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To: [City Council](#); [Keith Scully](#); [Betsy Robertson](#); [Doris McConnell](#); [Laura Mork](#); [Eben Pobe](#); [Chris Roberts](#); [John Ramsdell](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Ordinance 968: Please retain 10% significant trees in regulations for MUR-70' building sites in Ordinance 968
Date: Wednesday, June 8, 2022 2:07:45 PM

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Councilmembers: Please include the retention of 10% significant trees in regulations for MUR-70' building sites in Ordinance 968. This is already code for MUR-80' buildings.

Why: Shoreline will lose hundreds of mature trees to development on MUR-70' zones. Current and future residents deserve to enjoy the benefits and beauty of nature. Not to mention the climate-change mitigations that mature native trees provide. These are immediate benefits to people and wildlife! So-called "replacement" trees take decades to provide the same benefits to the atmosphere.

I urge you, the City Council, to include in MUR-70 sites 10% Significant tree retention with Ordinance 968.

The prospect of seeing large developments devoid of trees is disheartening. Add to this the stark image created by little to no setbacks and limited street tree replacement. What on-site tree replacement is required is sometimes waived. We are unfortunately seeing this scenario already being played out throughout Shoreline, especially in development zones not requiring tree retention. Think N 185th, Parkwood area, now the massive development planned for Linden Ave N & N. 178th. Even the townhouses in the 5th Ave N. & N. 155th area are shockingly lacking in vegetation.

You have the opportunity to help change this mass clearcutting of Shoreline's trees. A "walkable community," which appears frequently as a buzzword that accompanies "density," cannot and will not occur without trees. Where are the trees, among these heat islands, that will shield them from the heat and cleanse the air they breathe?

Perhaps through looking at eco-design options, City Council can come up with solutions. I'm confident that you will do the right thing and reconsider the tree code for MUR-70.

Ramona Gault
Shoreline resident