

# Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services/Tree Board

April 24, 2014



### Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Board 2014 Meeting Schedule

Date:	Time	Location:
May 22	7:00 p.m.	Shoreline City Hall, Room 302
June 26	7:00 p.m.	Shoreline City Hall, Room 303
July 24	6:00 p.m.	Annual Tour of Parks and Facilities
August 28	7:00 p.m.	Shoreline City Hall, Room 303
September 25	7:00 p.m.	Shoreline City Hall, Room 303
October 23	7:00 p.m.	Shoreline City Hall, Room 303
December 4	7:00 p.m.	Shoreline City Hall Room 303



# AGENDA PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES/TREE BOARD REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, April 24, 2014 7:00 p.m.

Room 303 · Shoreline City Hall 17500 Midvale Ave North

		Estimated Time		
1.	CALL TO ORDER/ATTENDANCE		7:00	
2.	APPROVAL OF AGENDA	Action	7:05	
3.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES	Action	7:06	
4.	PUBLIC COMMENT		7:08	
	During General Public Comment, members of the public may sign in to address the Board of topic for three minutes or less, depending on the number of people wishing to speak. PRCS/I audio recorded and available to the public.			
5.	COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD		7:10	
6.	STAFF REPORT		7:15	
7.	DIRECTOR'S REPORT City Council Dinner Meeting Discussion on April 28		7:30	
8.	PACIFIC NW WILDLIFE HABITAT Chris Anderson, State Department of Fish & Wildlife Biologist		7:40	
9.	URBAN FOREST STRATEGIC PLAN DRAFT APPROVAL	Action	8:10	
10.	<ul> <li>ART COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS</li> <li>Piano Time</li> <li>From the Ground Up</li> <li>Sculpture Stroll</li> <li>Sunset School Park Entryway</li> </ul>	Action	8:30	
11.	COMMUNITY GARDEN COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS	Action	8:45	
12.	ADJOURN		9:00	

The PRCS/Tree Board meeting is wheelchair accessible. Any person requiring a disability accommodation should contact the City Clerk's Office at 801-2230 in advance for more information. For TTY telephone service call 546-0457.

#### **Dates to Remember**

#### **City Council Dinner Meeting with PRCS Board**

Date: 04/28/2014 5:45 PM - 7:00 PM

#### **World Dance Party**

Free Event - bring Potluck

• Date: 05/02/2014 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM

#### How to Build a Rain Garden

Presented by Diggin' Shoreline

• Date: 05/03/2014 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

• Location: Ruby Urban Farm

#### ShoreDog and Shoreline Off-Leash Dog Area User Meeting

Date: 05/06/2014 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

• Location: City Hall Room 301

#### Shoreview Off-Leash Dog Area Volunteer Work Party

Date: 05/10/2014 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

• Location: Shoreview OLDA



#### Meeting Minutes for the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Board / Tree Board Regular Meeting

March 27, 2014 Shoreline City Hall 7:00 p.m. Room 303

#### 1. Call to Order/Attendance

The meeting was called to order by Chair Beth at 7:02 p.m.

Park Board Members Present: Katie Beth, Jesse Sycuro, John Hoey, Christine Southwick, Al Wagar, Garry Lingerfelt, Vadim Dolgov

Excused absence: Kevin McAuliffe (resignation accepted March 7, 2014), Betsy Robertson

City Staff Present: Dick Deal, Director; Maureen Colaizzi, Parks Projects Coordinator; Kirk Peterson, Parks Maintenance Superintendent; Mary Reidy, Recreation Superintendent; Lynn Gabrieli, Administrative Assistant III

Mr. Deal introduced Mr. Wagar and explained the process by which he was appointed by the City Council to fill Mr. McAuliffe's unexpired term. Mr. Wagar and the Board members exchanged words of introduction.

- 2. Approval of Agenda: Chair Beth called for a motion to approve the agenda as written. Mr. Deal requested the movement of the Wayfinding agenda item above the Urban Forest Strategic Plan. So moved by Ms. Southwick and seconded by Mr. Sycuro. The motion carried.
- 3. Approval of Minutes: Chair Beth called for the motion to approve the February, 2014 minutes as written. So moved by Mr. Hoey and seconded by Ms. Southwick. The motion carried.

#### 4. Public Comment

Jane Kiker, legal counsel for the Innis Arden Club Board: The February 7, 2014 letter to the Board by Eglick Kiker Whited PLLC located on the <u>Urban Forest Strategic Plan website</u> under "Additional Feedback" is missing a page. The complete document was submitted to the Administrative Assistant. It will replace the current online version. She explained the Club's practice of forest management through environmental stewardship, replanting, and reforestation in reserves and advocated for the existing street tree list and the current tree replacement policy.

Suzanne Pardee, Shoreline: The Urban Forest Strategic Plan does not address global warming. She advocated for preserving and inventorying large conifers in Shoreline.

#### 5. Comments from the Board

Mr. Deal provided a context for the development of a strategy to preserve and enhance the Urban Forest. He applauded the urban forest practices of Innis Arden in their reserves.

#### 6. Staff Reports

Kirk Peterson, Parks Maintenance Superintendent

- Parks has hired a certified arborist to fill the new Parks Maintenance Worker II position;
- Baseball tournaments begin this week;
- Staff is replacing/repairing electrical systems in the parks for the coming ball season;
- The habitat restoration plan at Twin Ponds Park includes the planting of over 200 replacement trees;
- Neighbors at Twin Ponds have complained about woody debris from downed trees intentionally left as wildlife habitat. Staff will meet with residents to reach an agreement. The Board suggested signage and community education;
- The gate at Kayu Kayu Ac Park has a broken weld. Ros Bird, Public Art Coordinator, is working with the artist on a repair.

#### Mary Reidy, Recreation Superintendent

- Spring/Summer registration opened on April 24;
- April Pool's Day on April 12 is a free water safety event;
- The City of Shoreline is a popular provider of specialized recreation programs;
- The Youth and Teen Development Program encourages a mix of activities and guided introspection;
- An online survey is available to collect feedback about online registration.

#### Maureen Colaizzi, Park Development Coordinator

- Sunset School Park Community Garden will open on April 1. A dedication is scheduled for April 5.
- Echo Lake goes out to bid on April 15.

#### 7. Director's Report

- a. Community Garden Update--Two Board-appointed Leadership teams are providing enthusiastic leadership to both gardens. The City is maintaining a wait list.
- b. New Park Maintenance Worker II Position—Mr. Deal explained the historical use of extra help staff in the maintenance division. The new position reduces this demand.
- c. Extra Help Staff Discussion with City Council— the City Council is considering the implications of raising the minimum wage of City employees to \$15 per hour. Parks is the largest user of part-time extra help staff who would be affected. The issue will be discussed by the Council on Monday evening, March 31, 2014.
- d. Staff Performance Evaluation Process—Staff is in the second year of implementing a new performance evaluation system.

#### 8. Unfinished Business

#### Wayfinding Signage Strategy Update

Noel H, Capital Project Manager for the City of Shoreline, presented the final draft of the City Wayfinding Regional Trail Signage Project as found in the packet. Chair Beth called for a motion to approve the draft as presented. So moved by Mr. Sycuro and seconded by Ms. Southwick. The motion carried.

Urban Forest Strategic Plan, Consultant Elizabeth Walker

Ms. Walker reviewed the Plan in its entirety as found in the online packet. The Board identified the need for a communications plan between the City and the citizens related to public and private trees and the role of the Tree Board. The public will have another opportunity to comment on the draft at the April 8 Open House. The Council will discuss the Plan at the April 28 dinner meeting. The PRCS Board will be asked to approve the plan on April 24. The Board requested a working copy prior to April 24.

Chair Beth called for a motion to extend the meeting to 9:00 p.m. So moved by Ms. Southwick and seconded by Mr. Lingerfelt. The motion carried.

Adjournment Hearing no further business Chair Beth called for the motion to adjourn. So moved by Mr. Wagar and seconded by Mr. Sycuro. The March meeting of the PRCS/Tree Board adjourned at 8:41 p.m.						
Signature of Chair Katie Beth	 Date	Signature of Minute Writer Lynn Gabrieli	 Date			



#### Memorandum

**DATE:** April 18, 2014

**TO:** Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services/Tree Board

**FROM:** Dick Deal, Director

**RE:** Urban Wildlife Discussion

**CC:** PRCS Staff

Chris Anderson from the State of Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife will be joining us for a discussion on urban wildlife in our community. Chris is a wildlife biologist and will share with us the type of wildlife that is present in Shoreline and what we can do in our park system and community to provide habitat to encourage small mammals and birds to live and thrive in our parks and open spaces. This discussion may provide information that can be implemented in the action steps for some of the priorities for the Urban Forest Strategic Plan.

The department currently does some things to encourage wildlife by leaving snags and downed woody debris, but it will be important for us to learn what else we could be doing to provide habitat and food sources.

This is intended to be a roundtable discussion where we can all share and learn. A big thanks to Mr. Anderson for taking the time to join us and I look forward to a good discussion.



#### Memorandum

**DATE:** April 17, 2014

**TO:** Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services/Tree Board

**FROM:** Maureen Colaizzi, Park Project Coordinator

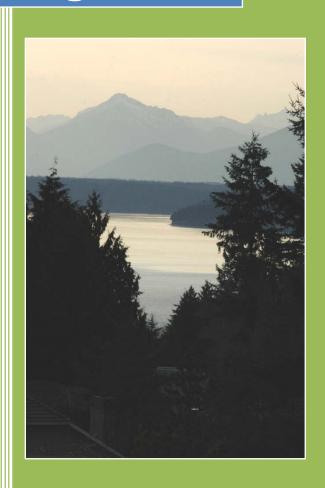
**RE:** Draft Urban Forest Strategic Plan Update

Terra Firma Consulting has made a few revisions based on the discussion at the last PRCS Board meeting and public comments received from the April open house. Attached is a revised draft Urban Forest Strategic Plan dated 4-17-14 for your final review and approval at the April meeting. The following minor revisions have been made:

- Modified the heading of first criterion of Vegetative Resource to "Canopy Cover" and added a paragraph in section distinguishing average and relative canopy cover.
- Bolded all the criteria headings and indicated the priorities with an asterisk instead (included in the intro paragraph this notation).
- In the body of the report, made edits throughout to make clear of the strategies for public trees.
- In the body of the report, changed the first key objective to "Maintain" instead of "Achieve" (and in the executive summary and conclusion), since the city is meeting the goal.
- In the report included "view protection" as one of the community values to consider for livability of community (top of p. 10)
- In Appendix C, moved up the stewardship framework with land managers to a short-term strategy.
- In Appendix C, moved up the education component for tree protection (and care) to a short-term strategy.
- In Appendix D, spelled out the acronyms.
- Lastly, the discussion at the March meeting was to create a communication plan once the UFSP is adopted in May to create clear messaging about the UFSP, the role of the Tree Board and short term implementation of the plan. Staff will begin this communication plan in May.



