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From: Kathleen Russell

Sent: Thursday, March 3, 2022 11:46:05 AM

To: <u>City Council</u>
Cc: <u>Heidi Costello</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment to City Council re Planning 2022

Sensitivity: Normal

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To: City Council

From: Kathleen Russell/Communications

Save Shoreline Trees

Tree Preservation Code Team

**Date:** March 3, 2022

Re: Council Annual Planning Meeting 2022

As part of your planning for 2022, please consider the proposals made by Save Shoreline Trees and the Tree Preservation Code Team (TPCT). There are important issues before you within the next month to protect and preserve the urban forest canopy in Shoreline.

- The proposed tree code amendments Council is currently reviewing. The time to protect trees is critical now. These code amendments will help support Shoreline's goal of "zero net loss" of tree canopy. Proposed tree code amendments were submitted by the Tree Preservation Code Team.
- Amend the Land Use Element of the Comprehensive Plan 2022 to add the policy "Housing development and the preservation of significant trees can co-exist with the goal of maintaining and increasing Shoreline's urban canopy." Per the application, there are numerous supportive statements in City of Shoreline publications stressing the importance of the Shoreline's urban tree canopy. In addition, the primary and important goal of Shoreline is to increase housing density. This proposed amendment respects the importance of both opportunities and acknowledges a necessary balance as the population of Shoreline increases. Submitted by Save Shoreline Trees.
- Review the designs for the <u>new sidewalk program</u> that are in progress now. *Concerns of citizens and Save Shoreline Trees.*We support sidewalks but the not the proposed width of sidewalks along residential streets.
  - o Immediate: the new sidewalk project at 5<sup>th</sup> Ave NE between NE 175<sup>th</sup> and NE 182 Ct.
  - o Immediate: the new sidewalk project at 20<sup>th</sup> Ave NW, between NW 190<sup>th</sup> and NW 195<sup>th</sup> St.
  - o In planning: the new sidewalk project along Westminster Way N from N 145<sup>th</sup> to N 153<sup>rd</sup>.
- Consider the establishment of the Urban Forestry Advisory Panel of experienced citizens to advise the City and Council regarding issues affecting both private and public trees in Shoreline. This Advisory group would oversee the City's tree canopy and advocate effective and responsible natural resource policies in order to preserve biodiversity and sustain Shoreline's ecosystem for future generations. Submitted by Save Shoreline Trees.
- Review of SMC Title 12. Chapter 12.30: Public Tree Management. Public street ROW trees are public assets. This proposed code
  amendment will assure citizens are well informed regarding the removal of public street ROW trees: advanced timetable for public
  notices placed on trees; notification to the public via City website and the Currents publication. This code amendment includes a public
  process to provide comment regarding public street ROW tree removal. Submitted by the Tree Preservation Code Team.

On behalf of Save Shoreline Trees and the Tree Preservation Code Team - thank you for your consideration and review.