



SEATTLE URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION

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

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

Hao Liang (Position 6 – Landscape Architect – ISA), Co-Chair

Alicia Kellogg (Position 2 – Urban Ecologist) • **David Baker** (Position 8 – Development)

Nathan Collins (Position 9 – Financial Analyst) • **Logan Woodyard** (Position 10 – Get Engaged)

Jessica Jones (Position 12 – Public Health) • **Lia Hall** (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

Meeting notes

April 10, 2024, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Via Webex call and in-person at the
Seattle Municipal Tower, Room 1872 (18th floor)
700 5th Avenue, Seattle

(206) 207-1700

Meeting number: 2488 818 7302

Meeting password: 1234

Attending

Commissioners

Josh Morris – Co-Chair

Hao Liang, Co-Chair

Alicia Kellogg

David Baker

Logan Woodyard

Lia Hall

Staff

Patti Bakker – OSE

Guests

Absent- Excused

Becca Neumann – Co-Chair

Nathan Collins

Jessica Jones

Public

Steve Zemke

Sandy Shettler

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

Call to order: Josh called the meeting to order and offered an updated land acknowledgement based on discussions of the Diversity and Equity Subgroup and his own work, inviting Commissioners to provide feedback and consider their own thoughts around land acknowledgment.

Public comment:

Steve Zemke noted appreciation for the opportunities to provide public comment at the beginning and end of the meetings, and the opportunity to share in the chat also. He noted the timeframe for providing comments on the EIS and provided dates for the remaining open houses OPCD will be hosting. He expressed that the Comp Plan doesn't currently show how the 30% tree canopy goal will be achieved.

Sandy Shettler noted that SDCI now has the interactive map available to track tree removals and tree work, as required by the tree ordinance, and expressed the opinion that the system currently is not user friendly. She encouraged the UFC to review it and consider requesting improvements. She also noted that other Boards and Commissions are having positions filled and the UFC still has vacant positions.

Chair, Committees, and Coordinator report:

Patti noted that recruitment for the next Get Engaged cohort is happening now, with applications being accepted through April 19. This cohort will start in September of 2024 and serve through August 2025.

Josh noted that there was a decision on the appeal of the tree ordinance to the Growth Management Hearings Board; the Board upheld the tree ordinance.

Hao noted that he and David met with OSE staff to advance the UFC draft feedback on the draft One Seattle Plan, which will be further discussed today.

Adoption of March 13 meeting notes

A motion to approve the March 13, 2024 meeting notes as written was made, seconded and approved.

Subgroup reports**- Budget**

Josh noted that this group met with Christy Carr at SDCI regarding urban forestry funding needs. Christy noted several areas where funding is needed: tree ordinance enforcement, the Heritage Tree program, supporting residents around new street tree requirements, outreach and education, given the need to ensure new best practices are understood.

Working on preliminary estimates for direct management costs for trees given canopy goals; will share those at the budget discussion at the next meeting. Ensuring adequate funding for tree planting and establishment will be key to meeting our canopy goals. The group will work on developing budget recommendations to be considered by the UFC.

- Climate

Hao discussed how the field of landscape architecture has the ability to impact climate change. The typical thinking around what landscape architecture is is narrowed to yard landscaping and developed parks. In recent decades, landscape architecture has evolved to cover work over many categories, including urban green space design, stormwater management, resilient infrastructure, sustainable transportation, habitat creation, energy efficiency, heat island mitigation, urban agriculture, and community engagement. He showed example projects in the U.S. and other countries for all of these areas.

Questions and comments from Commissioners included:

- Are there conditions here in Seattle that keep projects like the living building in Milan from being successful? Not necessarily from policy perspective, but maybe from financial perspective they might be prohibitive. The living building challenge is creating more green buildings, incorporating things like permaculture into the built environment.

- There are some stunning and tantalizing projects out there, but the expense and maintenance can be prohibitive. It's really hard to keep them healthy; green roofs are expensive to water; permeable pavement problematic (need to be vacuumed out.) Finding a balance of innovative and financially feasible is very tricky.
 - Assessments of commercial forests include looking at amount of structural timber. Is there a role for xxx in building/projects in Seattle?
 - It's really useful to see the diversity of project types that people have developed, and the expanding view of what landscape architecture is and its overlapping functions.
 - This is a good reminder that functional spaces can be some of our most livable spaces.
- **Tree Protection Ordinance**
Josh described some mapping he's done around where tree canopy is in areas that might see development at different levels. He overlaid canopy in equity priority areas with parcels classified as redevelopable. The group discussed how to incorporate this analysis into a request for additional analysis by OPCD as they develop the final EIS for the Comp Plan.
- **Diversity and Equity**
Alicia provided an update on the work the group is doing to evaluate the UFC activities and how work is done. Some items identified are being implemented. They are looking at how the UFC can remove more barriers to participation by Commissioners and the public. They are also looking at the work plan – the structure and utility of it, and how to improve it.

One Seattle Plan – Seattle's Comprehensive Plan update

- **Review and discussion of draft UFC feedback**
Commissioners reviewed, discussed and edited the draft UFC feedback on the draft One Seattle Plan, and added additional thoughts related to analyses of tree canopy in the draft EIS. Commissioners agreed on the overarching themes of their feedback and a list of positive aspects of the draft Plan, then reviewed and agreed on the main concepts for their recommendations to strengthen the draft Plan and draft EIS.
- **Next steps**
Commissioners discussed options for setting a special meeting in order to finalize and adopt the UFC feedback by the May 6 deadline, settling on April 24, 3:00-5:00 p.m. for that special meeting.

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>

Public comment:

Steve Zemke noted that it will be helpful to have the draft recommendations posted online. He recommended adding the benefits of mental and public health that trees provide, and adding the need to plant as many large trees as possible since it will take larger trees and diverse species to reach canopy goals; it's not just total number of trees. He noted the importance of maximizing retention of existing trees by incorporating alternative design options, and recommended challenging the concept that we don't need to focus on trees and wildlife here in Seattle because of what's being done elsewhere/outside of the city.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 4:59 PM.

Meeting chat:

from Sandy Shettler to everyone: 3:21 PM

I'll call in for the rest of the meeting so will log off video and this chat. Thanks everyone for your dedication and hard work for trees!

from Lia Hall UFC13 to everyone: 3:43 PM

Yes thanks for sharing this, Hao!

from Alicia Kellogg she/her to everyone: 3:49 PM

Also our combined sewer system makes aggressive green stormwater management financially attractive because it's way less expensive than redoing our entire sewer system

from Lia Hall UFC13 to everyone: 3:50 PM

myrtle edwards too

from Hao Liang to everyone: 3:52 PM

Good point, Alicia! Thanks!

from Alicia Kellogg she/her to everyone: 3:49 PM

Also our combined sewer system makes aggressive green stormwater management financially attractive because it's way less expensive than redoing our entire sewer system

from Lia Hall UFC13 to everyone: 3:50 PM

myrtle edwards too

from Hao Liang to everyone: 3:52 PM

Good point, Alicia! Thanks!

from steve zemke to everyone: 4:01 PM

Good analysis Josh pointing out potential loss of canopy in these areas. I believe it would be good to include in comments on draft EIS as showing potential impacts with more intense development that could happen.

from steve zemke to everyone: 4:04 PM

Tree Protection Ordinance allows 85% coverage in LR zones and 100% coverage in MR, mixed zones and higher density.

from steve zemke to everyone: 4:05 PM

Some cities require trees in parking lots to reduce heat island impacts. Some lots could be retro fit to include trees.

from steve zemke to everyone: 4:06 PM

City will do rezoning at end of year with completion of Comprehensive Plan and adoption by City Council.

from Urgenson, Lauren to everyone: 4:07 PM

<https://pierced.org/246/Depave-Puget-Sound>

from steve zemke to everyone: 4:22 PM

protect and enhance tree canopy area and volume. Volume is important to reducing stormwater runoff.

from Alicia Kellogg she/her to everyone: 4:25 PM

be right back

from steve zemke to everyone: 4:25 PM

Canopy volume important also for bird habitat with different bird species living in different heights of trees

from steve zemke to everyone: 4:26 PM

Important to look at building designs that can protect more existing large trees as it takes decades to replace decade old trees

from steve zemke to everyone: 4:29 PM

include health benefits of trees

from steve zemke to everyone: 4:34 PM

Need to ask where tree canopy area and volume will specifically be replaced and within what time frame

from steve zemke to everyone: 4:37 PM

Need to detail how many trees city needs to plant per year and

from steve zemke to everyone: 4:37 PM

timeframe needed to reach 30% canopy

from steve zemke to everyone: 4:39 PM

Can you post this draft on line after the meeting today so public can see it and consider in their comments to the city?

from Lia Hall UFC13 to everyone: 4:50 PM

<https://www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/historic-preservation>

from Lia Hall UFC13 to everyone: 4:58 PM

there's also no way to prove that our urban policies will prevent sprawl across the region

from Urgenson, Lauren to everyone: 4:59 PM

I have to run, thank you for your work on this UFC!