## Urban Forest Strategic Plan



**DRAFT** 

April 17, 2014

#### **Acknowledgments**

#### **Shoreline City Council:**

Mayor Shari Winstead, Deputy Mayor Chris Eggen, Will Hall, Doris McConnell, Keith McGlashan, Chris Roberts, and Jesse Salomon

#### Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services / Tree Board:

Chair: Katie Beth, Vice-Chair: Jesse Sycuro, John Hoey, Garry Lingerfelt, Betsy Robertson, Christine Southwick, Al Wagar and Vadim Dolgov

#### **Staff Advisory Team:**

**Debbie Tarry, City Manager** 

Dick Deal, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services

Kirk Peterson, Park Maintenance Superintendent

Maureen Colaizzi, Parks Project Coordinator

#### **Technical Advisor:**

**Elizabeth Walker, Terra Firma Consulting** 

#### **Vision**

Shoreline's urban forest is a healthy and cohesive ecosystem that is valued and cared for through community stewardship.

#### Mission

Shoreline is dedicated to protect and manage the vibrant urban forest to enhance its benefit to the environment and its contribution to the livability of the community today and for generations to come.



The nation behaves well if it treats its natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased, and not impaired, in value.

- Theodore Roosevelt

#### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**Executive Summary** 

Introduction

The Urban Forest as a Natural Resource

**Assessment of the Current Urban Forest** 

**Strategic Planning Process** 

**Vision & Mission Statements** 

**Identified Key Priorities** 

**Shoreline's Urban Forestry Goals & Strategies** 

- A. Vegetative Resource
- **B.** Resource Management
- C. Community Framework

**Summary of Strategies** 

**Next Steps - Initial Implementation** 

Conclusion

#### **APPENDICES:**

**Appendix A - Urban Forest Benefits** 

Appendix B - Shoreline's Urban Forest Sustainability Matrix

**Appendix C - Shoreline's Strategies with Timeline & Budget** 

Appendix D - Shoreline's Initial Strategies for Key Priorities

**Appendix E - References** 

Appendix F - Public Comment from Open House & Online Forum

#### **Executive Summary**

Shoreline is a community that has a passion around its urban forest. Realizing it is a valued asset that needs to be taken care of, the City needed direction on how to build a sustainable urban forestry program. Through a guided process considering all aspects and components of an initiative, City staff, the Shoreline Tree Board, and interested citizens developed a comprehensive set of goals for urban forestry. Of the key objectives, Shoreline identified these priorities to focus short-term strategies:

- Maintain climate-appropriate degree of tree cover community-wide
- Establish a diverse tree population suitable for the urban environment and adapted to the region
- Acquire a comprehensive understanding of the public tree resource to direct its management
- Implement a comprehensive urban forest management plan for public trees
- Develop and maintain adequate staff and funding to implement a city-wide urban forestry program
- Citizens understand and cooperate in urban forest management, recognizing the urban forest as vital to Shoreline's environmental, social, and economic well-being

With a clear vision of where the City wants to go, several strategies have been provided in this plan to develop the road map. Many are suggested as short-term tasks and relatively cost-effective in moving Shoreline toward a city urban forestry program. The success of the plan heavily relies on support of these strategies by both the City decision makers and the community. Adequate funding and resources committed to a program are critical to move forward and cultivate a more sustainable urban forest. In an effort to continue the momentum, the City is seeking ways to begin implementing a number of the critical strategies and further develop a program and budget proposal as soon as possible.

#### Introduction

There are many definitions for an *urban forest*, but it most commonly refers to all the trees and associated vegetation in a community. Often trees are planted as individuals in the suburban and urban environment, though many preserved natural areas in a city have remnant native forests. Vegetation in residential and commercial landscapes also contributes to the urban forest. Therefore, a healthy urban forest is best managed as an entire forest ecosystem.

Like other progressive municipalities, Shoreline has a goal to better manage its urban forest. The City emphasized its commitment by becoming a Tree City USA in 2012. Currently the City has thousands of trees that provide tremendous benefit and have high value, but no cohesive plan for managing these assets. Realizing its limited resources, the City sought assistance in developing a strategic plan toward a more sustainable urban forestry program. With a grant from the Washington State Department of Natural Resources, in partnership with the USDA Forest Service, the City will have a clear direction for a more effective and cost-efficient management of public trees and urban forest. Terra Firma Consulting was contracted to work with City staff and the Tree Board to develop a strategic plan that addresses how to manage and maintain public trees and lead the City to more specific action plans and budgets over time.

An urban forest strategic plan is a living document that basically outlines where Shoreline wants to go regarding its urban forest and ideas of how to get there. Part of this plan includes overarching vision and mission statements under which all goals and strategies align. In concert, a sustainable urban forestry model is utilized to demonstrate the comprehensive nature of resource management and to identify the feasible goals to strive for and key priorities in which to focus short-term action steps. The strategic recommendations in the plan are to guide the community over the next 5-10 years regarding planning, management and maintenance of public trees based on the identified goals and priorities. Annual work plans with budget implications would be generated from the strategic plan.

The plan is also intended to help promote a more unified effort to manage the entire urban forest between the City and residents, business owners, utilities, and other tree stewards in the community. Longer term strategies are also laid out to give further direction as the plan evolves and goals are achieved. The foundation of the plan ensures that Shoreline's urban forestry program can become more sustainable over time.

The development of this strategic plan is a collaborative process between City staff, the advisory Tree Board (PRCS Board), and the public, facilitated by an urban forestry consultant. As part of Tree Board development and education on urban forestry for both the staff and the citizens, a sustainable urban forestry matrix is used to guide the conversation and reach collective support for a solid framework for the plan.

#### The Urban Forest as a Natural Resource

The City of Shoreline understands that it needs to better manage its trees and urban forest. Both staff and community make the connection that it's prudent to manage trees as <u>assets</u> because they provide many tangible benefits to the community. Some of the benefits from Shoreline's urban forest\* are:

- Reduces stormwater runoff and erosion
- Provides shade and cooling for fish-bearing streams
- Improves air quality and mitigates wind effects
- Provides wildlife habitat
- Increases property values

Every tree also has a monetary <u>value</u>. For example, if one is damaged by a car crash, there is a landscape value that is considered in its replacement cost. Trees, like other assets, also have <u>maintenance costs</u>, such as pruning young trees for structural integrity or for clearance on roadways and trails. Trees also have public safety <u>liabilities</u> that must be accounted for, for instance, when they get structurally unsafe or die and fall into the road or onto a park trail or sports field. A proactive mitigation program with high risk trees, which includes removal, replacement, and where appropriate, leaving snags, is responsible stewardship of the urban forest.

<sup>\*</sup> For more information, see Appendix A.

#### **Assessment of the Current Urban Forest**

Recently, Shoreline had two important studies done on its urban forest. In 2011, AMEC conducted an assessment of the urban tree canopy cover for Shoreline. In 2013, Community Forestry Consultants performed a street tree inventory on the ten major corridors of the city. Both provided some interesting information about Shoreline's trees:

- The overall tree cover in Shoreline is estimated at 30.6%, an acceptable level to achieve significant ecosystem benefits.
- The average tree cover for Shoreline has remained steady for the last 20 years.
- Trees occupy over half of the possible planting area in the city.
- Over half of the city's area is covered with vegetation (grass, shrub, trees)
- The ecosystem value of the canopy for its stormwater storage capacity (compared to the cost of stormwater facility construction) is \$10.3 million.
- Air pollution removal is estimated at 203,000 lbs annually, which is valued at approximately \$457,000 in indirect costs.
- The 1,602 trees inventoried are estimated to have an appraised value of \$5 million.
- No trees on the ten major corridors were rated high risk.
- Only ten maintenance tasks of "high priority" or "immediate action" were identified.
- Majority of the street tree population (> 94%) on the corridors is in good or fair condition.
- The streetscape on the corridors is fairly well stocked with only 29 planting spaces identified.

#### **Strategic Planning Process**

In order to begin the conversation about a sustainable urban forestry program for the City of Shoreline, an "urban forest sustainability" matrix was used. The three categories - vegetative resource, resource management, and community framework, along with performance indicator spectrum and key objectives, are based on a sustainability model developed by Clark, et al (1997). The criteria in each category are comprehensive in order to demonstrate all the aspects of an urban forestry program to consider when setting goals and priorities.

The matrix was distributed to the internal city Tree Team and the Tree Board (Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Board) to introduce these concepts. Other city staff groups (Green Team and Surface Water Environmental Services) were given the matrix as well. Each recipient was instructed to indicate on the spectrum for each criterion where they see the City is *currently* and which level is the *desired* performance benchmark to achieve for Shoreline. They were also to consider which of the 24 key objectives would be potential top priorities to focus on short-term, all the while understanding that each criterion will be addressed in the strategic plan.

The numerous responses were combined onto one matrix template that was presented to the Tree Board and City staff at a retreat on October 19, 2013. Understandably, there was a broad range of responses to contend with. The entire meeting was devoted to go over each criterion in the three categories in order to reach consensus on both the desired level (goal) and the top objectives (priorities) for the strategic plan to focus on for short-term strategies. There was no discussion on

budget, required resources, or timeline for any of these items, as that will be addressed in the strategic plan. The resulting matrix with the proposed goals and priorities is Appendix B.

The Shoreline Tree Board hosted a public Open House on January 23, 2014 to talk about many aspects of trees. Along with the Street Tree List and Trees in Planning & Development, the three categories of the matrix with proposed benchmarks and priorities and the draft vision statement were on display at separate stations. Board members, City staff, and the consultant were available to discuss the criteria, and the public had several ways during the event to provide input on the proposed framework for the strategic plan.

