

**From:** [Nicholas Bratton](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] July 30 session: Ordinance 833 comment  
**Date:** Friday, July 27, 2018 11:13:26 AM  
**Attachments:** [Shoreline tree ret ord Jul 30.pdf](#)

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Dear members of Shoreline city council,

Please find attached a comment letter from Forterra relating to Ordinance 833 (tree retention) that is on the agenda for the July 30, 2018 meeting. Thank you for considering our input as part of the public record.

Nick

Nicholas Bratton

**Policy Director | Forterra**

For the people. For the land. Forever.

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July 27, 2018

Dear Mayor Hall and members of the Shoreline City Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Ordinance 833 about tree retention and replacement in the MUR-70 zone.

Forterra commends Shoreline's leadership in planning for the future. The city's vision for sustainable growth has resulted in plans and policies that support a walkable community with access to transit, housing options, businesses, and open space. We worked with Shoreline on the 185<sup>th</sup> and 145<sup>th</sup> Street Station subarea plans, shaping an incentive program that prioritizes affordable housing and conservation of farms and forests that are critical to the health of our environment and communities. These tools could also generate millions of dollars of new infrastructure funding for the city.

The MUR-70 zone is key to a sustainable future for the community, providing a framework for Shoreline to accommodate the increase of residents anticipated by the extension of light rail to the city in 2023. It promotes transit-oriented development clustered around light rail stations, which we agree is the optimal place to encourage growth.

We recommend that council amends the development code to allow for the construction of 70-foot buildings that will provide multiple public benefits. It should result in a "win-win" for Shoreline, resulting in efficient mixed-use development and expansion of the city's tree canopy. This balance is captured in the vision of the 185<sup>th</sup> and 145<sup>th</sup> Street Station subarea plans, as well as the tree preservation goals adopted in the Natural Environment Element within the Comprehensive Plan.

Furthermore, Forterra is pleased to announce that we have secured \$30,000 in private funding to contribute to the creation of a Green City Partnership in Shoreline. This is one of Forterra's signature programs, in which we organize community volunteers to help restore city parks and forested open space to create a healthy tree canopy for the benefit of all residents.

Forterra appreciates Shoreline's efforts to support sustainable housing options and economic development, in addition to maintaining a healthy urban tree canopy for decades to come.

Sincerely,



Nicholas Bratton  
Policy Director