

Seattle Urban Forestry Commission

Peg Staeheli, Chair • Tom Early, Vice-Chair

Gordon Bradley • Leif Fixen • Donna Kostka • Jeff Reibman • Erik Rundell • Steve Zemke

DRAFT

June 23, 2014.

Councilmember Sally Bagshaw
Seattle City Hall
600 4th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98124

Dear Councilmember Bagshaw,

In 2009, City Council issued Resolution 31138 instructing "...the Department of Planning and Development to submit legislation by May 2010 to establish a comprehensive set of regulations and incentives to limit the removal of trees and promote the retention and addition of trees within the City of Seattle on both private and public property..."

We would like to reiterate the statement made by the Commission in its August 2010 recommendation: Bold action is needed to achieve Seattle's tree canopy coverage goal of 30% by 2037. And because the majority of trees in Seattle are in residential property, an updated tree ordinance is a key to implement the 2013 Urban Forest Stewardship Plan goals.

DPD released a proposal on July, 2010. It is now four years later and DPD is still working on a tree ordinance for trees on private property.

We urge you to encourage DPD to resume work on this important element of a comprehensive urban forestry strategy for Seattle.

Sincerely,



Peg Staeheli, Chair
Urban Forestry Commission

cc: Mayor Ed Murray, Council President Burgess, Councilmember Clark, Councilmember Godden, Councilmember Harrell, Councilmember Licata, Councilmember Rasmussen, Councilmember O'Brien, Councilmember Sawant, Jill Simmons, Diane Sugimura, Brennon Staley, Eric McConaghy

Sandra Pinto de Bader, Urban Forestry Commission Coordinator
City of Seattle, Office of Sustainability & Environment
PO Box 94729 Seattle, WA 98124-4729 Tel: 206-684-3194 Fax: 206-684-3013
www.seattle.gov/UrbanForestryCommission