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**From:** [Kathleen Russell](#)

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**To:** [City Council](#); [Debbie Tarry](#); [Park Board](#); [Caleb Miller](#); [Leif Johansen](#); [Lea Bonebrake](#)

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Climate Impacts and Resiliency Study, Council Meeting 8/3/20

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City Council Meeting, 8/3/20  
Public Comment by Kathleen Russell  
Resident of Shoreline  
On behalf of Save Shoreline Trees

The [Climate Impacts and Resiliency Study](#) to be presented to Council this evening is the latest report along with other City of Shoreline plans and green publications including the [Urban Forest Strategic Plan](#) and the [Sustainability Report](#), emphasizing protection of the environment. Shoreline's [Comprehensive Plan](#) Item CD 37 states: "Minimize the removal of existing vegetation, especially mature trees, when improving streets or developing property."

This Climate Impacts Study recommends the environmental strategies, highlighted in this study, be applied to several departments including Planning & Community Development, Public Works, and the Tree Board. Save Shoreline Trees hopes departments will review these strategies especially Strategy 16 recommending to "revise tree list and GSI planting requirements to create more resilient urban habitat and expand urban forest canopy", along with "plant more evergreen trees". We suggest this strategy be broadened to preserve existing evergreen trees in design plans – for example, the [WSDOT project](#) where many significant trees will be cut down including Landmark tree #140, (excellent condition, 38.5" DSH) along with 8 other Landmark trees that will be impacted by the revised design.

In the Climate Impacts and Resiliency Study, Strategy 17 suggests the City "...modify design standards to encourage more vegetation and large trees." Shoreline has large, tall trees, **trees that are experts** in carbon storage and oxygen release, providing relief to Shoreline's heat islands created by "roofs, pavement, and other dark-colored hard surfaces". (Source: *Climate Impacts and Resiliency Study, Step 3, Urban Heat Island Effects, page A-2*).

At the recent 175<sup>th</sup> St corridor renovation webinar, it was stated by a team member "we will plant beautiful trees" along 175<sup>th</sup>. There are already beautiful, tall mature trees along 175<sup>th</sup>, there are beautiful trees surrounding WSDOT, tall trees at N. 148<sup>th</sup> St Bridge site, and the list continues. It will take decades for the new beautiful trees to reach the maturity and height of Shoreline's existing trees. We ask City Council, City Planners and the Tree Board to do more to save the tall conifer trees in Shoreline.