

**Archived:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 12:07:52 PM

**From:** [Michael Winkelhorst](#)

**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 10:46:07 AM

**To:** [City Council](#)

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tree Codes and 5th Ave NE Sidewalk design, Council March 21 meeting

**Sensitivity:** Normal

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Dear Honorable Councilmembers,

I urge you to approve the revised design plan providing for 4-foot sidewalks, 4-foot bike lanes, and 1-foot buffers. I have walked that stretch of 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, and it seems clear that 4-foot sidewalks would not impede nor inconvenience pedestrians on that neighborhood street. Nor would the narrower bike lanes and buffers present any safety hazards.

The Seattle Times's stories this week about the clearcutting of nearly all of the old-growth forests in Washington and British Columbia drive home the point that we must save and nurture forests wherever possible – to combat climate change, of course, but also to keep Shoreline a welcoming and livable city.

In that vein, I strongly support the other proposed changes to strengthen the city's tree code. These mature trees are a community resource. A healthy tree cover benefits all of us, and responsible development would keep the community in mind at every step.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

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