Public input (additional comments received):

From: dmoehring@consultant.com <dmoehring@consultant.com>

Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 7:23 AM

To: Bakker, Patricia <Patricia.Bakker@seattle.gov>; Hao Liang <ufclandscape@gmail.com>; Becca Neumann <ufc.pos4@gmail.com>

Cc: treesandpeoplepacificwest.com <treesandpeople@pacificwest.com>; June BlueSpruce <info@treesandpeople.org>

Subject: Retaining cedar on site development with 4 dwellings

CAUTION: External Email

6555 26th Avenue NW And #2609 NW 67th Street

Good news on a lot split submission for building 2 primary dwellings and 2 DADU...Despite calculations to show the removal of all trees on a larger corner lot (divided into two lots at 3850 sq ft each), the corner Exception Tier 2 Cedar is indicated to remain!

Hats off to Blueprint Capital on this choice given reported on August 2023.

David Moehring
Trees and People Coalition

On 3/18/24 at 5:00 AM, SCI_Microfilm wrote:

From: "SCI_Microfilm" <DPD_Microfilm@seattle.gov>

Date: March 18, 2024

To: "dmoehring@consultant.com" <dmoehring@consultant.com>

Cc:

Subject: RE: Missing site development drawings may be 4 to 6 homes on two addresses

From: dmoehring@consultant.com <dmoehring@consultant.com>

Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 5:36 PM

To: SCI_Microfilm <DPD_Microfilm@seattle.gov>

Subject: Missing site development drawings may be 4 to 6 homes on two addresses

Original request to Microfilm

#6555 26th Avenue NW

And

#2609 NW 67th Street

Asking SDCI microfilm if they are able to provide the latest site plans for both addresses that show a primary dwelling and one to two ADU per lot (totaling 4 to 6 dwellings on parent lot.)

Each proposed lot boundary adjustment for parcels A and B is small at just 3825 sq foot lot area. Only legal if adjacent lots in the area average out to be about the same size after the lot division. The current online and available site plans are preliminary cartoons.

Arborist identified two exceptional trees ... one is definitely coming out behind garage... maybe all 8 trees.

<https://web.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument?id=10253036>

David Moehring, AIA, NCARB

mobile 312.965.0634

-----Original Message-----

From: kevinorme <kevinorme@protonmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2024 10:10 PM

To: LEG_CouncilMembers <council@seattle.gov>; Harrell, Bruce <Bruce.Harrell@seattle.gov>

Cc: Emery, Adiam <Adiam.Emery@seattle.gov>; Burgess, Tim <Tim.Burgess@seattle.gov>; Farrell, Jessyn

<Jessyn.Farrell@seattle.gov>; Caulfield, Michelle <Michelle.Caulfield@seattle.gov>; Bakker, Patricia

<Patricia.Bakker@seattle.gov>; DOT_SeattleTrees <Seattle.Trees@seattle.gov>; Wong, Greg

<Greg.Wong@seattle.gov>; Eder, Dan <Dan.Eder@seattle.gov>; Nelson, Sara <Sara.Nelson@seattle.gov>; Um,

Taemin <Taemin.Um@seattle.gov>; Ellis, Steven <Steven.Ellis@seattle.gov>; Hollingsworth, Joy

<Joy.Hollingsworth@seattle.gov>; Kettle, Robert <Robert.Kettle@seattle.gov>; Morales, Tammy

<Tammy.Morales@seattle.gov>; Turla, Alexis <Alexis.Turla@seattle.gov>; Silvernail, Devin

<Devin.Silvernail@seattle.gov>; Carey, Imani <imani.carey@seattle.gov>; Chow, Evelyn

<Evelyn.Chow@seattle.gov>; Rivera, Maritza <Maritza.Rivera@seattle.gov>; Ko, Elaine

<Elaine.Ko@seattle.gov>; Strauss, Dan <Dan.Strauss@seattle.gov>; Enbysk, Amy <Amy.Enbysk@seattle.gov>;

Hoffman, Kate <Kate.Hoffman@seattle.gov>; Moore, Cathy <Cathy.Moore@seattle.gov>; Thoreson, Hannah

<Hannah.Thoreson@seattle.gov>

Subject: SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL - Record No: CB 120750 - some comments

CAUTION: External Email

thank you in advance for the opportunity to comment on this proposal - to wit:

- we all recognize the need for affordable and transit-oriented housing throughout Seattle, especially in traditionally disadvantaged neighborhoods who have already lost the majority of their tree canopy and greenspace to overdevelopment and pavement in the decades prior.

- we all also recognize that currently while paying lip service to this critical need, the vast majority of current development projects (whether oversized \$1M+ single family homes or multiplex buildings) - are done for market rate sales, not at all affordable to most Seattle residents, existing or recently relocated;

The Connected Communities proposal begins to address this need but critically ignores a key component - big trees and greenspace. There is no way we can begin to reach the 30% tree canopy goal outlined in the current Comprehensive Plan for little over a decade from now without taking immediate action to preserve our big trees and trees generally across the city. Any residents of these new urban villages deserve the same big trees and greenspace that residents in other neighborhoods (for now) still enjoy.

new construction will naturally be built with A/C. but its energy use makes heat issue worse in precisely the time of year our residents are at their highest risk from heat effects. Coupled with the heat islands created by clearcut construction without preserving greenspace - you are just making the problem much, much worse. Trees are 'free' - and together with greenspace retention, mitigate most of those effects without costing more money or generating more outdoor heat and using even more energy.

Build up! Build around! Make the effort to design construction that preserves greenspace, including street trees too, and provides setbacks beyond simply 5 feet that does not. Creativity in design - meaning 21st century approaches, not 'clearcut, pave and move on' construction methods that still to this day reflect the 1950s - need to be central to our housing and livability needs now and moving forward.

finally, exempting such projects from Design Review simply for expediency is taking a short-term view - we can no longer simply build without considering longer term effects of what we do now, or we will be having

this same discussion in a matter of years with even less flexibility to make the right choices - do not simply act because we 'need to do something' - that's not going to work this time.

kevin orme
Seattle

From: dmoehring@consultant.com <dmoehring@consultant.com>

Sent: Friday, March 22, 2024 10:04 AM

To: Lofstedt, Emily <Emily.Lofstedt@seattle.gov>

Cc: DOT_SeattleTrees <Seattle.Trees@seattle.gov>; Hao Liang <ufclandscape@gmail.com>; Bakker, Patricia <Patricia.Bakker@seattle.gov>; Josh Morris <joshm@birdsconnectsea.org>; Becca Neumann <ufc.pos4@gmail.com>


Subject: access exists with trees remaining to 13506 27th Ave NE

CAUTION: External Email

Note that the SDCI Public notice for tree removal - including a tree within the right-of-way - is erroneous. The trees are Exceptional unlike that identifiable on the public note. One of the large trees is a street tree.

There are multiple problems with this request, especially given there are no sidewalks at the proposed point of access, and the access is currently from the other street on this corner lot. The property fronts on both 27th Avenue NE and treeless NE 135th Street.