In addition to the Open House, the City offered opportunity for public comment on the draft Urban Forest Sustainability Matrix and Vision Statement via online until February 7<sup>th</sup>. Comments from both the Open House and the online forum are in Appendix F. The major themes of the feedback were:

- Public tree focus over trees on private property
- Need to balance tree canopy with other values, such as solar access, views, land use, and other landscaping desires
- Native plants have a place and need more emphasis
- The importance of making sure trees are safe (tree risk) needs to be highlighted
- Better coordination of tree work within the city and with other agencies (Seattle City Light)

At the same time, there were a few critical *misunderstandings* about the strategic plan:

- Plan will require an increase in canopy, especially on private property
- Plan will result in more private tree regulations
- Plan will prevent the removal of hazard trees because of tree canopy priority
- Increasing the diversity in the tree population will require removal of existing trees

The public input was very informative and resulted in some changes to both the vision statement and the key objectives. Furthermore, there was great effort to clarify throughout the document that this plan's primary focus is public tree management.

The draft plan was presented to the Tree Board at their March 27, 2014 meeting and at a second Open House on April 8th for further comment, with an open public comment period until April 14th. The limited feedback at this time resulted in "upgrading" a couple strategies to short-term in response to public desire for stewardship planning and education.

The final draft was introduced to City Council on April 28th for final adoption in May.

#### **Vision & Mission Statements**

The City has several established documents and plans that have guided its programs and policies, and at least four of them resonate well with an urban forest strategy. The following language in these plans support the value of an urban forestry program.

#### City of Shoreline Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan (2011)

Provide quality parks, recreation, and cultural services, to promote public health and safety; protect our natural environment; and enhance the quality of life of our community.

#### Shoreline Environmental Sustainability Strategy (2008)

"The City of Shoreline will exemplify and encourage sustainable practices in our operations and in our community by:

- Being stewards of our community's natural resources and environmental assets;
- Promoting development of a green infrastructure for the Shoreline community;..."

#### Shoreline Climate Action Plan (2013)

Preserve urban forests and the multi-layered benefits they provide to the community, including aesthetic appeal that attracts businesses and residents, stormwater management, air quality enhancement, wildlife habitat diversity, and shade from the hot summer sun.

#### City of Shoreline Vision 2029 (2009)

"People are first drawn here by the city's beautiful natural setting and abundant trees."

In addition to considering other City documents for key words, vision statements from Seattle and Vancouver, WA were also reviewed. After some public input, it became apparent that a separate vision and mission statement were needed. To that end, the Tree Board supports the following vision:

Shoreline's urban forest is a healthy and cohesive ecosystem that is valued and cared for through community stewardship.

As mentioned before, the urban forest is considered a compilation of the trees and associated vegetation. The reference of it being an **ecosystem** engenders more of a community of organisms – plants, animals, fungi, microbes – that interact as a dynamic system. Biodiversity, disturbance, and succession are influences to the system. The urban forest is **cohesive** in nature, because it is an assemblage of both native and non-native species crossing public and private property lines making it contiguous and functioning as a system.

**Community stewardship** speaks to active management of the resource, using best practices by City and citizens alike.

For direction, a mission statement was created to capture the commitment and reason for developing on a more sustainable program:

Shoreline is dedicated to protect and manage the vibrant urban forest to enhance its benefit to the environment and its contribution to the livability of the community today and for generations to come.

**Benefit to the environment** refers to the ecological benefits of providing wildlife habitat and shade to fish-bearing creeks as well as performing as air & water pollution filters and mitigation of flooding and erosion.

**Livability of the community** pertains not only to the social and economic benefits the urban forest provides but also the importance to balance with other community values such as solar access, land use, view protection, and gardening.

#### **Identified Key Priorities**

With the work with City staff, the Tree Board, and the feedback from the public, the identified key objectives for the Shoreline Urban Forest Strategic Plan were as follows:

- 1. Achieve climate-appropriate degree of tree cover, community-wide.
  - a. Currently mapped urban tree cover using satellite imagery and included in city-wide GIS.
- 2. Establish a tree population suitable for the urban environment and adapted to the regional environment.
- 3. Comprehensive inventory of the public tree resource to direct its management.
  - a. Detailed understanding of the condition and risk potential of all publicly-managed trees.
  - b. Urban forest renewal is ensured through a comprehensive tree establishment program driven by canopy cover, species diversity, and species/age distribution objectives.
  - c. All public trees are managed with safety as a high priority.
- 4. Develop and implement a comprehensive urban forest management plan for public property.
  - a. The ecological structure and function of all publicly-owned natural areas are protected and, where appropriate, enhanced.
  - b. Preservation and enhancement of local natural biodiversity, where appropriate.
- 5. Develop and maintain adequate funding to implement a city-wide urban forest management plan.
- 6. Employ and train adequate staff to implement city-wide urban forestry plan/program.
  - a. Ensure all city departments and other public agencies cooperate with common urban forestry goals and objectives.
- 7. At the neighborhood level, citizens understand and cooperate in urban forest management.
  - a. The general public understanding the role of the urban forest through education and participation. The urban forest is recognized as vital to Shoreline's environmental, social, and economic well-being.

#### **Shoreline's Urban Forestry Goals & Strategies**

This section explains the criteria in the three categories of a sustainable urban forestry program, states Shoreline's goal for each, and offers some suggested strategies. The criteria with an asterisk (\*) are the identified priorities for the program, and therefore, have strategies that can be done in the near future to progress toward those goals.

#### A. VEGETATIVE RESOURCE

The criteria in this category relate to the composition and condition of the urban forest. The performance indicators range in the level of diversity and known health of the trees across the community. These are generally used as performance benchmarks to assess the effectiveness of resource management and the community framework, the other categories. In general, the major strategies to achieve diversity and health goals are:

- For age diversity, planned regeneration and good management and preservation of the highly valued mature trees in the community.
- For species suitability and distribution, use of a diverse and appropriate species list for all community plantings.
- For a healthier and safer tree population, responsive management to address public hazards and optimize the urban forest's role in community benefits.

#### 1. Canopy Cover\*

The two common ways to consider canopy cover is *average* cover and *relative* cover. As mentioned before, the average canopy cover for Shoreline is almost 31%, which is an acceptable amount of canopy to realize ecosystem benefits. The relative canopy cover refers to the amount of tree canopy cover compared to the amount of **available** planting space. Community forestry experts are realizing that this measurement is a better goal to focus on for resource measurement, especially if the average overall canopy cover is at a healthy level.

As stated in the UTC report (2011), planting spaces are areas where a tree can be planted, as in open ground available to plant. This can be in passive areas of parks, planting strips along streets, even landscape islands in parking lots. Technically, this can be anywhere where there is no impervious surface (roads, rooftops, etc.), but certain land uses, such as ball fields and golf courses would not be reasonable areas to include in the potential.

From the Urban Tree Canopy Assessment Project, they estimated the following percentages of existing and potential cover by area:

Total Acres of land in Shoreline – 7,412 Acres of existing tree canopy – 2,264 (30.6%); 2,126 in pervious space (28.7%) Acres not suitable (buildings, roads, required impervious) – 2,960 (40%) Acres w/potential for tree canopy (excluding ball fields, golf course fairways, etc.) – 1,853 (25%)

If adjusted for land use, the realistic available space (un-treed) is 1,853 acres. Combining that with the 2,126 acres of existing canopy, the total acreage of potential tree cover for the city is nearly 4,000 acres. Therefore, the existing tree canopy occupies over half of this space at 53%.

The different benchmarks along the spectrum offer levels of cover as a percentage of the potential planting space in the community. While it may seem logical to plant for tree cover in <u>all</u> possible

planting spaces, the key objective is to achieve a climate-appropriate degree of tree cover. In hot, sunny climates, where shade of buildings and other impervious surfaces is extremely important, as well as stormwater abatement, the amount of appropriate cover may be very high. In the Pacific Northwest, tree canopy is one of several strategies used to mitigate stormwater. This ecological function must be balanced with the need for reasonable solar access and other landscaping needs (e.g. vegetable gardening).

Shoreline's Goal: The existing tree cover equals to 50-75% of the available planting space to maximize the ecological benefits and allow for a diverse vegetative cover and landscapes. **Quantitatively,**Shoreline is in this range. Develop strategies to maintain and enhance canopy cover on public property appropriately.

#### Strategies -

- Restoration projects in the park and open space system that include trees in appropriate spaces.
- Updated Tree List with space requirements for mature size.

#### 2. Age Distribution of Trees

On a community level, the general measurement for age of trees is based on size. The larger the tree, the older it most likely is. The diameter classes referred to on the spectrum are size ranges in diameter to grossly categorize young, growing, mature, and over-mature trees in the community. Consideration of species' growth rate and mature size are factors to further determine how well the size ranges correlate with age of the population. Age diversity is key to avoiding mass age-related mortality and to ensure perpetual renewal of the urban forest.

Shoreline's Goal: None of the size classes represents more than half of the public tree population.

#### Strategies -

- Run reports on new street tree inventory to see the distribution of the size classes and species in the tree population and determine opportunities for best management practices to maintain age diversity.
- Develop a regeneration planting plan for the City based on areas needing new plantings.
- Identify any mature and/or rare tree species or historic groves in the community as a basis for a heritage tree program or special management program.

#### 3. Species Suitability\*

Diversity of species and the appropriateness of those species in the area are important factors to consider for a healthy urban forest.

The good news about our region is that a huge variety of tree species can grow in our climate, but not all grow well. It's important that tree selection is based on how well the species grows in the

area and has minimal maintenance issues, like drought tolerance and resistance to pests and disease. For instance, species from high elevations (ex. Colorado blue spruce, sub-alpine fir) don't do well in our coastal climate and quickly succumb to pests. Still others, like the katsura, do grow here but cannot thrive without ample irrigation.

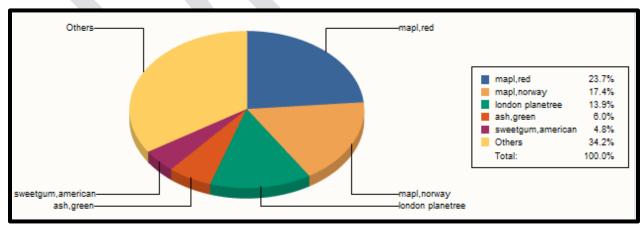
Unfortunately, some native species also are not performing well. Our state tree, the Western hemlock, is rapidly dying off in the Puget Sound area, and our native dogwood and Pacific madrone are often victims to chronic foliar and canker diseases. Urban foresters are trying to anticipate the effects of climate change locally, and many of these health issues may be connected to this shift. Above all, the community strengthens the sustainability of its urban forest by using suitable species that flourish with a low degree of maintenance.

