazard Tree Removal Permit' has been submitted for the 'Exceptional' tree, nor any development permits for the property that may have led to the allowance of removing all of the trees on the site. The information for this complaint has nothing visible about the inspection or whether the property owner has been found in violation or not.

Please can you clarify this situation and confirm that the property owner will be found in violation for illegally removing more than three 6"DBH trees and at least one 'exceptional' trees, which by the way was over 80"DBH.

Please view the attached photographs of the massacred trees, both during the process and after. I was able to measure many of the trees when still standing and some of the stumps that were not covered in branches.

There is absolutely NO way that this cannot be anything but NON-compliance of SDCI's own codes.

Thank you and kind regards,

Stuart Niven, BA(Hons)

PanorArborist

[ISA Certified Arborist PN-7245A & Tree Risk Assessment Qualification \(TRAQ\)](#)

[Arborist on Seattle Audubon Society Conservation Committee](#)

[Arborist on Seattle's Urban Forestry Commission](#)

www.panorarbor.com

Tel/Text: 206 501 9659

[WA Lic# PANORL*852P1](#) (Click to link to WA L&I's Verify a Contractor Page)