13506 27TH AVE NE

- **Correct the notice as the Tree Category is in error, and needs reposting with new date.**
- **Owner at 13506 27th ave NE** wrote letter that they are blind and may be hurt by tripping on fallen branches.
- Tree Category should reference SDCI 25.11.020.I - Exemptions [link here](#)
- "Tree removal or commercial tree work to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, or as necessary to improve access for the elderly or people with disabilities; except that tree service providers conducting commercial tree work on these trees must comply with the tree service provider registry requirements of [Section 25.11.100](#); "
- Alex tree service report showed an oversized tree canopy over a proposed 15-foot wide sidewalk that may or may not be constructed/installed, The tree service shows the circumference of the existing tree canopy as being much larger than the actual existing trees dripline.
- Blind owner Hadi Rangin requested the tree service report without full exposure to the conditions:
 - They live on a corner lot with more than one side to access house.
 - He works, and does not work in a city without trees and fallen tree branches.
 - He is well equipped to be dropped off - and inform the driver of doing so - along the southern street with a paved access to 2-car garage and paved access to house.
 - There is no sidewalk currently where the owner is asking the trees to be cut down.
 - If a sidewalk is to be added along the west side, Why 15-foot width? 10-foot width is twice the typical sidewalk width.
 - Looking at site... there is a significant distance between the dripline of the trees. Even if paved walk is added , there are no trees overhead.

 - The American Disabilities Act does not require all building entries to be accessible, but at least half of the entries.
 - Have they been offered to sell their house oin the condition that the trees be removed?
 - Any neighbors or renters in house able to clear sidewalk of branches?
 - Is not an arbor over the proposed pathway a better way to protect pathway from branches, snow, etc .
 - Is not regular pruning better than exceptional tree removal

David Moehring
312-965-0634

13506 27th Avenue NE – Tree Exemption Letter (Record No. 000634-23TA)

Dear Andrew Raines (of tree service),

We received your request for an exemption from tree protection requirements regarding your client's property addressed as 13506 27th Avenue NE on January 4, 2024. This property is zoned Neighborhood Residential (NR)2. The property fronts on both 27th Avenue NE and NE 135th Street.

The existing single-family residence has limited pedestrian access from 27th Avenue NE on the west side of the property.

The three existing Tier 3 Douglas Fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) trees (measuring 38", 32.5" and 34" diameter at standard height) are located adjacent to the existing pathway from the house to the street.

- Removal of these trees will remove the risk of falling tree limbs or falling trees on the adjacent power lines, pathway or single-family house.
- Removal of the trees is necessary to improve the accessible pathway from the street to the single-family residence.
- Removal of the trees is necessary to provide a safe location for vehicular pickup and mail retrieval. for the disabled resident.

Subsection **25.11.020.I.** of Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) allows limited tree removal when necessary to improve access for people with disabilities. Under this code authority, your request for tree removal is granted.

Tree removal must be completed by a registered tree service provider and a tree public notice must be posted online for 6 full business days according to Subsection **25.11.100.** You can learn more about registered tree service providers and tree public notice in our Tips: 242C and 242D. If any construction permits are required for the accessibility improvements or signage, you may include a copy of this letter with the documents for those projects.

If I may be of any further assistance, please contact me at emily.lofstedt@seattle.gov or **206-386-0097**.

From: dmoehring@consultant.com <dmoehring@consultant.com>

Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2024 8:38 PM

To: Becca Neumann <ufc.pos4@gmail.com>; Bakker, Patricia <Patricia.Bakker@seattle.gov>; Hao Liang <ufclandscape@gmail.com>; Josh Morris <joshm@birdsconnectsea.org>

Subject: Gap between street trees at 13506 27th Ave NE

CAUTION: External Email

Dear Patti and UFC co-chairs,

Just a follow-up on a citizen request to remove two widely spaced trees claimed to be causing tripping hazards for blind resident,

Is this an example of the new tree ordinance vs the early 2023 version?

The owner applied to take one down in the past and was denied. What has changed within the new tree ordinance or enforcement and authority to allow the owner to this needless removal?

Look at this photo which reveals that there is already plenty of space to access the front door—like 60 feet!

Is the city arborist or administrative officer aware of these types of removals on demand ?

David Moehring

From: dmoehring@consultant.com <dmoehring@consultant.com>

Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2024 10:00 PM

To: Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections <PRC@seattle.gov>

Cc: Becca Neumann <ufc.pos4@gmail.com>; Josh Morris <joshm@birdsconnectsea.org>; Hao Liang <ufclandscape@gmail.com>; Bakker, Patricia <Patricia.Bakker@seattle.gov>; treesandpeoplepacificwest.com <treesandpeople@pacificwest.com>; DOT_SeattleTrees <Seattle.Trees@seattle.gov>

Subject: Density with Trees Alert

CAUTION: External Email

Retaining Trees with adding people achieves the Seattle Comprehensive Plan!

Design review on March 25, 2024:

Advocate for the sensible solution

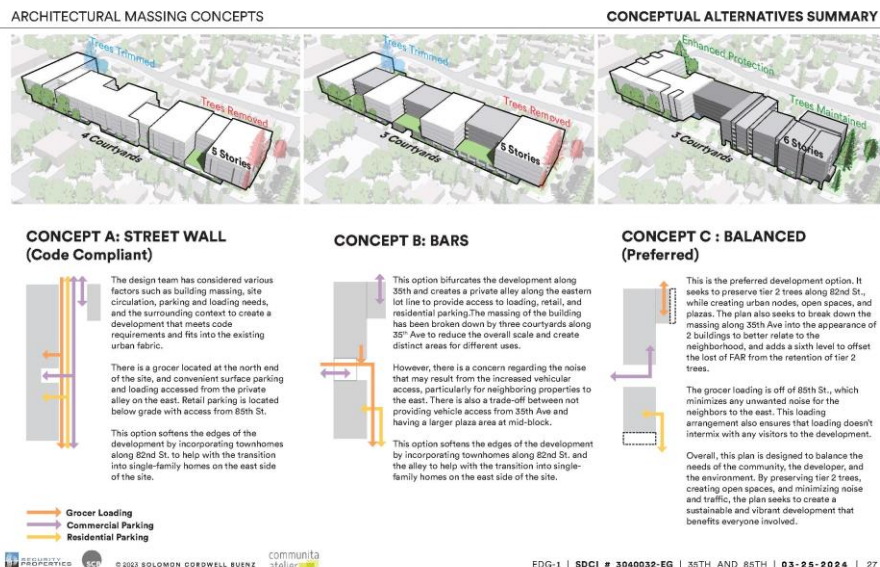
That considers climate resilience

Preferred option at 8400 35TH AVE NE

Northeast Design Review Board

Design Review Early Design Guidance for a 6-story, 338-unit apartment building with retail. Parking for 356 vehicles proposed. Existing structures to be demolished.

[View full design proposal:](#)



From: "Seattle in Progress" <contact@seattleinprogress.com>

Date: March 21, 2024

[View full design proposal:](#)

ARCHITECTURAL MASSING CONCEPTS

CONCEPTUAL ALTERNATIVES SUMMARY



CONCEPT A: STREET WALL (Code Compliant)

The design team has considered various factors such as building massing, site circulation, parking and loading needs, and the surrounding context to create a development that meets code requirements and fits into the existing urban fabric.

There is a grocer located at the north end of the site, and convenient surface parking and loading accessed from the private alley on the east. Retail parking is located below grade with access from 85th St.

This option softens the edges of the development by incorporating townhomes along 82nd St. to help with the transition into single-family homes on the east side of the site.



CONCEPT B: BARS

This option bifurcates the development along 35th and creates a private alley along the eastern lot line to provide access to loading, retail, and residential parking. The massing of the building has been broken down by three courtyards along 35th Ave to reduce the overall scale and create distinct areas for different uses.

However, there is a concern regarding the noise that may result from the increased vehicular access, particularly for neighboring properties to the east. There is also a trade-off between not providing vehicle access from 35th Ave and having a larger plaza area at mid-block.

This option softens the edges of the development by incorporating townhomes along 82nd St. and the alley to help with the transition into single-family homes on the east side of the site.