*Shoreline's Goal: More than 75% of the trees are of species considered suitable for the area.* 

#### 4. Species Distribution

Diversity of the species in the population is equally critical. Too often, a small palette of trees is used in most landscape designs and in street improvements. The lack of diversity can create a situation in which a pest or disease can wipe out a significant portion of the population. The constant threat of pests and diseases heading our way cannot be ignored but rather can be alleviated through a diverse array of tree species in the community.

As stated in the Shoreline Street Tree Inventory Summary Report (2013), the ideal diversity goal is to avoid one species representing more than 10% of the population. To illustrate this, the species data from the recent inventory of 1,602 street trees show that maples represent 45% of the population inventoried, with red maple nearly a quarter of the population. The intent is to diversify the population in future plantings so that one species does not dominate the urban forest composition.



Species on Shoreline's 10 major corridors – collected in street tree inventory project, 2013.

This species diversity is best achieved by focusing on the opportunities in replacement and new planting efforts. This would be in regards to not only the street tree population but for public landscapes (parks, city properties) and required landscapes with commercial and multi-family residential development.

Shoreline's Goal: No species represents more than 10% of the <u>street and public landscape tree</u> population.

Strategies for species suitability and diversity -

- Updated Tree List section for unimproved ROW, natural areas, open spaces and section for improved ROW - include detailed information on growth, space limitations, maintenance issues.
- Enforce compliance with development to put right tree in right place.
- Use list for new plantings, not as an approved list for existing trees in the ROW.

#### 5. Condition of Publicly-Managed Trees

Understanding the condition of trees helps in prioritizing the management of the urban forest. Part of a tree inventory is rating the condition of a tree from excellent to very poor (or dead). Whether it is a sample plot inventory, such as in a park, or a complete tree inventory in the rights-of-way, assessing the condition of the trees will impact the decisions made about the City's maintenance work plan.

Along with condition, a necessary assessment of a tree is its risk of failure and likelihood to cause harm or damage. There is an industry rating system for such tree risk assessments that is commonly used as part of a tree inventory.

Shoreline's Goal: A comprehensive tree inventory of publicly-owned trees that includes detailed tree condition and risk ratings.

**Supporting Resource Management Objectives:** 

- 1. Comprehensive inventory of the tree resource to direct its management.
- 2. Urban forest renewal is ensured through a comprehensive tree establishment program driven by canopy cover and population diversity.
- 3. All public trees are managed with safety as a high priority.

#### Strategies -

- Analyze new street tree inventory of the ten major corridors develop a work plan addressing priority action.
- Develop a 'state of the street trees' report to identify subsequent strategies.
- Integrate inventory data into the new Asset Management System for future use.

#### 6. Publicly-Owned Natural Areas

The objective for this criterion is a detailed understanding of the ecological structure and function of all publicly-owned natural areas. Shoreline has documented the ecological benefits of some of its natural areas with vegetation studies (Hamlin Park, Boeing Creek, South Woods, etc.). Stewardship/management plans are developed from these studies in order to maximize the ecosystem benefits through restoration, conservation, and monitoring.

Shoreline's Goal: The ecological structure and function of all publicly-owned natural areas are documented through an ecosystem analysis and included in the city-wide GIS.

#### Strategies:

- Identify all public natural areas and establish a budget and timeline for performing an ecosystem analysis through vegetation studies.
- Develop management plans based on the assessments; implement; monitor.

#### 7. Native Vegetation\*

The local, natural biodiversity found in the city needs to be preserved and enhanced to support native ecosystems. The appropriate publicly-managed places with the most potential are in open spaces, reserves, and passive parklands. The appropriate actions include restoration plantings and invasive species eradication. High use and developed areas have least potential for native vegetation success.

Shoreline's Goal: Native species are specified where appropriate in publicly-managed areas; invasive species are aggressively eradicated.

#### Strategies:

- Review all city projects for potential and appropriateness to use native species.
- Develop (or obtain) a detailed list of native species as a City and community resource.
- Support community efforts in invasive species eradication.

#### **B. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

The criteria in this resource management speak to the significant components of a city urban forestry program – staff, funding, resources, planning, policy, and operations.

#### 1. Tree Inventory\*

As mentioned in the Vegetative Resource section, understanding the needs and composition of the urban forest requires comprehensive information about the tree resource to direct its management. Performing a tree inventory is the most common tool with which to collect important data such as species, size, condition, risk level, and location. Usually this is done along the rights-of-way and in

landscaped park and other public areas. For forested open space, sample plots are taken to get a snapshot of the condition and composition of that sector of the urban forest. Capturing all these data in the City's GIS mapping is particularly useful to visualize the resource in relation to other aspects of the community.

Shoreline's Goal: Complete inventory of publicly-owned trees included in the city-wide GIS.

#### Strategies:

- Utilize the new street tree inventory of the ten major corridors to develop a work plan and work orders.
- Ensure integration of data into the City's new Asset Management System.
- Review plant studies of the City's open space areas and try to incorporate data into GIS.

#### 2. Canopy Cover Assessment

Mapping the urban tree cover using satellite imagery is another way to analyze different characteristics of the urban forest. Canopy cover can be compared to impervious surface to determine the proportions, especially as it relates to stormwater mitigation. The amount of possible planting area for more tree canopy can also be obtained with this tool.

In 2011, Shoreline did receive data and an urban tree canopy assessment report that discussed these different aspects of the canopy cover. In fact, the relative canopy cover calculations used in the Vegetative Resource section were from that study. The key objective to this tool is to have high resolution assessments of the existing and potential canopy cover for the entire community.

Shoreline's Goal: Mapped urban tree cover using aerial photographs or satellite imagery included in city-wide GIS. Shoreline has achieved this goal. Strategies would include regular assessments performed to gauge progress toward canopy cover benchmarks.

#### Strategies:

- Perform an urban tree canopy assessment every five years to document change in the urban forest community-wide.
- Utilize the urban forest map with i-Tree Eco to analyze ecosystem benefits of the City's forested open space/park areas.

#### 3. City-wide Management Plan\*

A comprehensive urban forest management plan provides a specific road map for annual work and budget for public tree management that is aligned with the vision, mission, and goals of an urban forestry program. The strategies and priorities in this strategic plan are supported by the community and are a solid foundation for such a plan.

Shoreline's Goal: Comprehensive plan for publicly-managed forest resources accepted and implemented.

#### Strategies:

- Systematically develop an annual work plan with expected timelines, resource needs, and budget following priorities set by the community (through this plan or through adaptive management mechanisms).
- Establish performance measures for the urban forestry program to ensure actions and initiatives are aligned with priorities and goals.

#### 4. Municipal-wide Funding\*

Without funding, a management program cannot be successful. These days, cities must be creative in developing and maintaining adequate funding to execute needed work identified in the management plan. In the Pacific Northwest, urban forestry can be linked effectively to stormwater management for a city (Vancouver, WA), and therefore, funding could be garnered from other departments that have similar goals.

Shoreline's Goal: Funding to provide for a measurable increase in urban forest benefits.

#### Strategies:

- Demonstrate to City Council the value of the urban forest as an asset of the community to receive recognition as a viable city program.
- Quantify stormwater benefits to begin the funding conversation with City Surface Water and Environmental Services.
- Explore King Conservation District's jurisdictional grant program to fund stewardship projects.

#### 5. City Staffing\*

Along with funding, staffing resource is just as critical for the success of an urban forestry program. The key objective is to employ and train adequate staff to implement the program and plan.

Shoreline's Goal: Dedicated staff are certified and qualified with regular professional development.

#### Strategy:

- Identify a framework and budget to establish dedicated funding and resources for a City urban forestry program.
- Consider key staff to enroll in the Community Tree Management Institute (CTMI).

#### 6. Tree Establishment\*

Part of a resource management plan includes a planting or establishment program. Maintaining any resource requires renewal to ensure perpetuity and optimal benefits. The key objective is to ensure urban forest renewal through planning and implementation, and such a program is best driven by canopy cover, species diversity, and species distribution objectives.

Shoreline's Goal: Tree establishment is directed by needs derived from a tree inventory and is sufficient to meet canopy cover objectives.

#### Strategies:

- Develop a 'State of the Street Tree" report to identify subsequent strategies (including new trees).
- Review vegetation studies for recommended tasks/actions involving tree establishment; incorporate urban forest strategies.

#### 7. Maintenance of publicly-owned, intensively managed trees

Some trees require regular maintenance in order to survive in the urban setting. Trees in the Right-of-Way are the likely candidates for this level of management. The key objective is that these types of trees are maintained to maximize current and future benefits. Tree health and condition ensure maximum longevity.

Shoreline's Goal: All publicly-owned, intensively managed trees are systematically maintained on a 5-7 year cycle, and immature trees are structurally pruned if needed.

#### Strategies:

- Develop a work plan and budget to complete "standard" tasks identified in the street tree inventory.
- Consider launching a separate young tree pruning program for newer trees.

#### 8. Tree Risk Management\*

Trees near people and structures have a certain level of risk to cause damage or injury. Assessing the level of risk involves evaluating the tree for defects that could increase its probability of failure and determining the size of the part likely to fail. Considering these factors with proximity to valuable targets, we can assess risks with the trees, and determine best ways to manage or minimize the risk. The key objective is that all publicly-managed trees near targets are managed with safety as a high priority.

Shoreline's Goal: Tree risk management program is in place and includes inventory with detailed tree failure risk ratings and policy to reduce hazards within a maximum of one month from confirmation of hazard potential.

#### Strategies:

- Perform tree risk assessment on appropriate trees in the ten major corridors and document their risk ratings.
- Establish a policy on tree risk assessment for ROW trees.

• Perform regular tree risk assessment on appropriate trees in parks, open space, and trails where there is a public presence.

#### 9. Tree Protection Policy - Development and Enforcement

Much of the urban forest resides on private property. The benefits derived from large and mature trees are tremendous, and the ability to have them safely retained community-wide is important. Municipal policies around tree protection, especially during development can be effective to that end, and must be consistently enforced.

