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To: [Keith Scully](#); [Betsy Robertson](#); [Doris McConnell](#); [Eben Pobee](#); [Laura Mork](#); [John Ramsdell](#); [Chris Roberts](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Urban Tree Canopy Study, Heat islands, Protection of Public Street Trees
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To whom concerned,

- I Vote YES to approve Amendment 2, to fund an Urban Tree Canopy (UTC) study in 2023.
- I Vote YES to approve Amendment 3, to complete the inventory of public street trees in 2023, and require the protection of public street trees in heat islands once the public street tree surveys are complete.

Shoreline is suppose to a K4C environmental city, yet Shoreline's "Transfer of Development Rights and Landscape Conservation" misaligns with Shoreline's and the world's climate and sustainability challenges. It opposes what all scientists state is needed to combat climate change, and Shoreline is creating neighborhoods with equity discrimination, from not being protected from heat islands by allowing developers to clear cut all significant trees that would keep streets, sidewalks, & housing fronts cool, with the added beauty of trees.

Trees are critical to dealing with urban heat island impacts and stormwater runoff as the climate crisis continues.

Trees also clean water as they absorb water through the leaves – sending it off into the air as oxygen and water vapor – and also pushing the water down through its roots, filtering out harmful substances as it flows into our groundwater.

In urban and suburban settings a single deciduous tree can intercept from 500 to 760 gallons per year; and a mature evergreen can intercept more than 4,000 gallons per year, while filtering contaminants (such as metals, pesticides, solvents, oils and hydrocarbons) from soil and water, ensuring healthy watersheds.

Our predecessor's who built homes, duplexes, and triplexes were able to leave our community with a wealth of trees.

TREES COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE

Excess carbon dioxide (CO₂) is building up in our atmosphere, contributing to climate change. Trees absorb CO₂, removing and storing the carbon while releasing oxygen back into the air. In one year, an acre of mature trees absorbs the same amount of CO₂ produced when you drive your car 26,000 miles.

Why then as we proceed into an era of Climate Change, and nations are told the importance of saving significant trees, would the Shoreline City Council allow them to all be clear cut?

Shoreline's "CLIMATE IMPACTS & RESILIENCY STUDY," on page 9, Resiliency Strategies, states Shoreline is to revise our "tree list" and "green stormwater infrastructure planting requirements" to be more resilient. Modify urban design standards to ensure development increases city-wide climate resilience.

Where are we revising to save and/or build "Green Stormwater Infrastructure," that includes the restoration of riparian buffers, greenways, and wildlife corridors?

Green Stormwater Infrastructure means we are to be retaining or implementing the planting of "tall significant native trees" into neighborhood parks and along our roads to prevent flooding-filter our Stormwater-filtering pollutants from our air-& prevent heat island effect, plus mandating rain gardens and native landscaping.

The City Council on August 15, 2022, passed Resolution 494. Under Section 2, City Department Directive, Identified Strategy 3 on page 3, states:

3. Ecosystems: protecting and restoring the health and functioning of local ecosystems by incorporating green infrastructure in community design, protecting all natural assets, including established trees, wetlands, waterways, soils, and other ecosystem elements, and actively restoring damaged ecosystems to maximize biodiversity, stormwater management, and carbon sequestration;

The Shoreline City Council is flagrantly ignoring the Climate Change Study and Resolution 494, implemented by the Shoreline City Council.

Shoreline City Council needs to be saving Shoreline's tall significant trees! I demand better of my city leaders, who are suppose to represent the people, and protect our communities from Climate change.

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