

From: [Nancy Morris](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Cc: [Chris Roberts](#); [Keith Scully](#); [Doris McConnell](#); [Eben Pobee](#); [John Ramsdell](#); [Laura Mork](#); [Betsy Robertson](#); [Cameron Reed](#); [Elise Keim](#); [Alisa Nguyen](#); [Constance Perenyi](#); [Rachael Markle](#); [Catherine Lee](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment to City Council On Climate Emergencies -- the need for emergency actions by City, remark on the Blue Angel Jet Show
Date: Monday, July 25, 2022 7:13:34 PM
Importance: High

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Attention City Council and Colleagues:

This is the written draft with references at end for the verbal comment presented tonight during the council meeting, July 25th, 2022.

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“Nancy Morris, Shoreline:

An excessive-heat advisory has been issued for the Puget Sound region that will be dangerous for many people, pets, and wildlife. We know that the Shoreline Environmental Department is asking Council to declare a climate emergency on [August 15](#) . Things are serious. There is no clear path ahead on how to address climate emergencies that all will embrace. Many possibilities exist but are sidetracked by dangerous lack of political will and action while the most destructive industries that increase climate crises still continue.

One local example: The Navy’s Blue Angels coming in August. A typical air show generates 300,000 pounds or 136 metric tons of CO2 into the air in a single show. That is the same as 30 cars driving 30 miles round trip for one year at 22 miles per gallon.

Some think if we stop using cars and use Light Rail and develop many apartment complexes in a frenzy without wise design and continue to clear-cut our mature urban forest trees that somehow, this will be a solution to our local climate emergency. Our climate emergency challenges will not simply be solved by getting out of cars and living in tall box like apartments requiring intense air conditioning to survive. Buildings stay cooler surrounded by mature trees.

One person using Light Rail to cut CO2 from one car does **not** equate to what one mature tree can do. Each tree is part of a tree grove, a tree canopy, an urban forest of hundreds of trees, and all combine to reduce greenhouse gases, air pollution, and moderate the ambient temperature. We **must recognize** that

Shoreline's building and development codes are still not ambitious enough to do what is necessary to fully realize a livable sustainable city going forward in this climate crisis.

People can still go to Seafair, watch the Blue Angels, along with drastic amounts of CO2 emitted by them in one show. You, as a Council, can continue to be out of sync with increasing climate impacts by allowing mature trees to be clear-cut by developers. **Or** you can act **quickly** with needed wisdom and courage **to require** design around our mature trees and tree groves at every opportunity. It is imperative to preserve now what we are still blessed to have here in Shoreline with our mature trees and urban forest. Thank you

Regards,

Nancy Morris
Shoreline, WA

REFERENCES:

- 1. *Elephant In The Room: The Pentagon's Massive Carbon Footprint*** by Lisa Savage July 23, 2015 : <http://www.counterpunch.org/2015/07/23/72279/> .
Reference for Blue Angels and CO2: "Navy's Blue Angels without noting that the jets from a typical show generate about 300,000 pounds of CO2 into the air." (That equals 136 metric tons of CO2 or 150 US tons CO2).
- 2. *The Power of One Tree - The Very Air We Breathe*** Posted by Joanna Mounce Stancil, U.S. Forest Service in [Forestry](#)
Jun 03, 2019. CO2 absorbed by a mature tree: US Department of Agriculture: <https://www.usda.gov/media/blog/2015/03/17/power-one-tree-very-air-we-breathe>
- 3. *Greenhouse Gas Emissions from a Typical Passenger Vehicle***. CO2 auto emissions - one 22 mpg vehicle traveling 30 miles RT to work emits 4.6 metric tons of CO2 per year. 4.6 metric tons = 10,141.3 pounds. 4.6 metric tons = 5.07 US tons.
Source: <https://www.epa.gov/greenvehicles/greenhouse-gas-emissions-typical-passenger-vehicle>
- 4. [Letter from 134 Scientists Conserve Mature Forests and Large Trees \(PDF\)](#)**
Reference source: **Climate Forests:** <https://www.nrdc.org/resources/climate-forests#undefined> . . . On the importance of conserving mature forests and large trees. All forest canopy is so vitally important now in our urban environments. The letter has signatures from some scientists at our own University of Washington.
- 5. "Urban Forests and Birds That Need Them:" Seattle Audubon Program Meeting - July 15, 2021** <https://vimeo.com/575918179> "Trees are one of our best hopes for becoming a climate-resilient city. They are one

of the cheapest, simplest, and most effective tools for reducing temperatures in urban areas. The benefits trees provide extend far beyond the parcels where they stand. They are essential community assets.”