Shoreline's Goal: Integrated municipal-wide policies that ensure the protection of trees on public and private land are consistently enforced and supported by significant deterrents; <u>education included in this process.</u>

#### Strategies:

- Strengthen the education component to the existing tree protection policy and process.
- Consider a volunteer based forest stewardship program with neighborhood stewards to talk with neighbors about their valuable trees.
- Assess the effectiveness of compliance to consider better incentives and enforcement.

#### 10. Publicly-owned Natural Areas Management - Planning and Implementation\*

Properly managing the forested open space and natural areas of the community requires appropriate planning and implementation. A stewardship plan, which connotes a community engagement in the process, is developed to support action that protects and where needed, enhances the ecological structure and function of this part of the urban forest. These plans often include invasive eradication and urban forest renewal with appropriate native vegetation, along with community participation in the stewardship.

Shoreline's Goal: A stewardship plan in effect for each public natural area focused on sustaining the ecological structure and function of the feature.

#### Strategies:

- Review existing natural area vegetation studies for documented ecosystem benefits; consider using I-Tree Eco for further analysis.
- Review vegetation studies for recommended tasks/actions; incorporate urban forest strategies as needed.
- Develop a stewardship plan framework to use for the natural areas.

#### C. COMMUNITY FRAMEWORK

This category offers all aspects and possible community relationships that impact the sustainability of the urban forest. The criteria stress the importance of cooperation and deep understanding of the value of the urban forestry for a successful program.

#### 1. Public Agency Cooperation\*

The key objective is to ensure all city departments cooperate with common goals and objectives around the proper management of the urban forest.

Shoreline's Goal: Municipal policy implemented by formal interdepartmental/interagency teams on all municipal projects and activities.

#### Strategies:

- Formalize City "Tree Team" with guidelines/policy for inter-departmental coordination.
- Continue to review annual tree work plan from Seattle City Light to anticipate interagency coordination and public awareness.

#### 2. Involvement of Large Institutional Landholders

Large landholders in the community have a potential to impact the urban forest depending on how they manage their forested lands. Schools, golf clubs, college campuses, even exclusive communities need to embrace city-wide goals and objectives for the urban forest, and ideally develop resource management plans.

Shoreline's Goal: Clear goals for tree resource by landholders; incentives for preservation of private trees.

#### Strategies:

- Consider using the stewardship plan framework with large landholders, including Innis
  Arden community, to streamline approval (incentive) for tree removal and management of
  their reserves.
- Offer public education opportunities on the urban forest management through the schools and colleges and other community venues.

#### 3. Green Industry Cooperation

Nurseries, landscapers, and arborists have great influence on the public perception of proper tree selection and care. The key objective is the green industry operates with high professional standards and commits to city-wide goals and objectives.

Shoreline's Goal: Specific cooperative arrangements with local nurseries and qualified tree care professionals.

#### Strategies:

- Work with Sky Nursery (and other local nurseries) to promote City's updated tree list and proper tree care
- Work with Seattle City Light to promote purchase certificates for "Right Tree, Right Place."
- Consider a City vendor list of approved tree care companies for street tree work.

#### 4. Neighborhood Action\*

The key objective is citizens understand and cooperate or participate in urban forest management, ideally at the neighborhood level. The most effective way to achieve this is to engage the neighborhood associations with the program through education, advocacy and active stewardship.

Shoreline's Goal: City-wide coverage and interaction, particularly engagement of neighborhood associations with the urban forestry program.

#### Strategies:

- Consider a Forest Stewardship training program modeled after Master Gardeners.
- Identify knowledgeable citizens in neighborhoods as "forest stewards" and support community projects.
- Partner with other stewardship programs (Audubon, Evergreen School, Thornton Creek Alliance, Dig Shoreline).

#### 5. Citizen-Municipal-Business Interaction

The key objective is all constituencies in the community interact for the benefit of the urban forest. With the advisory Tree Board, the City has a great venue for that interaction to evolve.

Shoreline's Goal: Informal and general cooperation with focus to improve relationship with businesses. Strategies:

- Continue to support the PRCS Board as acting Tree Board advisory and public outreach efforts.
- Identify with the Tree Board strategies to improve relationship with businesses.

#### 6. General Awareness of Trees as a Community Resource\*

The most effective way to get the general public understanding the role of the urban forest is through education and participation. A successful outcome is public support of a City urban forestry program and City Council approval for adequate funding of a program.

Shoreline's Goal: The urban forest is recognized as vital to Shoreline's environmental, social and economic well being.

#### Strategies:

- Consider a Forest Stewardship training program modeled after Master Gardeners.
- Promote advocacy through the Tree Board.
- Expand the annual Arbor Day celebration for more public interaction.
- Expand urban forestry presence on City website with UF benefits, tree care information, and local resources.
- Consider developing a Heritage Tree Program to raise the awareness of the significant trees in the community.

#### 7. Regional Cooperation

The effectiveness of a program can be enhanced when a city provides for cooperation and interaction among neighboring communities and regional groups.

Shoreline's Goal: Communities share similar policy vehicles.

#### Strategies:

- Participate in the Puget Sound Urban Forestry group (meets quarterly) headed by WADNR program.
- Review Seattle's Strategic Plan and Forest Stewardship Plan for appropriate policy to adopt.

#### **Summary of Strategies**

From the above strategies to work toward Shoreline's goals for urban forestry, 28 strategic projects are identified in Appendix C. A suggested timeline for each is shown, as well as the budget implications for the strategy.

The timing of strategies is dependent on many factors. Public support of a program that encompasses the importance and value of the urban forest is necessary for the City decision makers to invest the required funding and staff to implement. Once the appropriate resources are in place, many strategies could be tackled on a shorter timeline.

As with any strategic plan, the priorities and actions can evolve, and subsequent work plans are often crafted to match the current reality of what can reasonably be accomplished. The beauty of the strategic plan is that it is just one set of navigation instructions to get from where you are to where you want to go. The City may find other ways to get to the same destination and can adjust the duration of the trip, so to speak.

#### **Next Steps - Initial Implementation**

The relationship of the short-term strategies to the key priorities for Shoreline are shown in Appendix D. They are considered low-hanging opportunities and/or cost-effective activities and are identified as critical to generate the necessary momentum for a sustainable urban forestry program for the Shoreline community. If the City has no capacity to take on these tasks, outside assistance may be needed to further analyze the needs and resources, develop a work plan and budget proposal, and provide a cost-benefit analysis for key initiatives.

#### Conclusion

Shoreline is a community that has a passion around its urban forest. Realizing it is a valued asset that needs to be taken care of, the City needed direction on how to build a sustainable urban forestry program. Through a guided process considering all aspects and components of an initiative, City staff, the Shoreline Tree Board, and interested citizens developed a comprehensive set of goals for urban forestry. Of the key objectives, Shoreline identified these priorities to focus short-term strategies:

- Maintain climate-appropriate degree of tree cover community-wide
- Establish a diverse tree population suitable for the urban environment and adapted to the region
- Acquire a comprehensive understanding of the public tree resource to direct its management
- Implement a comprehensive urban forest management plan for public trees
- Develop and maintain adequate staff and funding to implement a city-wide urban forestry program
- Citizens understand and cooperate in urban forest management, recognizing the urban forest as vital to Shoreline's environmental, social, and economic well-being

With a clear vision of where the City wants to go, several strategies have been provided in this plan to develop the road map. Many are suggested as short-term tasks and relatively cost-effective in moving Shoreline toward a city urban forestry program. The success of the plan heavily relies on support of these strategies by both the City decision makers and the community. Adequate funding and resources committed to a program are critical to move forward to a more sustainable urban forest. In an effort to continue the momentum, the City is seeking ways to begin implementing a number of the critical strategies and further develop a program and budget proposal as soon as possible.

#### APPENDIX A

#### **Urban Tree Benefits**

The benefits of urban trees, sometimes called "ecosystem services", include environmental, economic, and social values. These are direct or indirect benefits provided by urban forests and individual trees that are often dismissed or underrepresented when valuing infrastructure because they don't readily have an associated dollar value. Types of tree benefits are listed and briefly described below. While none alone are a "silver bullet", when combined, trees and the collective urban forest are an impressive part of the solution for sustainability during urban planning and community development.

#### **Environmental "Services" of Urban Trees:**

- Air Quality trees absorb, trap, offset and hold air pollutants such as particulate matter, ozone, sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide, and CO2.
- Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) and Carbon trees store and sequester carbon through photosynthesis as well as offset carbon emissions at the plant due to energy conservation.
- Water Quality and Stormwater Runoff Mitigation trees infiltrate, evapo-transpire, and intercept stormwater while also increasing soil permeability and ground water recharge.
- Erosion control tree roots hold soil together along stream banks and steep slopes, stabilizing soils and reducing sedimentation issues in water bodies.
- Urban heat island effect trees cool the air directly through shade and indirectly through transpiration, reducing day and nighttime temperatures in cities.
- Increased wildlife habitat Trees create local ecosystems that provide habitat and food for birds and animals, increasing biodiversity in urban areas.

#### **Economic "Services" of Urban Trees:**

- Property value numerous studies across the country show that residential homes with healthy trees add property value (up to 15%).
- Energy conservation trees lower energy demand through summer shade and winter wind block, additionally offsetting carbon emissions at the power plant.
- Retail and Economic Development trees attract businesses, tourists, and increase shopping.
- Stormwater facilities trees and forests reduce the need for or size of costly gray infrastructure.
- Pavement tree shade increases pavement life through temperature regulation (40-60% in some studies).

#### Social "Services" of Urban Trees:

- Public health trees help reduce asthma rates and other respiratory illnesses.
- Safe walking environments trees reduce traffic speeds and soften harsh urban landscapes.
- Strime and domestic violence urban forests help build stronger communities. Places with nature and trees provide settings in which relationships grow stronger and violence is reduced.
- Connection to nature trees increase our connection to nature.
- Noise pollution Trees reduce noise pollution by acting as a buffer and absorbing up to 50% of urban noise (U.S. Department of Energy study).

