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From: [Kathleen Russell](#)

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To: [City Council](#); [Eric Friedli](#); [Park Board](#); [Debbie Tarry](#); [John Norris](#)

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Save Shoreline Trees Comment to City Council 7/20/20

Sensitivity: Normal

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Save Shoreline Trees: Statement to City Council, July 20, 2020
Public Comment by Kathleen Russell, resident of Shoreline

This comment relates to the Parks, Recreation, Cultural Services/Tree Board presentation, study item 8a. According to the [Comprehensive Plan](#), item CD37: "Minimize the removal of existing vegetation especially mature trees when improving streets or developing property." In Element 6 of this plan, focusing on the protection of the environment, Item NE18: "The City should establish regulations to protect mature trees and other native vegetation from the adverse impacts of residential and commercial development including short-plat development", followed by Item NE19: "Minimize removal of healthy trees...".

With the numerous private developments and transportation projects, more and more of the tall conifer trees will be removed, creating an inequity of tree canopy cover. While trees are being removed west of Aurora, more trees are being removed east of Aurora for development and transportation projects including the 1,173 tall trees removed along I-5. This will result in more concrete, less tree canopy on the east side. Yes, 3600 trees were planted in Ronald Bog Park in 2019, but it will take decades for these trees to reach the maturity of the existing tall conifer trees. All neighborhoods in Shoreline should benefit from the tree canopy.

Save Shoreline Trees is asking the City Council, City Planners, the Parks, Recreation, Cultural Services/Tree Board, to re-evaluate the number of tall trees being removed over the next 3 years. There can be compatibility between development and the urban environment, including the protection of the tall public and private conifer trees and the natural habitat that is so prized in Shoreline. Repeating what is included in the Comprehensive Plan: "The City should establish regulations to protect mature trees...from the adverse impacts of residential and commercial development..."

Thank you for listening.