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From: Kathleen Russell <krussell@russell-gordon.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2023 7:15 PM
To: Plancom
Cc: Elise Keim
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public comment to the Planning Commission 2/16/23

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Please post to the public comment site, Planning Commission, 2/16/23.

Public comment made by Kathleen Russell to the Planning Commission regarding tree codes on residential zones.

Save Shoreline Trees values the opportunity to participate in local government. Prior to your meeting on February 2nd, we provided information to the Planning Commission regarding cottage housing regulations and the protection of trees. In our letter dated January 30th, we referenced Ordinance 975, in effect as of November 28, 2022, Residential Land Use 5¹, in which the City Council directs: *Develop regulations to maintain and increase Shoreline's urban tree canopy with the goal of encouraging tree retention and protection while also increasing housing opportunities and choice.*

Currently there is a separate tree code for the 7 multi-family/business development zones – all of the trees can be cut down. To balance this tree code, to maintain Shoreline's tree canopy, we ask the Planning Commission to ask staff to provide a separate and reasonable tree code for residential zones. The existing tree code for residential zones on a flat parcel allows the removal of 3 trees per 7200 sq ft. plus 1 tree each additional 7200 sq ft PLUS the removal of 75% of the trees. Tree replacements for the non-exempt trees do not replace the benefits of established significant trees. Tree retention incentives were suggested by staff, but are developers truly interested in these incentives? As far as we know, no developers have taken advantage of the incentives to retain trees on the MUR-70' sites. Please ask staff to provide a compromise on the residential tree code. Per Ordinance 975, "Develop regulations to maintain and increase Shoreline's urban tree canopy..." -- it is the responsibility of this Commission to act on this ordinance. Thank you.

¹Ordinance 975, Residential Land Use 5, page A-3-2