

From: [Kathleen Russell](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment to Council, Monday 8/15/22 - Climate Emergency
Date: Monday, August 15, 2022 7:48:22 PM

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Kathleen Russell
Shoreline/On behalf of Save Shoreline Trees

Climate emergency extends to MUR-70' zones

As stated in the Comprehensive Plan, Page 5: *"Community involvement in planning and opportunities for input are vital to shaping the future..."*¹ This relates to Resolution 494 Climate Emergency. Appreciation to Council and Staff for inclusion of "established trees" under Eco-Systems.

There is an additional emergency related to climate. Save Shoreline Trees did not prepare responses to the SEPA checklist on Evergreen's "The Line" MUR-70' project, because there was no formal public response option. Ordinance 752², passed by Council September 26, 2016,³ approved the Planned Action Determination of Consistency in the station subarea meaning there is no opportunity for a public comment process to the City or developers about clear-cutting of trees, effects on the environment of 90% impervious coverage, and lack of open and green spaces. In 2016 there was less awareness of the climate crisis, of devastating heat islands, and the importance of trees sequestering carbon. Staff Study, September 26, 2016, page 8a-16 stated Ordinance 752 would "streamline the permit process **and environmental review**".³ Now in 2022 we are in a Climate Emergency. Save Shoreline Trees asks Council to revise the MUR-70' regulations and provide a mechanism for public comment on all major developments when you continue to discuss MUR-70' regulations on September 12. Streamlining the environmental review, restricting public comment, is not appropriate during this Climate Emergency. Thank you.

References:

- ¹ [Comprehensive Plan, page 5](#)
- ² [Ordinance 752](#)
- ³ [Council meeting minutes, Sept 26, 2016](#)
- ⁴ [Staff Study, Sept 26, 2016, page 8a-16](#)