CONCEPT C: BALANCED (Preferred)

This is the preferred development option. It seeks to preserve tier 2 trees along 82nd St., while creating urban nodes, open spaces, and plazas. The plan also seeks to break down the massing along 35th Ave into the appearance of 2 buildings to better relate to the neighborhood, and adds a sixth level to offset the lost of FAR from the retention of tier 2 trees.

The grocer loading is off of 88th St., which minimizes any unwanted noise for the neighbors to the east. This loading arrangement also ensures that loading doesn't intermix with any visitors to the development.

Overall, this plan is designed to balance the needs of the community, the developer, and the environment. By preserving tier 2 trees, creating open spaces, and minimizing noise and traffic, the plan seeks to create a sustainable and vibrant development that benefits everyone involved.



April 2, 2024: 2729 2ND AVE
Downtown Design Review Board

Design Review Early Design Guidance for a 15-story, 147-unit apartment building with retail. Parking for 17 vehicles proposed.

[View full design proposal:](#)

SCHEME - B (Preferred)
Pedestrian Gateway



Questions or comments? Reply to this email or write to contact@seattleinprogress.com.

This email was sent to dmoehring@consultant.com. [Unsubscribe here](#).

Follow us on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter \(@seattle_nprgres\)](#).

From: dmoehring@consultant.com <dmoehring@consultant.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2024 10:57 PM
To: DOT_PublicSpace <publicspace@seattle.gov>
Cc: Bakker, Patricia <Patricia.Bakker@seattle.gov>; Hao Liang <ufclandscape@gmail.com>; Becca Neumann <ufc.pos4@gmail.com>; Spang, Audrey <Audrey.Spang@seattle.gov>; Josh Morris <joshm@birdsconnectsea.org>
Subject: 3446 NW 65th Street- easement needless takes out fir and hawthorn

CAUTION: External Email

The short plat subdivision at 3446 NW 65th Street does not meet criteria 7 of SMC 23.24.040 (See attached).

Why has this been approved with minimal review from SDCI?

Between 2016 and 2021, Seattle's tree canopy within developed parcels has decreased an average of 39-percent per residential parcel. Seattle continues to lose a rough average of 2-percent tree canopy cover since 2010... setting the city on course to a citywide average ~**26.5% canopy cover by 2035**.

But the erroneous decision here on behalf of the SDCI Director is easy to fix!

Request to Relocate the city light easement from the east to the west side Sharing the utility and access easement.

Site plan:

<https://web.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument?id=10235834>

The arborist report did not assess the proposed easement for this short plat application.

Retain the noble fir and a Common/ English hawthorn by relocating the easement.

Inform neighbors this SDCI short look decision took 4 staff just an accumulative 4-hour review and written decision without an adequate review of the proposed subdivision relative to the code identified criteria. As such, this decision should be appealed to the Seattle Office of the Hearing Examiner.

Thank you,
David Moehring AIA
Trees And People Coalition

Sent using the mobile mail app

On 3/21/24 at 6:10 AM, Land Use Information Bulletin wrote:

From: "Land Use Information Bulletin" <SDCI@subscriptions.seattle.gov>
Date: March 21, 2024

To: dmoehring@consultant.com

Cc:

Subject: Land Use Information Bulletin is Now Available



Seattle Department of
Construction & Inspections



March 21, 2024

LUIB is Now Available

Today's [Public Notices Summary](#) is now available for you to review. *The link above will give you the most recently published Public Notice Summary.* To create a custom notice summary by publish date, use our [custom public notice report tool](#). To view the notices:

1. Click on [Public Notices](#) under Find Existing on the portal home page.
2. Select the Publish Date - From and Publish Date - To date range.
Tip: Click the calendar and then select the Today link at the very bottom to quickly navigate to the correct date.
3. You will get a list of the public notices for the date range.

This email was sent from a send-only mailbox. Please do NOT reply to this e-mail.

Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections

Address: 700 5th Ave, Suite 2000, Seattle, WA, 98104

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 34019, Seattle, WA, 98124-4019

Phone: 206-684-8600

Alt Phone: Violation Complaint Line: 206-615-0808



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This email was sent to dmoehring@consultant.com using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of: City of Seattle, Washington · 707 17th St, Suite 4000 · Denver, CO 80202



From: Janet Way <janetway@yahoo.com>

Sent: Monday, March 25, 2024 9:11 AM

To: dmoehring@consultant.com; DOT_PublicSpace <publicspace@seattle.gov>

Cc: Bakker, Patricia <Patricia.Bakker@seattle.gov>; Hao Liang <ufclandscape@gmail.com>; Becca Neumann <ufc.pos4@gmail.com>; Spang, Audrey <Audrey.Spang@seattle.gov>; Josh Morris <joshm@birdsconnectsea.org>

Subject: Re: 3446 NW 65th Street- easement needless takes out fir and hawthorn

CAUTION: External Email

SDCI,

So this tree removal is all for a giant driveway?

The "chainsaw ordinance", at it again?

"Emerald City?" NOT!

Janet Way

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

On Sunday, March 24, 2024, 10:57 PM, dmoehring@consultant.com wrote:

The short plat subdivision at 3446 NW 65th Street does not meet criteria 7 of SMC 23.24.040 (See attached).

Why has this been approved with minimal review from SDCI?

Between 2016 and 2021, Seattle's tree canopy within developed parcels has decreased an average of 39-percent per residential parcel. Seattle continues to lose a rough average of 2-percent tree canopy cover since 2010... setting the city on course to a citywide average ~**26.5% canopy cover by 2035**.

But the erroneous decision here on behalf of the SDCI Director is easy to fix!

Request to Relocate the city light easement from the east to the west side Sharing the utility and access easement.

Site plan:

<https://web.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/GetDocument?id=10235834>

The arborist report did not assess the proposed easement for this short plat application.

Retain the noble fir and a Common/ English hawthorn by relocating the easement.

Inform neighbors this SDCI short look decision took 4 staff just an accumulative 4-hour review and written decision without an adequate review of the proposed subdivision relative to the code identified criteria. As such, this decision should be appealed to the Seattle Office of the Hearing Examiner.

Thank you,
David Moehring AIA
Trees And People Coalition

From: David Moehring <dmoehring@consultant.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2024 11:31 PM

To: Spang, Audrey <Audrey.Spang@seattle.gov>

Cc: Bakker, Patricia <Patricia.Bakker@seattle.gov>; Hao Liang <ufclandscape@gmail.com>; Becca Neumann <ufc.pos4@gmail.com>; Josh Morris <joshm@birdsconnectsea.org>

Subject: Re: RE: 3446 NW 65th Street- easement needless takes out fir and hawthorn

CAUTION: External Email

Thanks Audrey, for your suggestion to appeal.

You may know that enforcement of the short plat criteria is the role of the SDCI reviewers, not the public, and not for the Seattle Office of the Hearing Examiner. Project-specific landuse decisions - unlike citywide matters - are only appeal-able IF one resides near the specific property... or one does not have the 'legal standing' to appeal. That is what the lawyers have deemed to protect the City's lack of code enforcement in cases such as this.

So by passing the responsibility of code enforcement... and billing a collective of just 4 hours of SDCI time on this review... I fear that the Department's savings in labor is just passed along to others. Eventually, as we see with Boeing, the lack of taking responsibility catches up with the organization. Chicago's building department saw many change of hands, perhaps for enforcing the code too strictly. Perhaps SDCI's willingness to bend is their secret to longevity.

Why lax in enforcing just the existing tree protection and retention criteria of SMC 23.24.040? It's ironic that if a landuse code requirement for any other landuse matter was proposed to be ignored by the applicant, how many review SDCI comments would be returned with the submission.

Yet, in this particular application of locating a proposed utility easement within the short plat through a line of existing boundary trees - whereas the utility easement could easily be located elsewhere such as within the proposed access easement - not one SDCI review comment was

provided.

