

**From:** [Andrew Sell](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Cc:** [agenda comments](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Ordinance 968, item 8(a), June 27th 2022  
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Mayor Scully and Councilmembers,

Currently according to code, 10% of on-site trees have to be retained on MUR-80' sites but there is **zero tree retention** required for MUR-70' sites. We ask you to bring this topic up at the Council meeting on Monday June 27, 2022 when discussing Ordinance 968, action item 8(a). As we understand there is still time for Councilmembers to discuss this regulation, to save 10% of the significant trees on MUR-70' sites.

Council has the opportunity on Monday, June 27, to respond to citizens who are concerned about the clear-cutting of trees in Shoreline and the loss of Shoreline's tree canopy.

We understand that the "tree canopy" will not appear as an agenda item for the remainder of this year. But Shoreline is losing *thousands of trees* to development. To date 1,173 trees were cut down along I-5 in 2019 and by our conservative count more than 1,100 trees have been removed for development. This number does not include all of the right-of-way tree removals for frontage renovations or the hundreds of more trees that will be clear-cut on development sites – as many projects are in the permitting process. (See attached list.) We forecast that thousands of more significant trees will be cut down.

While we support housing, we hope that housing and the preservation of some of Shoreline's mature trees can co-exist.

**Ten percent** is *a few trees*. For example, "The Line" MUR-70' project near the 145<sup>th</sup> Station, by code could cut down 23 significant trees per the project plan. A 10% tree retention would be **2 trees**. This 10% tree retention regulation on MUR-70' sites will save *a few trees*. This is our request, *a few trees*. This is not an outrageous request. If the developer selects a 6" significant tree, that tree has the capability of growing into a mature tree and providing benefits to the residents, including the natural beauty of "a tree".

We understand that this regulation will not pertain to projects already in permitting.

Please do not wait to make a regulation change until all of the trees on MUR-70' sites are clear-cut.

We ask you, all Councilmembers, to vote to move the retention of 10% of trees on MUR-70' building sites forward.

Thank you,

Andrew Sell

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