



City of Seattle
Urban Forestry Commission

Julia Michalak (Position #1 – Wildlife Biologist), Co-chair
 Joshua Morris (Position #7 – NGO), Co-Chair
 Elby Jones (Position #2 – Urban Ecologist - ISA) • Weston Brinkley (Position #3 – University)
 Stuart Niven (Position #5 – Arborist – ISA) • David Moehring (Position # 8 – Development)
 Blake Voorhees (Position # 9 – Realtor) • Jessica Hernandez (Position #11 – Environmental Justice)
 Jessica Jones (Position # 12 – Public Health)

2022 Work Plan

Adopted March 2022

2022 Priority Action Areas:

1. Advise City on tree and urban forest protection ordinance update	4. Climate change issues and impacts
2. Incorporate RSJI principles into UFC work	5. Support Comprehensive Plan update
3. Urban Forestry-related Statements of Legislative Intent	6. Community engagement/education

The Urban Forestry Commission's work for 2022 is organized in five focus areas; tree-related City regulations and policies, urban forestry funding, outreach and engagement, Seattle Comprehensive Plan 2024 update, and internal operations. The following five worksheets contain the topics and actions, and their related tracking information, for each of these focus areas. The topic areas are arranged in order according to priority. Then within each topic area, actions are prioritized from 1 to 3, using criteria including urgency/timeliness and topic importance. All work of the Commission is conducted with the lenses of the impacts to and importance of environmental justice and climate change

1. Tree-related City Regulations/Policies

Topic Area/Action	Priority Level	UFC Lead	UFC Additional	Other Parties Involved	Start Date	Outcome/Deliverable	Response Tracking	Status
1.1 Urban Forestry Statements of Legislative Intent								
1.1.1 UF Consolidation SLI - Participate in deliberative sessions with City staff and Council around urban forestry consolidation	1	Weston	Stuart		TBD	Coordination/relationship		
1.1.2 Chief Arborist SLI - Participate in deliberative sessions with City staff	1	Weston	Stuart		TBD	Recommendations		
1.2 Advise City on tree and urban forest protection ordinance update								
1.2.1 Participate in deliberative sessions on Tree and Urban Forest Protection Ordinance update	1	Stuart			Q2	Recommendations		
1.2.2 Provide input to SDCI regarding payment-in-lieu as mitigation	1	Stuart			Q2	Recommendations		
1.2.3 Review and provide input on legislation dealing with zoning that can affect urban forestry	2	TBD			TBD	Recommendations		
1.2.4 Reviewing and advising on tree loss data as it becomes available	2	David	Julia		TBD	Recommendations		
1.3 Advise the City on urban forestry policies								
1.3.1 Review climate change issues and impacts, and identify areas for UFC involvement and action	1	Julia			TBD	Issue/project monitoring		
1.3.1.1 Engage with Green New Deal Oversight Board	2	Julia, Laura			Q3	Coordination/relationship		
1.3.2 Explore opportunities for tree planting in industrial areas: Port of Seattle, Freight Advisory	3	TBD			TBD	Recommendations		

2. Funding for Urban Forestry

Topic Area/Action	Priority Level	UFC Lead	UFC Additional	Other Parties Involved	Start Date	Outcome/Deliverable	Response Tracking	Status
2.1 City budget tracking								
2.1.1 Engage with city budget process during development	2	Josh			Spring	Recommendations		
2.1.2 Provide feedback on draft city budget	2	Josh			November	Recommendations		
2.2 Encourage City to allocate necessary budget to implement new tree ordinance								
2.2.1 Confirm budget needs for ordinance implementation	2	TBD			TBD	Recommendations		
2.2.2 Include in city budget recommendations	2	TBD			TBD	Recommendations		
2.3 Green Seattle Partnership use of funds and reimagining process								
2.3.1 Receive annual briefing from GSP/SPR staff	2	Patti			TBD	Issue/project monitoring		
2.4 Trees for Seattle program update								
2.4.1 Receive annual briefing	2	Patti			TBD	Issue/project monitoring		

3. Outreach and Engagement

Topic Area/Action	Priority Level	UFC Lead	UFC Additional	Other Parties Involved	Start Date	Outcome/Deliverable	Response Tracking	Status
3.1 City Council and Mayor's Office interaction: Hold meetings with Council and Mayor's Office								
3.1.1 Hold meetings with Council and Mayor's Office	2	Josh	Stuart		1/1/2022	Coordination/relationship		
3.2 Community engagement/education								
3.2.1 Intentionally expand the diversity of voices the UFC engages with. Expressly seek out underrepresented communities that have not been historically at the table.	1	Jessica H.			TBD	Coordination/relationship		
3.2.2 Develop info sheet to respond to community inquiries/communications					TBD	Other external product		
3.2.2.1 Break down the conversation of trees vs. X (gentrification, development vs. trees, affordable housing, etc.)	2	Weston			TBD	Other external product		
3.2.3 Meet with community groups to engage in dialogue about the importance of trees, the UFC role, and community interests/priorities (Key Arena redevelopment, tree protection ordinance update, development and real estate community)	3	TBD			TBD	Coordination/relationship		
3.2.4 Draft recommendations for updating the UFC website	3	Josh			TBD			
3.3 Race and Social Justice Initiative								
3.3.1 Incorporate RSJI principles into UFC work	1	Jessica H.			TBD	Internal product		
3.3.1.1 Equity and Diversity Committee meet (monthly?) to identify opportunities and make ongoing recommendations to the UFC, with intended outcomes for the group to become more inclusive and equitable in its membership and work,	1		Julia, Josh, Laura		TBD	Recommendations		
3.4 Internal Engagement								
3.4.1 Align UF IDT and UFC's work plan (Hold annual joint UFC/IDT meeting)	3	Patti		UFC/IDT members	TBD	Coordination/relationship		
3.4.2 Develop annual calendar to invite City Departments to brief the UFC	2	Patti, Julia, Josh			1/1/2022	Coordination/relationship		
3.4.3 Advise UF staff regarding canopy cover assessment work	2	Julia			3/22	Recommendations		
3.5 Engagement with Community Organizations and Urban Forestry Partners								
3.5.1 Incorporate integrated perspective (including public health)	3	TBD		TBD	TBD	Coordination/relationship		
3.5.2 Identify opportunities to engage with landowners	3	TBD		TBD	TBD	Coordination/relationship		

4. Seattle Comprehensive Plan 2024 Update

Topic Area/Action	Priority Level	UFC Lead	UFC Additional	Other Parties Involved	Start Date	Outcome/Deliverable	Response Tracking	Status
4.1 Support Comprehensive Plan update: Engage with planning team, provide review of and input to draft plan								
4.1.1 Track update process	1	Julia		OPCD	TBD	Issue/project monitoring		
4.1.2 Schedule briefings at appropriate intervals	1	Julia		OPCD	TBD	Recommendations		
4.1.3 Participate in deliberative sessions with update team	1	Julia		OPCD	TBD	Recommendations		

5. Internal Operations

Topic Area/Action	Priority Level	UFC Lead	UFC Additional	Other Parties Involved	Start Date	Outcome/Deliverable	
5.1 Issue 2021 Annual Report	3	Patti			January	Other external product	
5.2 Create 2022 work plan	3	Patti, Josh, Julia			January	Internal product	
5.3 Participate in interviews for UFC members recruitment	3	Patti, Julia, Josh			January	Internal product	
5.4 Hold Chair and Vice-chair elections	3	Patti			December	Internal product	