

From: [Janel Fox](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 10% Tree Retention
Date: Monday, June 27, 2022 2:10:58 PM

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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. I ask you to bring this topic up at the Council meeting today when discussing Ordinance 968, action item 8(a). As I 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 today, to respond to citizens who are concerned about the clear-cutting of trees in Shoreline and the loss of Shoreline's tree canopy.

I 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. It is forecast that thousands of more significant trees will be cut down.

While I support housing, I 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 145th 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".

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

Thank you,

Janel Fox