

From: [Raelene Gold](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Cc: [Janet Way](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on Hamlin Park Proposal
Date: Monday, October 09, 2017 5:59:22 PM
Attachments: [Letter to Shoreline City Council 1092017.docx](#)
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Shoreline City Council
Shoreline, WA

October 9, 2017

Dear City Council Members,

RE: Hamlin Park

I strongly oppose the cutting and leveling of the 4 acres of mature conifer forest to construct an utility maintenance yard in Hamlin Park. I live in Lake Forest Park and often hike and bird there. This seems a very short sighted action in view of both climate change and the planed increased population density of Shoreline. Conifer forests in the city become more and more valuable as a refuge from rising summer temperatures, development and noise for people, as well as for birds and wildlife. Our mature conifer forests are also increasingly valued for sequestering carbon mitigating rising green house gasses and rising temperatures. Also, the forest along 15th Ave NE provides an aesthetic green corridor enhancing Shoreline's appearance; this would be destroyed by the ugly industrial maintenance yard.

The forest is mainly conifers, including douglas fir, western red cedar, western hemlock and western white pine: and some appear to be 80—100 years old. There are also deciduous trees including madrone, red alder, bigleaf maple, vine maple, sitka mountain ash, common hawthorn and bitter cherry. There also remains shrubs and a ground cover of salal, dull Oregon grape, hazelnut, Indian plum, red huckleberry and salmonberry, though there is a severe problem with invasive species degrading the forest.

This is important habitat to preserve and maintain for birds and wildlife. The area has low hills and a network of hiking trails, making it an important an resource for recreation. It also is a valuable resource for environmental education to teach children about nature, botany, birds and wildlife.

I urge you to reconsider this project and to find a new already disturbed site for the maintenance yard.

Thank you for receiving my comments.
Raelene Gold
4028 NE 196th St.
Lake Forest Park, WA 98155