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From: webmaster@shorelinewa.gov

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To: [agenda comments](#); [Mark Apolar](#)

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Comments

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Form Name: Comment on Agenda Items
Date & Time: 03/22/2020 1:53 pm
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Survey Details: Answers Only

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1. Kristi Magee
2. Shoreline
3. (o) Highland Terrace
4. kn_magee@hotmail.com
5. 03/23/2020
6. Study Item "c"
7. Shoreline City Council Meeting - 3/23/20

Re: Study Item "c" – Discussing the 2020-2022 City Council Goals and Work Plan

Dear City Council Members:

My name is Kristi Magee and I am a long-time Shoreline resident and homeowner and a member of Save Shoreline Trees, a non-profit corporation. I am submitting my comments regarding the 2020-2022 City Council Goals and Work Plan and, in particular, Goal 2 as it relates to stewardship of the natural environment.

I am heartened to read that the Council is committed to have Shoreline be a sustainable city, including regarding the environment; that it is committed to "preserving our environmental assets and enhancing our built environment so that it protects our natural resources."

In times like we are experiencing today, the importance of the nature and the environment to maintain a healthy community should be understood. And a healthy environment is one that retains its trees, including and in particular, the large conifer trees that Shoreline has. These trees are part of Shoreline's urban forest, including the trees that are along the right-of-ways, such as along N. 160th Street and N. 155th Street, which are at risk from the WS-DOT remodel project.

The tall conifer trees play an important role in having a diverse, healthy urban forest, which is important for birds and other wildlife and to help mitigate climate change. The birds, in particular, need the connectivity existing trees offer and they need the different layers of the trees, from the tall conifers to smaller deciduous trees. It is important to protect trees that have already achieved significant growth. We can't replace these significant trees that took decades to get to the height they are now.

Goal #2 of the 2020-2022 City Council Goals and Work Plan is speaking too narrowly to protecting the environment and I urge you to reconsider broadening the scope. The Work Plan states: "As capital improvements are made, it is important to include efforts that will enhance Shoreline's natural environment, ultimately having a positive impact on the Puget Sound region." The word "enhance" is too narrow. Instead, let's embrace a broader goal: "...it is important to include efforts that will not only enhance but preserve Shoreline's urban forest and significant trees, all that is Shoreline's natural environment..." And then perhaps this revised scope can trickle down into the various plans described in the Action Steps.

I respectfully ask that you consider broadening the scope of what is important for the City's goal of stewarding its natural environment. We need to start seeing changes in how the native conifer trees are being valued, both on public and private land, before it is too late.

Sincerely,
Kristi Magee

8. (o) Neutral

Thank you,
City of Shoreline

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