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From: [Kathleen Russell](#)

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To: [City Council](#); [Debbie Tarry](#); [Lea Bonebrake](#)

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment to City Council June 1 (Kathleen Russell)

Sensitivity: Normal

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Public Comment by Kathleen Russell
Resident of Shoreline

The Transportation Improvement Plan is impressive with the amount of information, description of projects, and update on funding.

Save Shoreline Trees is following these projects and we have a couple of questions.

First, on most of the 26 projects, under "Project Status", Council Goal 2 is cited: "deliver highly-public services through management of the City's infrastructure and stewardship of the natural environment."

What does "stewardship of the natural environment" mean in relation to City and school projects when so many public trees are being removed?

Public tree removal: 1,173 (east of I-5, Fall 2019); in 2020: 45 Significant trees at Kellogg; 12 mature trees at Westminster Way N (including 3 Douglas firs, 1 black pine, 1 Western hemlock and 7 maples); 11 Significant trees at Einstein, 47 mature trees at Einstein; and, an estimate of the 133 trees surrounding WSDOT: 68 to be removed, 23 at survival risk.

When we contact City and School District project managers this is the standard response:

"The City does take an interest in saving as many trees as possible or providing replacement." We hear this repeatedly. How long will it take the replacement trees to reach the height and provide the benefits of the tall trees removed?

The N. 148th St Non-Motorized Bridge is an opportunity to save trees at the design phase. Our request is that all of the tall trees be saved.

Councilmembers, as stewards of the natural environment, please ask City planners to save trees during the design of this project rather than removing trees at construction.

And, we ask the City again, let the public know, at the design phase, in the 26 transportation projects coming up, how many tall mature trees will be removed. These are public trees.

Thank you for listening.