David Moehring
312-965-0634

Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2024 at 12:31 PM
From: "Spang, Audrey" <Audrey.Spang@seattle.gov>
To: "dmoehring@consultant.com" <dmoehring@consultant.com>
Cc: "Bakker, Patricia" <Patricia.Bakker@seattle.gov>, "Hao Liang" <ufclandscape@gmail.com>, "Becca Neumann" <ufc.pos4@gmail.com>, "Josh Morris" <joshm@birdsconnectsea.org>
Subject: RE: 3446 NW 65th Street- easement needless takes out fir and hawthorn

Hi David,

If you have any questions or concerns about this short plat being approved, please follow the directions in the attachment to file an appeal.

Thanks,



Audrey Spang (she/her/hers)

Land Use Transportation Planner II

City of Seattle [Department of Construction and Inspections](#)

O: 206-919-7723 I Audrey.Spang@seattle.gov

[Facebook](#) I [X](#) I [Blog](#)

From: David Moehring <dmoehring@consultant.com>
Sent: Monday, April 1, 2024 1:24 AM
To: OSE <OSE@seattle.gov>; Bakker, Patricia <Patricia.Bakker@seattle.gov>
Cc: Becca Neumann <ufc.pos4@gmail.com>; Josh Morris <joshm@birdsconnectsea.org>; Woo, Tanya <Tanya.Woo@seattle.gov>; Moore, Cathy <Cathy.Moore@seattle.gov>; Strauss, Dan <Dan.Strauss@seattle.gov>; Morales, Tammy <Tammy.Morales@seattle.gov>; Harrell, Bruce <Bruce.Harrell@seattle.gov>; Burgess, Tim <Tim.Burgess@seattle.gov>; Emery, Adiam <Adiam.Emery@seattle.gov>; Washington, Tiffany <Tiffany.Washington@seattle.gov>; Wong, Greg <Greg.Wong@seattle.gov>; DOT_SeattleTrees <Seattle.Trees@seattle.gov>; Hao Liang <ufclandscape@gmail.com>
Subject: Special meetings needed by Urban Forestry Commission on One Seattle Comp Plan Draft EIS
Importance: High

CAUTION: External Email

Dear Patti Bakker,

Special meetings are needed by Urban Forestry Commission during One Seattle Comp Plan Draft EIS!

Please shared with the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission (UFC):

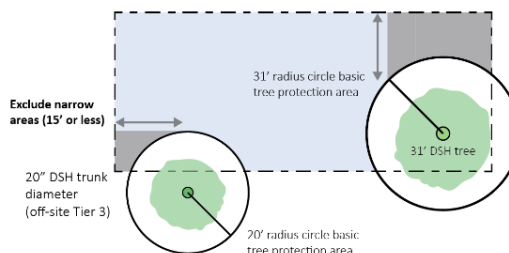
- 1) assure Seattle increases from the **existing 28.1% tree canopy** and to convene for special meetings during the Comprehensive Plan, Section 3.3 development.
- 2) speak with Mayor to restore 2035 Comprehensive Plan multiple initiatives on achieving density WITH urban forest including an **equitable 30% tree canopy cover**.
- 3) speak with City Council to **adopt minimum 40-percent private land area** for tree retention and planting within Neighborhood Residential zones.
- 4) similarly, when six-or-more dwellings are allowed per 5,000 sq ft lot area, the City Council to adopt a **minimum of 20-percent private land area** for tree retention and planting within multifamily zones.

- 5) set forth other recommendations to the Mayor and City Council---including calculations of reason - how to retain and plant urban trees to implement Seattle's [Urban Forest Management Plan...](#) which guides the City's progress towards that equitable 30-percent citywide average cover goal. To date, no implementation plan has been adopted by the city and embodied within the land use code.
- 6) restore pre-2023 means of measuring trees by the actual tree canopy area rather than an inflated area (see diagram from DCI Tips below).
- 7) Identify Seattle's implementation plan to achieve an equitable 30-percent canopy cover by 2037. The Office of Sustainability and Environment oversees implementation of the Urban Forest Management Plan, coordinates the Urban Forest Inter-departmental team, and staffs the [Urban Forestry Commission](#).
- 8) Fix the inflated and artificial tree measuring approach that the mayor's office would not allow a Director's Rule to fix:

3. Calculate the area of the lot not covered by the basic tree protection. If the area is less than 85% of the total lot area, on-site tree removal is allowed. In this example, the available development area is less than 85% of the lot so the tree is eligible for removal.

Total lot area: 4,500 sq ft
85% allowable development area: 3,825 sq ft
Available development area = 2,800 sq ft

- Areas 15' wide or less
- Development area



30-percent cover still in...

Please clarify that 30-percent tree canopy is maintained within the One Seattle plan while restoring our city's 2007 aspirational goal of 40% citywide city canopy average over time".

- Review the **Draft EIS: One Seattle Comprehensive Plan Update. March 2024.**"
- Look at **Section 3.3 Plants and Animals**
- Page 3.3-3 "The City's goal, established in 2007, **is to have 30% canopy cover by 2037.**"

False narrative: Chapter 3 of the One Seattle Plan assumes the 2023 new ordinance will reduce rate of tree canopy loss.

What should the UFC be concerned about?

- What about properties where previously protected Exceptional trees have since been identified as being too large to retain?
- Written completely with ambiguity and clearly erroneous, however, is page 3.3-7.
- The last two sentences of paragraph one **falsely states:**
- "In 2023..., the city's tree ordinance was updated (see Section 3.3.3). It is anticipated that these updates will decrease the rate of canopy loss associated with residential and commercial development."

So, how should One Seattle Plan both retain and grow the urban canopy with increased canopy?

The most important aspect is being clear in the landuse code how much developed land parcels need to retain and plant trees in order to achieve 30% canopy cover over the next 15-years and beyond.

- Currently, Seattle requires within Neighborhood Residential at least two inches of tree caliper for every 1,000 sq ft of lot area.
- In addition, a more direct approach is to require adequate land area of retaining and adding trees within properties, as done Chapter 11.50 Trees in Development Situations (link [here](https://www.portland.gov/code/11/50) <https://www.portland.gov/code/11/50>)

Table 50-2

**Portland, Oregon Chapter 11.50 Trees in Development Situations
Determining Required Tree Area**

Development Type	Option A	Option B
One to Four Family Residential	40 percent of site or development impact area	Site area minus building coverage of existing and proposed development
Multi Dwelling Residential	20 percent of site or development impact area	
Commercial/Office/Retail/Mixed Use	15 percent of site or development impact area	
Industrial	10 percent of site or development impact area	
Institutional	25 percent of site or development impact area	
Other	25 percent of site or development impact area	

<https://www.portland.gov/code/11/50>

Discrepancy in percentages of canopy loss since 2016...

The Draft DNS has a significant discrepancy on Exhibit 3.3-3 (from OSD?? 2022)

- Seattle does not have an Office of Sustainability and Development as the data source claims
- Seattle does have an [Office of Sustainability and Environment](#) OSE
- States on line 1 that Seattle lost only 87 acres of canopy from 2026-2021 within Neighborhood Residential Zones.
- States that loss includes only 19% loss within parcels under development.
- Fails to note that parcels that were developed is only one percent (1%) of of Seattle's land area within that 5-year period. Thus, the short term change in development loss was low citywide, compared to 99% of Seattle's land area that was not developed.
- Fails to consider the longer-term trend of loss within developed property. Note the tree canopy assessment that **average canopy loss of 39.8% per developed parcel** was identified within Table 4. "Canopy change by parcel redevelopment status in residential management units"

- See the appendix for 2021 Seattle Tree Canopy Assessment, [link here](#) .

	Neighborhood Residential		Multifamily	
	Redeveloped Parcels	All Parcels	Redeveloped Parcels	All Parcels
Total land area in 2021 (acres)	142	20,841	149	4,074
Canopy present in these parcels – 2016 (acres)	50	7,121	28	951
Canopy present in these parcels – 2021 (acres)	33	7,035	14	933
Relative % change in canopy 2016-2021	-33.6%	-1.2%	-49.5%	-1.9%
Net change in canopy in these parcels 2016-2021 (acres)	-17	-87	-14	-18



Citywide (All Management Units)	Redeveloped Parcels	Parcels Not Redeveloped	Total
Total land area in 2021 (acres)	511	52,915	53,427
Canopy present in these parcels – 2016 (acres)	88	15,190	15,279
Canopy present in these parcels – 2021 (acres)	53	14,970	15,024
Relative % change in canopy 2016-2021	-39.8%	-1.4%	-1.7%
Net change in canopy in these parcels 2016-2021 (acres)	-35	-220	-255

Parcels where new development occurred represent 1.0% of total area in the city.

