

From: [Plancom](#)
To: [Rachael Markle](#); [Steve Szafran](#); [Easton Craft](#); [David Maul](#); [William Montero](#); [Paul Cohen](#); [Lisa Basher](#); [Jack Malek](#); [Laura Mork](#); [Miranda Redinger](#); [Julie Ainsworth-Taylor](#); [Susan Chang](#); [Donna M. Moss](#)
Subject: FW: public comment for the July 7 2016 mtg
Date: Thursday, July 07, 2016 12:38:15 PM
Attachments: [QUALITY TREES. QUALITY CITIES.pdf](#)
[Greetings Planning Commission members.docx](#)

From: Christine Southwick[SMTP:CLSOUTH@U.WASHINGTON.EDU]
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2016 12:38:02 PM
To: Plancom
Subject: public comment for the July 7 2016 mtg
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July 7, 2016

Greetings Planning Commission members,

In June of this year, I attended a presentation given by the Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources called, "Quality Trees, Quality Cities".

I thought that it was a great presentation. I have attached the four pages of web links that WA DNR believes to be helpful for city planners and citizens interested in creating/increasing quality canopy in their city, and also best management practices (BMP).

I came away with awareness of three major points which I want to share with the City of Shoreline Planning Commission since I believe that these are important issues that enhance Shoreline's ability to improve the green and open space areas in Shoreline and especially the Light Rail zoning areas.

1. Cities that make the commitment to their natural resources, which includes quality canopies, are successful in maintaining/increasing green spaces. One of the most cost-effective ways that tree-oriented cities in WA have funded this effort is by a 5 cent storm-water assessment.
2. Benefits of a healthy urban forest exceeds the cost of maintenance. There is solid data showing that for every \$1.00 spent on trees and tree maintenance, there is a \$2.00 return in benefits. Reduced cost in storm-water mitigation, less energy spent on controlling temperature variations, are two that are on most people's radar. Study after study has shown (Portland, OR being one such study) that those cities with more trees are safer cities. Two other benefits that are often over-looked are noise reduction, making a city more livable, and quality filtering of air—especially important to asthmatics, babies, and elders.
3. MOST IMPORTANTLY, green space and canopy requirements need to be incorporated into the building permit and development regulations. Too often green space and canopy requirements are a separate regulation that isn't factored into the approval of a building permit. Once a builder has an approved building permit, it is usually too late to make the builder provide the open space/plantings that are another requirement, resulting in a building development always out of compliance.

Therefore, I urge you to incorporate, as part of the building permit process for the new Light Rail zoning, and hopefully all City of Shoreline new development, the tree and green space requirements to become part of the building requirements as recommended by you, the Planning Commission, and passed onto the City Council.

Respectfully,

Christine Southwick
Briarcrest neighborhood
Shoreline, WA