From: Benefits of Trees and Urban Forests: A Research List <a href="http://www.actrees.org/files/Research/benefits">http://www.actrees.org/files/Research/benefits</a> of trees.pdf, Published August 2011

#### **APPENDIX B**

# SHORELINE Urban Forest Strategic Plan

**Draft Vegetative Resource Criteria and Indicators** 

				Green = Desired Level	Orange = Top Objective	
Criteria		Performance Indicator Spectrum				
Criteria	Low	Moderate	Good	Optimal	Key Objective	
1. Relative Canopy Cover	The existing canopy cover equals 0-25% of the potential - available planting space.	The existing canopy cover equals 25-50% of the potential.	The existing canopy cover equals 50-75% of the potential.	The existing canopy cover equals 75-100% of the potential.	Achieve climate-appropriate degree of tree cover, community-wide	*
2. Age distribution of trees in the community	Any diameter class (size range equating to age) represents more than 75% of the tree population.	Any diameter class represents between 50% and 75% of the tree population.	No diameter class represents more than 50% of the tree population.	25% of the tree population is in each of four diameter classes.	Provide for uneven-aged distribution city-wide as well as at the neighborhood level.	
3. Species suitability	Less than 50% of trees are of species considered suitable for the area.	50% to 75% of trees are of species considered suitable for the area.	More than 75% of trees are of species considered suitable for the area.	All trees are of species considered suitable for the area.	Establish a tree population suitable for the urban environment and adapted to the regional environment.	
4. Species distribution	Fewer than 5 species dominate the entire tree population city-wide.	No species represents more than 20% of the entire tree population city-wide.	No species represents more than 10% of the street tree population.	No species represents more than 10% of the entire tree population at the neighbourhood level.	Establish a genetically diverse tree population city-wide as well as at the neighborhood level.	
5. Condition of Publicly- managed Trees (including ROW trees)	No tree maintenance or risk assessment. Request based/reactive system. The condition of the urban forest is unknown	Sample-based inventory indicating tree condition and risk level is in place.	Complete tree inventory which includes detailed tree condition ratings.	Complete tree inventory which includes detailed tree condition and risk ratings.	Detailed understanding of the condition and risk potential of all publicly-managed trees	*

#### **APPENDIX B**

areas (e.g. woodlands	No information about publicly-owned natural areas.	Publicly-owned natural areas identified in a "natural areas survey" or similar document [PROS plan].	The level and type of public use in publicly-owned natural areas is documented		Detailed understanding of the ecological structure and function of all publicly-owned natural areas.	
	No program of integration	Voluntary use of native species on publicly and privately- owned lands; invasive species are recognized.	appropriate basis in actively managed areas; invasive species are recognized and	Native species are specified where appropriate in publicly managed areas; invasive species are aggressively eradicated.	Preservation and enhancement of local natural biodiversity, where appropriate.	*

#### **APPENDIX B**

# SHORELINE Urban Forest Strategic Plan Draft Resource Management Criteria and Indicators

				Green = Desired Level	Orange = Top Objective	_
Criteria		Perfor	Key Objective			
	Low	Moderate	Good	Optimal	-, <b>,</b>	
1. Tree Inventory	No inventory	Complete or sample- based inventory of publicly-owned trees	Complete inventory of publicly- owned trees AND sample- based inventory of privately- owned trees.	Complete inventory of publicly-owned trees [AND sample-based inventory of privately-owned trees] included in city wide GIS	Comprehensive inventory of the tree resource to direct its management. This includes: age distribution, species mix, tree condition, risk assessment.	*
2. Canopy Cover Assessment	No inventory	Visual assessment	Sampling of tree cover using aerial photographs or satellite imagery; I-Tree;	Mapped urban tree cover using aerial photographs or satellite imagery included in city-wide GIS	High resolution assessments of the existing and potential canopy cover for the entire community.	С
3. City-wide management plan	No plan	Existing plan limited in scope and implementation	Comprehensive plan for publicly-managed forest resources accepted and implemented	Strategic multi-tiered plan for public and privately-managed forest resources accepted and implemented with adaptive management mechanisms.	Develop and implement a comprehensive urban forest management plan for public property.	*
4. Municipality- wide funding	Funding for only emergency reactive management	Funding for some proactive management to improve the public portion of urban forest.	Funding to provide for a measurable increase in urban forest benefits.	Adequate private and public funding to sustain maximum urban forest benefits.	Develop and maintain adequate funding to implement a city-wide urban forest management plan	*

5. City staffing	No staff.	Limited trained or certified staff.	Certified arborists and professional foresters on staff with regular professional development.	Multi-disciplinary team within an urban forestry program.	Employ and train adequate staff to implement city-wide urban forestry plan	*
6. Tree establishment, planning and implementation	Tree establishment is ad hoc (no plan or budget)  Limited tree establishment occurs on an annual basis with minimal budget.  Tree establishment is directed by needs derived from a tree inventory or strategy		·	Tree establishment is directed by needs derived from a tree inventory and is sufficient to meet canopy cover objectives (see Canopy Cover criterion in Table 1)	Urban Forest renewal is ensured through a comprehensive tree establishment program driven by canopy cover, species diversity, and species distribution objectives	*
7. Maintenance of publicly-owned, intensively managed trees (not open space)	No maintenance of publicly-owned trees	systematic (block)	All publicly-owned trees are systematically maintained on a cycle longer than five years; all immature trees are structurally pruned.	All mature publicly-owned trees are maintained on a 5-year cycle. All immature trees are structurally pruned.	All publicly-owned, intensively managed trees are maintained to maximize current and future benefits.  Tree health and condition ensure maximum longevity.	
8. Tree Risk Management	No tree risk assessment/ remediation program. The condition of the urban forest is unknown	Sample-based tree inventory which includes general tree risk information; Request based/reactive risk abatement system.	Complete tree inventory which includes detailed tree failure risk ratings; risk abatement program is in effect reducing hazards within a maximum of one month from confirmation of hazard potential.	Complete tree inventory which includes detailed tree failure risk ratings; risk abatement program is in effect eliminating hazards within a maximum of one week from confirmation of hazard potential.	All publicly-owned trees are managed with safety as a high priority.	*

9. Tree Protection Policy Development and Enforcement	No tree protection policy	Policies in place to protect public trees.	Policies in place to protect public and private trees with enforcement desired.	Integrated municipal wide policies that ensure the protection of trees on public and private land are consistently enforced and supported by significant deterrents; education component included in process	The benefits derived from large- stature/mature trees are ensured by the enforcement of municipal wide policies.	
10. Publicly- owned natural areas management planning and implementation	No stewardship plans or implementation in effect.	Reactionary stewardship in effect to facilitate public use (e.g. hazard abatement, trail maintenance, etc.)	Stewardship plan in effect for each publicly-owned natural area to facilitate public use (e.g. hazard abatement, trail maintenance, etc.)	Stewardship plan in effect for each publicly-owned natural area focused on sustaining the ecological structure and function of the feature.	The ecological structure and function of allpublicly-owned natural areas are protected and, where appropriate, enhanced.	*

# SHORELINE Urban Forest Strategic Plan Draft Community Framework Criteria and Indicators

	_			Green = Desired Level	Orange = Top Objective	_
Criteria		Performance I	ndicator Spectrum		Key Objective	
Criteria	Low	Moderate	Good	Optimal	Key Objective	
1. Public agency cooperation (inter-departmental and with utilities)	No communication or Common goals but no conflicting goals among coordination or cooperation are functioning and		Municipal policy implemented by formal interdepartmental/ interagency teams on ALL municipal projects.	Ensure all city department cooperate with common goals and objectives	*	
2. Involvement of large institutional land holders (ex. hospitals, campuses, utility corridors)	No awareness of issues	Educational materials and advice available to landholders.	Clear goals for tree resource by landholders. Incentives for preservation of private trees.	Landholders develop comprehensive tree management plans (including funding).	Large private landholders embrace city-wide goals and objectives through specific resource management plans.	
3. Green industry cooperation	No cooperation among segments of the green industry (nurseries, tree care companies, etc.) No adherence to industry standards.	General cooperation among nurseries, tree care companies, etc.	Specific cooperative arrangements such as purchase certificates for "right tree in the right place"	Shared vision and goals including the use of professional standards.	The green industry operates with high professional standards and commits to city-wide goals and objectives.	
4. Neighborhood action	No action	Neighborhood associations/HOA's exist but are minimally engaged or a limited number are engaged.	City-wide coverage and interaction; Neighborhood associations are engaged with the program (education, advocacy, stewardship)	All neighborhoods/HOA's organized and cooperating.	At the neighborhood level, citizens understand and cooperate in urban forest management.	*

5. Citizen- municipality- business interaction	Conflicting goals among constituencies	No interaction among constituencies.	Informal and/or general cooperation with focus to improve relationship with businesses.	Formal interaction e.g. Tree board with staff coordination.	All constituencies in the community interact for the benefit of the urban forest.	
6. General awareness of trees as a community resource	Trees not seen as an asset, a drain on budgets.	Trees seen as important to the community	rees acknowledged as	Urban forest recognized as vital to Shoreline's environmental, social and economic well-being.	The general public understanding the role of the urban forest through education and participation	*
7. Regional cooperation	Communities independent.	Communities share similar policy vehicles.	Regional planning is in effect	Regional planning, coordination and /or management plans	Provide for cooperation and interaction among neighboring communities and regional groups.	