The 35 acres of net canopy loss in redeveloped parcels = 13.7% of the total acres lost in the city.

https://library.municode.com/wa/seattle/codes/municipal_code?nodeId=TIT3AD_SUBTITLE_IVCO_CH3.72_URFOCO_3.72.050DUFU

These truths are known:

- 1) Do the area acreage calculations.
- 2) Inform the Mayor and City Council in compliance with Seattle Municipal Code 3.72.050 - UFC Duties and Functions.
- 2) Page 3.3-24 - Restore current Comprehensive policy that requires creative design to minimize lot clearing!
- 3) Page 3.3-25 - Proposed CE 12.6 considers only public property, not the expansive tree canopy within private land!
- 4) Similarly, Proposed Policy 12.8 on its own will leave Seattle with just 12 to 13-percent canopy over the next century of development , while smart dense cities like Singapore aim to 50-percent canopy / open green space.
- 5) Do the math: Seattle cannot achieve equitable 30-percent canopy cover with just street trees, public parks, and unimproved forested areas.

There is simply not enough 'public' open land area. Even if Seattle was able to double its existing right-of-way canopy area, without any canopy within private residential land, Seattle's canopy would only be 17 to 18 percent citywide average.

Since when is Seattle just a home to people?

- Our City needs life with spaces for trees to be retained and to grow.
- Our City needs variety of tree heights and types creating natural habitats for animals and birds to survive.

**Chief Seattle was transcribed to say:
"All things share the same breath-
the beast, the tree, the 'man'.
The air shares its spirit with all the life it supports."**

The Urban Forestry Commission must assure our City's plans follows these principles.

David Moehring AIA NCARB
Prior Commissioner of the Urban Forestry Commission

-----Original Message-----

From: kevinorme <kevinorme@protonmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, April 4, 2024 7:27 AM

To: LEG_CouncilMembers <council@seattle.gov>; Harrell, Bruce <Bruce.Harrell@seattle.gov>

Cc: Emery, Adiam <Adiam.Emery@seattle.gov>; Burgess, Tim <Tim.Burgess@seattle.gov>; Farrell, Jessyn <Jessyn.Farrell@seattle.gov>; Caulfield, Michelle <Michelle.Caulfield@seattle.gov>; Bakker, Patricia <Patricia.Bakker@seattle.gov>; DOT_SeattleTrees <Seattle.Trees@seattle.gov>; Wong, Greg <Greg.Wong@seattle.gov>; Nelson, Sara <Sara.Nelson@seattle.gov>; Um, Taemin <Taemin.Um@seattle.gov>; Ellis, Steven <Steven.Ellis@seattle.gov>; Hollingsworth, Joy <Joy.Hollingsworth@seattle.gov>; Kettle, Robert <Robert.Kettle@seattle.gov>; Morales, Tammy <Tammy.Morales@seattle.gov>; Rivera, Maritza <Maritza.Rivera@seattle.gov>; Strauss, Dan <Dan.Strauss@seattle.gov>; Moore, Cathy <Cathy.Moore@seattle.gov>; Eder, Dan <Dan.Eder@seattle.gov>; Ko, Elaine <Elaine.Ko@seattle.gov>; Marx, Heather <Heather.Marx@seattle.gov>; Gheisar, Leyla <Leyla.Gheisar@seattle.gov>; Turla, Alexis <Alexis.Turla@seattle.gov>; Carey, Imani <imani.carey@seattle.gov>; Chow, Evelyn <Evelyn.Chow@seattle.gov>; Bowers, Logan <Logan.Bowers@seattle.gov>; Altshuler, Alex <Alex.Altshuler@seattle.gov>; Sykes, Wendy <Wendy.Sykes@seattle.gov>; Maxwell, Sasha <Sasha.Maxwell@seattle.gov>; Thoreson, Hannah <Hannah.Thoreson@seattle.gov>; Aldrich, Newell <Newell.Aldrich2@seattle.gov>; Enbysk, Amy <Amy.Enbysk@seattle.gov>; Hoffman, Kate <Kate.Hoffman@seattle.gov>; Rodriguez, Anthony <Anthony.Rodriguez@seattle.gov>; Smith, Steven (LEG) <Steven.Smith@seattle.gov>; Duran, Rebecca <Rebecca.Duran@seattle.gov>; Lo, Brent <Brent.Lo@seattle.gov>; Mohn, Jeremy <Jeremy.Mohn@seattle.gov>; Silvernail, Devin <Devin.Silvernail@seattle.gov>; Beckerman, Melisa <Melisa.Beckerman@seattle.gov>; Lewis, Naomi <Naomi.Lewis@seattle.gov>

Subject: protect big, heritage and old Seattle trees!

CAUTION: External Email

funny how old, big trees not only clean our air, mitigate storm runoff, provide increasingly scarce greenspace (vs the clearcut, pave everything 'philosophy' Brennon Staley is putting in the Comp Plan, for example) - they also provide critical habitat for species - animal, plant and insect - and they do it 24-7.

But the way we're going, pretty soon the endangered species - is going to be US. Think about it.

Ancient trees help to protect an endangered species <https://phys.org/news/2024-04-ancient-trees-endangered-species.html>

kevin orme
Seattle

From: Siegelbaum, Heidi <heidi.siegelbaum@wsu.edu>
Sent: Friday, April 5, 2024 12:00 PM
To: Bakker, Patricia <Patricia.Bakker@seattle.gov>
Cc: Siegelbaum, Heidi <heidi.siegelbaum@wsu.edu>; Josh Morris <joshm@seattleaudubon.org>
Subject: cannot make meeting next week but have things to say

CAUTION: External Email

Hi Patti

I hope this note finds you well. I am watching the **unfurling disaster of the tree code, the excising of important tree/forestry provisions in the updated Comprehensive Plan and wondering what the UFC is planning to do about it.**

I have been working steadily with the Missing Middle folks at Commerce and several agencies and mid- City planners on enlightened ways to build housing while maintaining trees and other forms of dispersed biophilia. As you likely know, there are new climate change requirements under the GMA.

I can only imagine that the enormous blunt force of money and conflict of interest is steering the city in a dangerous, breach of the public trust position. You have friends at Seattle Public Utilities and Parks that can help steer you in the right direction. I would like a response to this email please. If you are being ignored, what is your plan of action?

Best,
Heidi

Heidi Siegelbaum
Stormwater Strategic Initiative Lead

Washington Stormwater Center at Washington State University

Heidi.Siegelbaum@wsu.edu

(253) 445-4502
Home office: (206) 784-4265

<https://pugetsoundestuary.wa.gov>
<https://wastormwatercenter.org>

-----Original Message-----

From: kevinorme <kevinorme@protonmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 9, 2024 7:17 AM
To: LEG_CouncilMembers <council@seattle.gov>; Harrell, Bruce <Bruce.Harrell@seattle.gov>
Cc: Emery, Adiam <Adiam.Emery@seattle.gov>; Burgess, Tim <Tim.Burgess@seattle.gov>; Farrell, Jessyn <Jessyn.Farrell@seattle.gov>; Caulfield, Michelle <Michelle.Caulfield@seattle.gov>; Bakker, Patricia <Patricia.Bakker@seattle.gov>; DOT_SeattleTrees <Seattle.Trees@seattle.gov>; Wong, Greg <Greg.Wong@seattle.gov>; Nelson, Sara <Sara.Nelson@seattle.gov>; Um, Taemin <Taemin.Um@seattle.gov>; Ellis, Steven <Steven.Ellis@seattle.gov>; Hollingsworth, Joy <Joy.Hollingsworth@seattle.gov>; Kettle, Robert

