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From: Nancy Morris <taweyahnan@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 9:04 AM
To: Plancom
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please Recommend the New Protective Tree Code Amendments NOW

Importance: High

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Attention Planning Commission:

On December 2, The Tree Code Protection Team and supporters will again make comments regarding the protective tree code amendments. I hope for all our sakes in this community and to show visionary action for other cities, that you will recommend these protective amendments to the Council. So much now depends on your informed decisions. **Once again I request that you read my letter recently published in the *Shoreline Area News* that pertains to you the Commissioners at this link: <https://www.shorelineareanews.com/2021/10/letter-to-editor-new-protective-tree.html> and in its entirety below. please consider the references attached at the bottom of this email letter and specifically review the information at **TREES AND TREE RETENTION IN CITY OF BELLEVUE, WA** <https://bellevuewa.gov/city-government/departments/development/zoning-and-land-use/zoning-requirements/trees> .**

Best regards,
Nancy Morris
Resident of Shoreline, WA

Shoreline Area News Friday, October 15, 2021

To the Editor:

I am very concerned about the loss of tree canopy in Shoreline and the ultimate implications for our entire community.

A hopeful event happened on October 7, 2021 when a dedicated group of Shoreline residents presented new protective tree code amendments to the Shoreline Planning Commissioners.

First a wakeup call. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change 2021 report is available for all to read. “The IPCC's climate change report is 'code red for humanity,’” says UN secretary-general. Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg states, “The climate crisis is not going away. It’s only escalating, and it’s only growing more intense by the hour.”

We are in serious trouble. We need visionary policymakers—it’s no longer business as usual with current city codes for trees, sidewalks, and buildings.

Our cities faced unprecedented heatwaves last summer that caused 112 deaths in our state. Vital information on importance of trees to lessen heatwave impacts and heat-island effects had previously been sent to Shoreline city staff. Instead of rallying behind the best science, Shoreline city staff denied most of these new tree code recommendations that save trees.

The Planning Commission has the opportunity to change the trajectory the city staff continues to pursue for Shoreline that allows far too many trees to be destroyed for development.

The Planning Commissioners can be the visionary policymakers who do not ignore implications of climate emergency and advocate tree codes and design that incorporates existing tree habitat into the landscape of a building project; these commissioners could advise against the continued destruction of our trees in such an ignorant hubristic manner.

Trees and development can coexist with informed leadership to guide the way. The new tree code amendments are so needed now to protect our climate fighting heroes – our significant and mature trees.

REFERENCES:

TREES AND TREE RETENTION IN CITY OF BELLEVUE, WA <https://bellevuewa.gov/city-government/departments/development/zoning-and-land-use/zoning-requirements/trees> . Bellevue codes mandate designing building around existing mature trees in the landscape.

The 26th “Conference of the Parties” (COP26) and represents a gathering of all the countries signed on to the U.N. Framework Convention on **COP26: What is it and why is it happening in Glasgow in 2021?** Climate Change and the Paris Climate Agreement. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/51372486>

"Urban Forests and Birds That Need Them" | Seattle Audubon Program Meeting July 15, 2021 <https://vimeo.com/575918179>

"What Technology Could Reduce Heat Deaths? Trees." <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/07/02/climate/trees-cities-heat-waves.html>, from the New York Times July 2, 2021

"Learn About Heat Islands," EPA report <https://www.epa.gov/heatislands/learn-about-heat-islands>

"Reduce Urban Heat Island Effect," EPA Report - <https://www.epa.gov/green-infrastructure/reduce-urban-heat-island-effect>).

"2021 heat wave is now the deadliest weather-related event in Washington history" <https://www.kuow.org/stories/heat-wave-death-toll-in-washington-state-jumps-to-112-people> 112 people died during the most serious heat wave in our state end of June 2021.

"Florida is ditching palm trees to fight the climate crisis"https://www.cnn.com/2021/10/23/weather/weather-trees-adapt-climate-change/index.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=fbCNN&utm_content=2021-10-23T19%3A00%3A13&utm_term=link . . . "Scientists are working on solutions to capture and safely contain atmospheric carbon. One approach is called "terrestrial sequestration" -- which is essentially planting trees. A tree absorbs carbon during photosynthesis and stores it for the life of the tree". . .

UN Climate Statement / 09 Aug, 2021, "UN Climate Change Welcomes IPCC's Summary for Policy Makers on the Physical Science Basis of Climate Change" <https://unfccc.int/news/un-climate-change-welcomes-ipcc-s-summary-for-policy-makers-on-the-physical-science-basis-of-climate>