# APPENDIX C: Shoreline Strategies with Timeline & Budget

	STRATEGY	SHORT	MID	LONG	BUDGET
		1-5 YRS	6-10 YRS	>10 YRS	
1	Update Street Tree List	٧			\$ \$
2	Establish policy for street tree management	٧			\$
3	Develop work plan from street tree inventory	٧			\$\$
4	Young street tree pruning project	٧			Ś
5	Integrate inventory into new Asset	√			\$ \$
	Management System				
6	Framework & budget for a city program	٧			\$\$-\$\$\$
7	Conversation with Surface Water	٧			\$
	Environmental Services for program funding				,
8	Staff to CTMI training	٧			\$
9	Formalize City Tree Team – intercity,	٧			\$ \$
	interagency communication, coordination				
10	Expand Arbor Day celebration – public	٧			\$-\$\$
	awareness				
11	Identify public planting space with GIS/UTC	٧			\$
	assessment				
12	Stewardship/regeneration plans from	٧	٧		\$-\$\$
	existing plant studies and GIS				
13	Stewardship plan framework with	٧	٧		\$
	landholders and managers				
14	Develop tree risk management program for	٧	٧		\$-\$\$
	street trees and parks				
15	Strengthen education component for tree	٧	٧		\$
	protection and care				
16	Support community invasive species removal efforts	٧	٧		\$-\$\$
17	Review city projects for native species use	٧	٧	٧	\$
18	Annual program work plan using strategic	V √	V √	V √	\$
10	plan (include performance measures)	V	V	V	۲
19	Partner with other stewardship programs	٧	٧	٧	\$
20	Ecosystem Analysis of city open space	•	٧	•	\$-\$\$
21	Urban Tree Canopy Assessment update		√		\$
22	Forest Stewardship training & volunteer		<b>√</b>		\$-\$\$ \$ \$\$
	program		•		
23	Analyze inventory – increase diversity		٧		\$
24	Improve compliance – right tree, right place,		٧		\$ \$\$
	incentives, enforcement				1 7
25	Work with local nurseries, utilities to		٧		\$
	promote right tree, right place				
26	Interact with regional cities		٧		\$
27	Heritage Tree Program		٧	٧	\$-\$\$
28	List of approved tree care companies for		٧	٧	\$-\$\$ \$
	street tree work				
	il 17 201/l	6 64 51	66 6F 4F	k· \$\$\$ = at	L ADEL

### APPENDIX D

### Shoreline's Initial Strategies for Key Priorities

### 1. Canopy Cover

• Identify appropriate potential planting space on public property through I-Tree/GIS analysis using Urban Tree Canopy Assessment (2011) base

### 2. Species Suitability

- Update ROW Tree Species List (improved and unimproved ROW categories) and include detailed information for proper selection
- Review city projects for native species use

### 3. Tree Inventory

- Develop a work plan from inventory addressing priority action
- Coordinate the integration of inventory data into new Asset Management system
- Implement a young street tree pruning project

### 4. City-wide Management Plan

- Develop stewardship/regeneration plans from existing open space/park plant studies
- Develop policy for ROW trees removal, replacement, proper pruning, etc.
- Develop a tree risk management program for street trees and parks

### 5. City Funding

- Develop framework and budget for a city program
- Annual program work plan using strategic plan (with performance measures)
- Conversation with Surface Water & Environmental Services for program funding
- Explore King Conservation District's jurisdictional grant program for stewardship projects

#### 6. City Staffing

- Formalize City 'Tree Team' with guidelines/policy for inter-departmental and interagency coordination
- Staff to Community Tree Management Institute (CTMI) training

### 7. Neighborhood Action/Increased Awareness

- Partner with other stewardship programs
- Support community invasive species removal efforts
- Expand Arbor Day event to increase public awareness
- Cost/benefit analysis of a Shoreline Urban Forest Steward Program

### **APPENDIX E**

### References

A Model of Urban Forest Sustainability. Clark, J.R., Matheny, Cross and Wake. 1997. ISA Journal of Arboriculture 23(1).

Shoreline Environmental Sustainability Strategy, Adopted July 2008 <a href="http://cosweb.ci.shoreline.wa.us/uploads/attachments/pds/esc/COMPLETE\_FinalSESStrategy2008July.p">http://cosweb.ci.shoreline.wa.us/uploads/attachments/pds/esc/COMPLETE\_FinalSESStrategy2008July.p</a> df

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http://shorelinewa.gov/government/departments/planning-community-development/planning-projects/vision-2029

http://shorelinewa.gov/home/showdocument?id=9651

City of Shoreline Comprehensive Plan, Adopted Dec 2012 & PROS Plan, Adopted July 2011 <a href="http://shorelinewa.gov/government/departments/planning-community-development/comprehensive-plan-and-master-plans">http://shorelinewa.gov/government/departments/planning-community-development/comprehensive-plan-and-master-plans</a>

Shoreline Climate Action Plan, Adopted Sept 2013 <a href="http://shorelinewa.gov/government/departments/public-works/surface-water-and-environmental-services/environmental-services/climate-protection">http://shorelinewa.gov/government/departments/public-works/surface-water-and-environmental-services/climate-protection</a>

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Shoreline, WA Urban Tree Canopy Assessment. 2011. AMEC.

# APPENDIX F

Summary of Public Comment (Reserved for Final Document)

#### Public Comment to Revised Draft Plan

Sent: Monday, April 14, 2014 12:49 PM

To: PKS

Subject: comment on draft Urban Forest Strategic Plan

Please find below some of my thoughts about the draft Urban Forest Strategic Plan. First, hats off to all involved in

what must have been an arduous process. I am really impressed in the level of detail of the plan, especially the information contained in the Appendixes. Once approved by the City Council, funding will be imperative to move forward with the goals inherent in the plan. Without a budget, this will be a paper document only with little effect on current practices or achieving the Mission stated in the plan.

It was stated at the open house that most of our tree canopy resides on private lands. Even though the Vision of the plan confirms that we value our urban forest, and the Mission of the plan is to protect and manage this important community asset, how will this come about without funds for enforcement of our current tree permit system in regards to trees on private lands? Without a strong community education program, how can we ensure that private landowners understand the important environmental role that trees play in storm water management, CO2 sequestering, noise abatement and air pollution? How do we achieve the desired level of Shoreline's canopy cover (50-75% of the potential as listed in Apendix B) if we lose trees on private lands at a greater rate than trees are planted on public lands?

Like many others in Shoreline, I am saddened when I see another large conifer become the victim of the chain saw. However, I also realize everyone has different goals for their residential property. Perhaps vegetable gardens, solar panels, or concerns for safety drive the decision to take down a large tree. What I am hopeful for in the development and implementation of this Urban Forest Strategic Plan, is that the city will form strong partnerships with groups such as Diggin' Shoreline and Kruckeberg Botanic Garden Foundation to help get the message out about Shoreline's Urban Forest Strategic Plan. Both of these groups already have strong educational components. In addition, utilizing the organizational structures of our neighborhood associations, and having material and information available at events such as Celebrate Shoreline, Earth Day, Solarfest and the Farmers Market, could achieve many of the educational goals of the Plan without much outlay of funds.

I reside in the Echo Lake Neighborhood. For the fifth year in a row, Merlins (a small Falcon) have selected our neighborhood to raise a family. They always choose a different tree each year, utilizing an old crows nest, and always use a large conifer. This year the nest tree is a very tall Doug Fir, right on Ashworth Ave N., Just North of N. 188th St.

Their Kee Kee calls can be heard for blocks away. I am hopeful that with the implementation and funding of this crucial Urban Forest Strategic Plan that their calls will still be heard fifty years from now.

Again, thank you for all the hard work put into the development of this strategy to protect an important community asset.

Jane S. Kiker kiker@ekwlaw.com

April 14, 2014

Via Facsimile (206-801-2780) and Email mcolaizzi@shorelinewa.gov

Maureen Colaizzi Parks Project Coordinator City of Shoreline 17500 Midvale Avenue N Shoreline, WA 98133

RE: Supplemental Comments by The Innis Arden Club, Inc.re Draft Urban Forest Strategic Plan

Dear Ms. Colaizzi:

Thank you for the opportunity at Tuesday night's (April 8) Urban Forest Strategic Plan ("UFSP") Open House to engage members of the PRCS Board and the City's consultant, Ms. Walker, in discussion on behalf of The Innis Arden Club, Inc. about the key priorities identified in the draft plan.

The comments below supplement but do not replace the Club's February 7, 2014 written comments and April 8<sup>th</sup> Open House comments on the Draft UFSP ("Draft Plan"). The focus below is on: (A) Species Suitability/Street Trees ("Key Priority" #2); (B) clarification regarding the Plan's purported scope; and (C) the urgent need to re-establish a framework for long-term Stewardship Plans for large private tracts such as the Innis Arden Reserves.

### A. Species Suitability for Urban Environment / Street Trees

The Draft UFSP's "Key Priority No. 2" calls for updating the City's Right of Way ("ROW") Tree Species List. According to the Plan, this update would address a perceived need for additional "age and species distribution" among publicly owned and managed trees. This perception is apparently based on the City's 2013 Street Tree Inventory. However, that inventory was not based on a complete assessment, but was limited to ten City corridors. It therefore does not represent a thorough investigation into existing street tree age and diversity

#### Public Comment to Revised Draft Plan EGLICK KIKER WHITED FLL

April 14, 2014 Page 2 of 4

distribution across the City. In addition, it does not take into account the existing age and species distribution for trees on other types of City properties, including but not limited to parks.

The Innis Arden Club agrees that the City should prudently manage its public trees. One goal of such management would be achieving healthy age and reasonable species distribution. However, management based on assumptions would be imprudent. A street tree inventory of just ten City rights of way is not a reasonable baseline from which to draw conclusions regarding the age and species distribution of all City trees, let alone to formulate goals and strategies for "improvements." The scarcity of funds for UFSP projects makes it all the more important that "improvement" projects are first supported by thorough research. Completing a comprehensive assessment of public trees should therefore be the first task under the "Species Suitability" goal/strategy. The tree list should only be amended if the city-wide research discloses a significant deficiency in public tree age/species distribution overall.

As discussed at the Open House, the Innis Arden Club agrees with the City that, <u>if</u> the City's tree list will be amended, two distinct lists must be established — one for street trees and one for all other City properties. This concern was echoed by advisory Tree Board members at the April 8 session and should be clearly called out in the next draft plan.

Promoting the public tree canopy should not eclipse the importance of planting site-appropriate trees, particularly in the ROW. The UFSP should explicitly recognize that a sustainable urban forest, with adequate diversity in tree species and age/size, can be achieved without allowing large trees on ROWs, where they will interfere with public/private infrastructure, solar access and legally protected (including covenanted) views. Even if the desired "age/species distribution" on improved ROWs were to fall short of over-all diversity targets (there is no indication it will), these targets can still be achieved, city-wide. The Plan should include -- as a top priority -- establishment of criteria for "site appropriateness" for ROW trees that recognize these principles.

The April 8 Open House, was encouraging in this regard in the sense that assurances were offered that strategies for species and age diversity would be subject to such considerations. In particular, there were assurances that the Plan would not permit potentially view-blocking trees to be planted in areas such as Innis Arden where they would create conflict with, *inter alia*, view covenants. However, upon review, the draft Plan language cited in support of this assurance is too vague:

For species suitability and distribution, use of a diverse and appropriate species list for all community plantings.

Neither "appropriate" nor "species suitability" clarify that ROW trees <u>will</u> be chosen with regard to avoiding conflict with longstanding view covenants. While the Open House verbal assurances were a good first step, the written Plan must clearly acknowledge that a threshold criterion for a ROW street tree will be avoidance of conflict with longstanding community view covenants.