<Robert.Kettle@seattle.gov>; Morales, Tammy <Tammy.Morales@seattle.gov>; Rivera, Maritza <Maritza.Rivera@seattle.gov>; Strauss, Dan <Dan.Strauss@seattle.gov>; Moore, Cathy <Cathy.Moore@seattle.gov>; Eder, Dan <Dan.Eder@seattle.gov>; Ko, Elaine <Elaine.Ko@seattle.gov>; Marx, Heather <Heather.Marx@seattle.gov>; Gheisar, Leyla <Leyla.Gheisar@seattle.gov>; Turla, Alexis <Alexis.Turla@seattle.gov>; Carey, Imani <imani.carey@seattle.gov>; Chow, Evelyn <Evelyn.Chow@seattle.gov>; Bowers, Logan <Logan.Bowers@seattle.gov>; Altshuler, Alex <Alex.Altshuler@seattle.gov>; Sykes, Wendy <Wendy.Sykes@seattle.gov>; Maxwell, Sasha <Sasha.Maxwell@seattle.gov>; Thoreson, Hannah <Hannah.Thoreson@seattle.gov>; Aldrich, Newell <Newell.Aldrich2@seattle.gov>; Enbysk, Amy <Amy.Enbysk@seattle.gov>; Hoffman, Kate <Kate.Hoffman@seattle.gov>; Rodriguez, Anthony <Anthony.Rodriguez@seattle.gov>; Smith, Steven (LEG) <Steven.Smith@seattle.gov>; Duran, Rebecca <Rebecca.Duran@seattle.gov>; Lo, Brent <Brent.Lo@seattle.gov>; Mohn, Jeremy <Jeremy.Mohn@seattle.gov>; Silvernail, Devin <Devin.Silvernail@seattle.gov>; Beckerman, Melisa <Melisa.Beckerman@seattle.gov>; Lewis, Naomi <Naomi.Lewis@seattle.gov>

Subject: Oregon county plants trees to honor victims of killer 2021 heat wave

CAUTION: External Email

"I didn't think a lot of people still cared about what happened to people's families in the heatwave," LaRome Ollison, whose 68-year-old father, Jerome Ollison, died during the June 2021 heat wave, told The Oregonian. "Now I see that the county cares, and we appreciate it."

Multnomah County Chair Jessica Vega Pederson said Gresham and the Portland neighborhood of East Portland have the fewest trees in the county, but more are being planted.

"They will cool us down when the summer is hot, and they will help us save future lives that might otherwise be taken from us in similar events," she said.

Oregon county plants trees to honor victims of killer 2021 heat wave

<https://apnews.com/article/heat-wave-deaths-oregon-memorial-dec8ec47866af743833093e31ed0fcb5>

Doesn't it make even MORE sense to SAVE the big trees we already have while we plant more? Think about it.

kevin orme
Seattle

From: dmoehring@consultant.com <dmoehring@consultant.com>

Sent: Thursday, April 11, 2024 6:43 AM

To: PCD_OneSeattleCompPlan <OneSeattleCompPlan@seattle.gov>

Cc: Strauss, Dan <Dan.Strauss@seattle.gov>; Strauss, Dan <Dan.Strauss@seattle.gov>; Nelson, Sara <Sara.Nelson@seattle.gov>; Harrell, Bruce <Bruce.Harrell@seattle.gov>; Bakker, Patricia <Patricia.Bakker@seattle.gov>; Woo, Tanya <Tanya.Woo@seattle.gov>; treesandpeoplepacificwest.com <treesandpeople@pacificwest.com>; Rivera, Maritza <Maritza.Rivera@seattle.gov>; Morales, Tammy <Tammy.Morales@seattle.gov>; Moore, Cathy <Cathy.Moore@seattle.gov>; Kettle, Robert <Robert.Kettle@seattle.gov>; SeattleUFC8@protonmail.com

Subject: Seattle's Plans for Growth - but strikes urban tree canopy provisions!

CAUTION: External Email

The Mayor's Office, the Office of Planning and Community Development, and the Office of Sustainability & Environment have sacrificed future generations from a climate resilient urban forest with natural habitats like we currently enjoy. But if Seattle follows Portland Oregon's good example and allocate adequate space WITHIN privately owned residential properties, then we may achieve healthy communities and adding 150,000 households within the next 20 years.

At present, and as stated publicly in May 2023 session by former city Council-member, Lisa Herbold, the "175,000 additionally regulated trees" (considered under new SMC 25.11, but NOT protected during development), will be removed on Seattle's typical development lots 6,000 sq ft and smaller.

The One Seattle Plan bakes the city into a 'green-light' tree removal planning policy by ignoring where most of Seattle's canopy exists within Private land. Look at the 2021 Seattle canopy report and do the simple math on acres of exposed verses canopy land. There is simply not enough land area within parks and streets and public natural areas to compensate for Seattle's average net loss of 50 acres of canopy per year. The report affirmed that development has resulted in an average developed lot canopy loss of 39.8%. That trend will only increase with the One Seattle plan and 2023 tree removal ordinance.

Seattle's 2035 Comprehensive Plan currently requires our City to

...“strive to increase citywide tree canopy coverage to 30 percent by 2037

and to 40 percent over time.” The “One Seattle Plan” now proposes to remove this policy. Why?

2. ...“promote the care and retention of trees and groups of trees that enhance Seattle's historical, cultural, recreational, environmental, and aesthetic character.” The “One Seattle Plan” now proposes to remove this policy. Why?

3. ...“develop regulations that minimize lot clearing and ensure creative designs to retain mature trees.” The “One Seattle Plan” now

proposes to
remove this policy. The 2023 City Council removed these
code provision. Why?

Please review the current problem... and a few solutions...
within the attached pdf.

- ✿ No, trees cannot 'grow inside buildings', as one OPCD staff joked years ago.
- ✿ No, trees within lowrise residential areas just can't be 'planted someplace else', as another OPCD staff testified to the Seattle Deputy Hearing Examiner in 2022.
- ✿ Seattle needs about 100,000 medium and large trees planted today... within sufficient land area... in order to achieve a 30% equitable citywide canopy cover by 2037 (as we planned back in 2007.)
- ✿ We can do it! But it will not happen by itself.
- ✿ The only way to strategically plan for a balance of both trees and people, is to document an implementation plan in place that designates an area for each!

Yes, the [Trees and People Coalition](#) would enjoy **working with your team** and the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission in developing healthy future communities that build upward, and shares the responsibility for a sustainable future between public land and private development! We are all obligated to future generations to achieve climate resilience together.

Warmly, and getting warmer each year within a changing world,

David Moehring AIA NCARB
Trees and People Coalition

Sent: Thursday, April 04, 2024 at 4:16 PM
From: "Councilmember Maritza Rivera"
<maritza.rivera@seattle.gov>
To: dmoehring@consultant.com
Subject: Seattle's Plans for Growth

-----Original Message-----

From: kevinorme <kevinorme@protonmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, April 11, 2024 7:27 AM

To: LEG_CouncilMembers <council@seattle.gov>; Harrell, Bruce <Bruce.Harrell@seattle.gov>

Cc: Emery, Adiam <Adiam.Emery@seattle.gov>; Burgess, Tim <Tim.Burgess@seattle.gov>; Farrell, Jessyn <Jessyn.Farrell@seattle.gov>; Caulfield, Michelle <Michelle.Caulfield@seattle.gov>; Bakker, Patricia <Patricia.Bakker@seattle.gov>; DOT_SeattleTrees <Seattle.Trees@seattle.gov>; Wong, Greg <Greg.Wong@seattle.gov>; Nelson, Sara <Sara.Nelson@seattle.gov>; Um, Taemin <Taemin.Um@seattle.gov>; Ellis, Steven <Steven.Ellis@seattle.gov>; Hollingsworth, Joy <Joy.Hollingsworth@seattle.gov>; Kettle, Robert <Robert.Kettle@seattle.gov>; Morales, Tammy <Tammy.Morales@seattle.gov>; Rivera, Maritza <Maritza.Rivera@seattle.gov>; Strauss, Dan <Dan.Strauss@seattle.gov>; Moore, Cathy <Cathy.Moore@seattle.gov>; Eder, Dan <Dan.Eder@seattle.gov>; Ko, Elaine <Elaine.Ko@seattle.gov>; Marx, Heather <Heather.Marx@seattle.gov>; Gheisar, Leyla <Leyla.Gheisar@seattle.gov>; Turla, Alexis <Alexis.Turla@seattle.gov>; Carey, Imani <imani.carey@seattle.gov>; Chow, Evelyn <Evelyn.Chow@seattle.gov>; Bowers, Logan <Logan.Bowers@seattle.gov>; Altshuler, Alex <Alex.Altshuler@seattle.gov>; Sykes, Wendy <Wendy.Sykes@seattle.gov>; Maxwell, Sasha <Sasha.Maxwell@seattle.gov>; Thoreson, Hannah <Hannah.Thoreson@seattle.gov>; Aldrich, Newell <Newell.Aldrich2@seattle.gov>; Enbysk, Amy <Amy.Enbysk@seattle.gov>; Hoffman, Kate <Kate.Hoffman@seattle.gov>; Rodriguez, Anthony <Anthony.Rodriguez@seattle.gov>; Smith, Steven (LEG) <Steven.Smith@seattle.gov>; Duran, Rebecca <Rebecca.Duran@seattle.gov>; Lo, Brent <Brent.Lo@seattle.gov>; Mohn, Jeremy <Jeremy.Mohn@seattle.gov>; Silvernail, Devin <Devin.Silvernail@seattle.gov>; Beckerman, Melisa <Melisa.Beckerman@seattle.gov>; Lewis, Naomi <Naomi.Lewis@seattle.gov>

Subject: Personal odyssey to a green city - Portland, OR

CAUTION: External Email

"Portland's dedication to creating a sustainable city with an expanded tree canopy creates a culture that conveys their environmental responsibility, setting a precedent for other cities in the USA and around the globe....."

"It is undeniable that living in harmony with nature soars the creative spark within us, filling us with enthusiasm and energy. We truly felt that spiritual impulse."

<https://medium.com/@dinushi.urbanforests/personal-odyssey-to-a-green-city-0789269400d4>

kevin orme
Seattle

-----Original Message-----

From: kevinorme <kevinorme@protonmail.com>

Sent: Friday, April 12, 2024 6:35 AM

To: LEG_CouncilMembers <council@seattle.gov>; Harrell, Bruce <Bruce.Harrell@seattle.gov>

Cc: Emery, Adiam <Adiam.Emery@seattle.gov>; Burgess, Tim <Tim.Burgess@seattle.gov>; Farrell, Jessyn <Jessyn.Farrell@seattle.gov>; Caulfield, Michelle <Michelle.Caulfield@seattle.gov>; Bakker, Patricia <Patricia.Bakker@seattle.gov>; DOT_SeattleTrees <Seattle.Trees@seattle.gov>; Wong, Greg <Greg.Wong@seattle.gov>; Nelson, Sara <Sara.Nelson@seattle.gov>; Um, Taemin <Taemin.Um@seattle.gov>; Ellis, Steven <Steven.Ellis@seattle.gov>; Hollingsworth, Joy <Joy.Hollingsworth@seattle.gov>; Kettle, Robert <Robert.Kettle@seattle.gov>; Morales, Tammy <Tammy.Morales@seattle.gov>; Rivera, Maritza <Maritza.Rivera@seattle.gov>; Strauss, Dan <Dan.Strauss@seattle.gov>; Moore, Cathy <Cathy.Moore@seattle.gov>; Eder, Dan <Dan.Eder@seattle.gov>; Ko, Elaine <Elaine.Ko@seattle.gov>; Marx, Heather <Heather.Marx@seattle.gov>; Gheisar, Leyla <Leyla.Gheisar@seattle.gov>; Turla, Alexis

<Alexis.Turla@seattle.gov>; Carey, Imani <imani.carey@seattle.gov>; Chow, Evelyn <Evelyn.Chow@seattle.gov>; Bowers, Logan <Logan.Bowers@seattle.gov>; Altshuler, Alex <Alex.Altshuler@seattle.gov>; Sykes, Wendy <Wendy.Sykes@seattle.gov>; Maxwell, Sasha <Sasha.Maxwell@seattle.gov>; Thoreson, Hannah <Hannah.Thoreson@seattle.gov>; Aldrich, Newell <Newell.Aldrich2@seattle.gov>; Enbysk, Amy <Amy.Enbysk@seattle.gov>; Hoffman, Kate <Kate.Hoffman@seattle.gov>; Rodriguez, Anthony <Anthony.Rodriguez@seattle.gov>; Smith, Steven (LEG) <Steven.Smith@seattle.gov>; Duran, Rebecca <Rebecca.Duran@seattle.gov>; Lo, Brent <Brent.Lo@seattle.gov>; Mohn, Jeremy <Jeremy.Mohn@seattle.gov>; Silvernail, Devin <Devin.Silvernail@seattle.gov>; Beckerman, Melisa <Melisa.Beckerman@seattle.gov>; Lewis, Naomi <Naomi.Lewis@seattle.gov>
Subject: Urban forest carbon credits: Can they make cities cooler?

CAUTION: External Email

"A declining number of trees in urban areas has created 'heat islands' in many cities, where temperatures are far higher than in other suburbs....

Bigger trees create larger credits as they can pull more CO2 out of the atmosphere."

- the lesson is, SAVE OUR BIG TREES! You cannot plant your way to tree canopy without protecting our big trees.

Urban forest carbon credits: Can they make cities cooler?

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2022/09/urban-forest-carbon-credit-climate-change-trees/>

kevin orme
Seattle

From: MICHAEL OXMAN <michaeloxman@comcast.net>

Sent: Friday, April 12, 2024 11:25 AM

To: David Moehring <dmoehring@consultant.com>; Bakker, Patricia <Patricia.Bakker@seattle.gov>; Becca Neumann <ufc.pos4@gmail.com>; Josh Morris <joshm@birdsconnectsea.org>; ufclandsscape@gmail.com

Cc: sshettler@msn.com; Steve Zemke <stevezemke@msn.com>; SDOT_LA Seattle <SDOT_LA@seattle.gov>; Saka, Rob <Rob.Saka@seattle.gov>

Subject: Re: Canopy Potential in Seattle and pulled Director's Rule 11-2023

CAUTION: External Email

Dear Urban Forestry Commissioners,

Please implement the attached 2008 Statement of Legislative Intent to take a tree census composed of individual trees. The city's official canopy analysis does not identify individual trees. Canopy is defined only as street addresses of leaves on top of trees, which does not allow for good management decisions. Just because photos are cheap, does not mean that the intent of the SLI is being fulfilled. The bait-and-switch from database to aerial photos of the canopy does not account for qualitative factors such as species size, or condition.

Thanks for accepting my public comment.

Michael Oxman
ISA Certified Arborist #PN-0756A
(206) 949-8733

On 04/12/2024 8:46 AM PDT David Moehring <dmoehring@consultant.com> wrote:

Dear Patti and the Urban Forestry Commission chairs,

With an [Urban Forestry Management Plan](#) last updated in 2020, and a One Seattle draft which appears to have removed all references to tree canopy within private property, has the Urban Forestry Commission considered applying their recommendations on:

1) Impacts to the assumed mayor's request to **withdrawal of SDCI Director's Rule 11-2023** (see attached Compare Tree Area for difference of calculated tree are in development applications before and after 2023 changes fo SMC 25.11);

and

2) UFC earlier recommendations to study Seattle's acres of **tree canopy potential** within the different urban management units... especially within parks and street/alley right-of-ways (see below from Portland, OR). Perhaps the proportions of canopy actual to canopy potential from Portland would be applicable to Seattle... being similar.

Thank you,
David Moehring AIA NCARB
Past Urban Forestry Commissioner

Tree Canopy Potential
<https://www.portland.gov/trees/documents/tree-canopy-and-potential-2018/download>

from
<https://www.portland.gov/trees/tree-canopy-forest-management>

David Moehring
312-965-0634