# Public Comment to Revised Draft Plan

April 14, 2014 Page 3 of 4

Large conifers and deciduous trees such as Douglas Fir, Western Red Cedar, oaks, big leaf maples, and others have their place in the City, but <u>not</u> in rights of way. Expansion of the ROW tree list to include such species would result in damage to utilities, block solar access and impair protected views. The public and private financial burden of dealing with such trees in the ROW should be avoided by keeping them off the ROW tree list in the first place. While such species can be sited elsewhere in the City, there is no public imperative for allowing them in rights of way.

A "compromise" was reached by the City and Club two years ago with the establishment of the current process for removing street trees. SMC 12.30.040. It is not ideal, but there since have been no new conflicts regarding street trees. However, any proposal allowing potential increase in ROW trees, adding problematic species to the ROW tree list, or making it more difficult to remedy impairment of covenant-protected views by ROW trees would be counterproductive and potentially reopen a legal discussion that both the City and the Club were glad to put behind them two years ago.

### B. UFSP Plan Requires Further Clarification Respecting Its Limited Scope

The Draft Plan's "Executive Summary," "Introduction," and "Conclusion" still blur the line between management of public versus private trees, e.g., through general references to City management of the "Urban Forest". References to the Plan as "liquid" and amenable to expansion have contributed to concerns about its current scope. Nonetheless, the consultant and Board members have verbally assured that this strategic planning process is only about management of rights of way and publicly-owned portions of the over-all "urban forest," public education, and the creation of certain incentives for private tree management. What remains, therefore, is for the written product to explicitly spell out that, with the exception of education and incentive programs, the overall UFSP process is limited to addressing the urban tree canopy through goals and strategies for rights of way and publicly-owned areas.

### C. Prioritizing Re-Establishing a Framework for Large Tract Stewardship Plans

As noted above, the current draft Plan is supposed to assess and address "public" trees. That said, a City planning initiative to re-establish a framework for private large tract tree stewardship would be a constructive corollary. Such an initiative would require leadership by the Planning Department, but the UFSP prepared under Parks Department auspices could usefully call for its initiation. In particular, UFSP Appendices C and D should place a high priority on fostering of "stewardship" or "vegetation management" plans for large private tracts, with the private burden and expense of individual plans, if approved by the City, supported by City incentives (e.g. streamlined permitting and exemptions).

# Public Comment to Revised Draft Plan EGLICK KIKER WHITED PLL

April 14, 2014 Page 4 of 4

Thank you for your consideration of these comments. We look forward to reviewing the next draft of the Plan.

Sincerely,

EGLICK KIKER WHITED PLLC

Jane S. Kliker Peter J. Eglick

Attorneys for The Innis Arden Club Inc.

cc: Client



### Memorandum

**DATE:** April 16, 2014

**TO:** Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Board

**FROM:** Ros Bird, Public Art Coordinator

**RE:** Artists & Artwork Selection Panel Recommendations

**CC:** PRCS Staff

Three Art/Artist Selection Panels met in April to review applications for four projects that will happen between May and October. All panels included at least one Park Board Art Committee member, the Arts Council Executive Director, a working artist and other stakeholders in addition to the City's Public Art Coordinator. Per best practices, in most cases artists are selected based on a body of their past work that has some relevance to the project. Following approval by the Park Board, City staff, in collaboration with a neighborhood if appropriate, will work with the artists to develop concepts and approve the final plan. Only the *Sculpture Stroll* selections are based on already completed work.

- 1. *Piano Time*: 5 artists applied and all are recommended for approval. If funds become available for a 6<sup>th</sup> new piano, names will be considered from previous years' applications. Due to weather conditions last August 6 pianos are no longer usable. The plan is to have 11 or 12 pianos out in public again this August around the Aurora corridor and other neighborhoods. The third annual *Piano Time* opening will be celebrated at *Arts al Fresco* on August 7<sup>th</sup>.
- 2. *From the Ground Up* temporary installations: 5 artists applied and 4 are recommended. Projects vary using natural and recycled materials, may be in the Park at Town Center and other locations, and although are intended for a 1-6 month display starting in June, may gradually disintegrate over time. This is the second annual *From the Ground Up* event.
- 3. *Sculpture Stroll* 2014-15: the 15 recommended pieces include work from 4 new artists, 3 current sculptors who submitted new pieces and 5 current pieces that will remain for another year. The goal is to have a variety of work for the public to enjoy and the challenge is encouraging more sculptors to apply. This year we are instituting a purchase award for the first time hoping to draw more applicants next year. New work will be installed at the end of July for the August 7<sup>th</sup> *Arts al*

*Fresco* celebration and will remain in place for at least one year. Work pictured in the Power Point is still tentative pending review of installation plans.

4. Sunset School Park Entryway project: 9 artists applied for this commission, many of them highly qualified. After reviewing images and much thoughtful discussion the panel is recommending Andersen Studios, Bruce & Shannon Andersen artists to create this entryway addition to Sunset School Park. The target for installation and celebration is mid-late September 2014. This is a collaborative project of the City Neighborhood Mini-grant program, Friends of Sunset School Park and the Richmond Highlands Neighborhood Association through the 4Corners group.

#### Recommendation:

The Park Board Art Committee recommends approval by the Park Board of these artists and artwork.



### Memorandum

**DATE:** April 17, 2014

**TO:** Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Board

**FROM:** Lynn Gabrieli, Administrative Assistant III

**RE:** Community Garden Leadership Team Appointments

**CC:** PRCS Staff

Board-appointed volunteer Site Leadership Committees work with staff to oversee to our Community Gardens.

The Leadership Committee at **Twin Ponds** is made up of five individuals: two Board-Appointed Giving Garden Volunteers who serve three-year terms and three one-year positions open to general plot holders. Currently the Giving Garden positions are filled by Nancy Short and Randy Eakin and only one general position is filled by Shellie Anderson. Two are vacant. We've received an application from Mical Rose Snow (attached) for one of the vacant positions.

The **Sunset** Site Leadership Committee consists of five one-year positions open to general plot holders. Currently three of those positions are filled by Ben and Glenda Fabrizio and Sarah Baker and the other two positions are vacant. The Parks Department has received applications from two individuals, Jeanne Powell and Jennifer Stehling, to fill the vacant positions (attached).

Parks staff has reviewed the applications and recommends the appointment of all three applicants to the Site Leadership Committees. Staff will be soliciting Board feedback about how you'd like to proceed with the evaluation and appointment of applicants both now and in the future. Please take time to review the applications and come with your recommendations.



### **Community Garden Site Leadership Committee Application**

The purpose of a Leadership Committee is to provide a structure and process for exploring ideas, solving problems, and building community at the garden. This committee will consider feedback from the gardeners, meet regularly as determined by the members, record meeting notes, be self-directed, and appoint a point of contact with Parks Department staff. The committee has the freedom to make decisions related to the garden *except* in the following cases:

- If the decision involves City funds and/or staff time
- If the decision changes the Master Site Plan for the garden
- If the decision changes the Garden Covenant
- If the decision involves disciplinary and/or legal action

In those cases the committee and staff will collaborate to find an acceptable solution. In all cases clear and frequent communication with City staff is the expectation. A mutually supportive relationship between the City and the Committee is the goal.

The committee will be composed of the Board-appointed Giving Garden Coordinators plus 3 current plot holders. Members of the committee will be appointed by the Park Board to a one-year renewable term beginning each year in January.

Committee members will be selected based on the following criteria:

- Current plot holder in a Shoreline Community Garden
- The ability to be part of a team
- An enthusiasm for the garden
- Skills and/or knowledge in one or more areas such as composting, master gardening, general construction/maintenance, event planning, education.

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Location:						
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	I would like to be part of
	the Leadership Committee at
	Letwin Ponds Garden. Tam

Community Garden Leadership Committee Application/TWIN PONDS



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- An enthusiasm for the garden
- Skills and/or knowledge in one or more areas such as composting, master gardening, general construction/maintenance, event planning, education.

Name Jean	me Powell
Address 1723	7. Green wood PlaceN
City, State, ZIP	Elroreline, WA 98133
Phone (Days)	206-546-2130 Phone (Eves)
Email Address	powelljeannec@gmail.com
Location:	
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(See reverse)

In 200 words or less, please describe your interest in being on the Garden Leadership Committee and mail your completed application by November 20, 2013 to:

April 15, 2014

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
City of Shoreline
17500 Midvale Ave. N.
Shoreline, WA 98133
Attn: Community Garden Committee Application

Or email your application to <a href="mailto:lgabrieli@shorelinewa.gov">lgabrieli@shorelinewa.gov</a>

Questions? pks@shorelinewa.gov or (206) 801-2602

I plan to help Hopelink grow food in their plats at Sunset and would like to encourage others to help as well. Being on the leadership team would facilitate that process, I feel. I helped with the initial development of Twin Ponds Communify, garden and enjoyed that effort very much. I would love to continue helping out at sunset.



## Community Garden Site Leadership Committee Application

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The ability to be part of a team

An enthusiasm for the garden

Skills and/or knowledge in one or more areas such as composting, master gardening, general construction/maintenance, event planning, education.

Name Jennifer Stehling
Address 19630 Sunnyside Dr. N. APT#M204
City, State, ZIP Shore line. WA 98133
Phone (Days) 206-327-1033 Phone (Eves) 206-32-7-1033
Email Address Lennyblossom @me.com
Location:
Twin Ponds Park
Sunset School Park

(See reverse)

April 8, 2014

Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services City of Shoreline 17500 Midvale Ave. N Shoreline, WA 98133

Dear Community Garden Committee,

It is my desire to a part of the Community Garden Site Leadership Committee at Sunset School Park. Please accept this letter and attached application in consideration.

I believe my experience and education will be extremely valuable to the committee and by extension our wonderful community of gardeners. I have a Master's degree in Educational Leadership with an emphasis in Community and Organizational Learning. Through this I have gained knowledge and experience in leadership development, and community education/outreach.

Professionally I have experience creating and working community events. I have done this as an organization director and a marketing director. Additionally my professional experience includes project management, and instructional and training design/facilitation. Though my gardening experience would be more on the spectrum of novice, I also have experience working with content specialists to create events and educational experiences for all ages.

I truly believe my skills and experience can serve to bring our community together through education and targeted organizational planning. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Stehling

19630 Sunnyside Dr. NE, APT#M204

Shoreline, WA 98133

206-327-1033

jennyblossom@me.com