



TreePAC Newsletter - June/July 2018

Updates: Seattle Tree Ordinance

Greetings! As many of you know, the City has pushed out the deadlines for updating the 2009 Interim Ordinance a bit, the first not likely until the end of this month and then following. So while we have temporarily gained a bit more time, of course, **there's no time to waste**. Immediately below you can see the latest from Councilmember Johnson's work as regards updates to the ordinance, including some approximate milestones over the next couple months.

Also, we have been working **very** hard at getting endorsements and backing for our coalition from community and green groups, large and small, across the city – many have signed on, many have written letters directly to the Seattle City government, and there will be more. Let us know if you can help get your local community or social group on board – every vote of support helps and thanks to those already deeply involved in this work!

Finally, it's DEFINITELY worth reading the Bainbridge Island article linked below from the Seattle PI on June 30 – this is a HUGE story and Seattle should pay heed and do the right thing too!

The latest from Councilmember Rob Johnson's work on the Seattle Tree Ordinance:

Key upcoming dates:

- 1) Publish notice of State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) threshold determination regarding tree regulation legislation **around the end of July**
- 2) Comment and appeal period on SEPA threshold determination for bill **around the end of July-beginning of August**
- 3) Possible briefing and discussion at the Planning, Land Use & Zoning Committee (PLUZ) on **Wednesday, August 1, 2018**
- 4) Possible briefing and discussion at the PLUZ Committee on **Wednesday, August 15, 2018**
- 5) Public hearing at the PLUZ Committee on **Wednesday, September 5, 2018**
- 6) Discussion and possible vote at the PLUZ Committee on **Wednesday, September 19, 2018**

Website: <https://www.seattle.gov/council/meet-the-council/rob-johnson/trees-for-all>

Draft Tree Code Updates https://www.seattle.gov/Documents/Departments/Council/Members/Johnson/Memo_Draft-Tree-Code-Updates-20180516.pdf

Current Tree Protections (NOTE: this is not the direct ordinance, this is a DCI 'how to know' summary):
<https://www.seattle.gov/Documents/Departments/Council/Members/Johnson/Current-Tree-Protections.pdf>

Updates: How can you help?

How can you help? There are several ways (contact info and schedules are below this list):

- 1) **Join our coalition.** The next two planning meetings are below, let us know via the Working Group email list (or reply to sender for this newsletter) that you want to participate and how you can help – these next few months will be critical to getting the word out across the City and speaking with one voice!

- 2) **Contact the City Council and Mayor directly and urge them to update the existing Interim Ordinance** to protect and enhance Seattle's tree canopy. You can use the [Action Needed Now](#) letter as a template, or take those points and add your own input. And don't forget that they get a lot of email – but they may not get as many actual phone calls – ***calling in and having a conversation with staff or possibly even the Councilmember directly may be just as effective*** and still allows you to send the email, reminding them again to keep an eye out for your followup.

- 3) **Attend City Council meetings (full) in person and comment.** Now that Councilmember Rob Johnson has begun proposing a framework, this is official Council business, and can be commented on at any meeting (not just Land Use). Keep your points clear and short for best emphasis.

- 4) **Attend district-based City Council “local” meetings as soon as possible.** Now that a portion of the City Council is elected by district, make your voice heard to your district's City Councilmember directly in at their local meetings in your district. If you are meeting with a district Councilmember of **another** area, that's great too, but make sure to bring along a friend, family member or similar **from that local area** to guarantee face time, because those local meetings are intended for area residents first of course. **Schedules below.**

- 5) **Get a (downtown) office meeting with the Mayor (incl. staff if that's the only possibility) or City Council personnel.** It's not necessarily 'less' to meet with City Council or Mayoral staff, if the emphasis is kept professional and succinct – remember that they handle much of the daily tasks and specifically Rob Johnson's staff (Spencer Williams first and foremost) is on point for the Tree Ordinance work.

- 6) Last but certainly not least, **SPREAD THE WORD!** Tell your neighbors, other Seattle residents you may serve with on a local Community Council, neighborhood group, church group, social media, if you work in the city, etc. - **the more people know, the more can provide input and help the effort.**

Contact Information and City Govt Schedules:

Now on the TreePAC website (let us know if you spot any needed corrections of course):

http://treepac.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/citygovtcontact_and_sched_7-1-2018.pdf

Local Tree Activism and Events:

- NOTE: these are tree-supporting area groups, if they do not have tree-specific activities this month, we will simply link to their events calendar. If you have event(s) not seen here, please let us know so we can add them – Ed.

TreePAC: If you wish to become involved in working on an updated Seattle Tree Ordinance, please come to the meetings! Future meetings of the *Working Group* will be as follows:

Saturday, July 7, 2018: 10:15 AM – 12:15 PM

[SPL Beacon Hill Branch](#), 2821 Beacon Ave. S., Seattle

Saturday, July 21, 2018 11:15 AM – 12:15 PM

[SPL Queen Anne Branch](#), 400 W. Garfield St., Seattle

Seattle Urban Forestry Commission:

Next meetings are **Wed July 11**, **Wed Aug 1** and **Wed Aug 8** - (No meeting July 4 due to holiday)
[Meetings are held in Room 2750 of the Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 Fifth Avenue downtown.](#)

Plant Amnesty:

Event pages: [Upcoming Events](#) [Classes and Workshops](#) [Adopt-a-Plant](#) [Get Involved](#)

Bloedel Reserve – [Events listing](#)

DIRT Corps (Duwamish Infrastructure Restoration Training) – [Upcoming Events](#)

E3 Washington – [Events Calendar](#)

Sat July 21, 10am-4pm: [Seattle: Grand Opening of Rainier Beach Urban Farm and Wetlands](#)

Earth Corps – [Volunteer Calendar](#) (most environment restoration work events are on Saturdays throughout the month, usually several listed each day, not all in Seattle)

Forterra – Sat July 7: [Save Trees and Beautify the Interbay Neighborhood](#)
Sat July 21: [Columbia-Seward Tree Ambassador Work Party](#)
[Other Events](#)

Friends of Seward Park – Monthly Meeting and activities - [2nd Sat of most months](#)

King County: [We're Planting 1 Million Trees by 2020 – how to help](#)
[Drop in Saturdays, Tree Planting at King County Parks 1 Million Tree Effort](#)

Nature Consortium – West Duwamish [Urban Forest Restoration volunteer work parties](#), Tuesdays and Saturdays throughout the month, 10am-2pm.

Seattle Audubon – click here for their [Events Calendar](#).

Volunteer Open House: 2nd Tuesday of the month, 8050 35th Ave NE in Seattle, 6-7pm.

Sierra Club of WA – Wed 5/2, 7-9pm; [National Forest Committee Meeting](#) (Monthly)

NOTE: The above meeting repeats next on **Wed, 7/11** and **Wed 9/5**, same location and time.

Trees for Seattle – [Upcoming events](#) – regular Work Party and [tree-related activities!](#)

WA Native Plant Society – [Central Puget Sound Chapter Programs](#)

(Seattle mtg 1st Tues of the month, 7pm; Bellevue 2nd Tues of the month, 7pm) – A plant identification workshop precedes Seattle meetings, at 6pm.

Local/PNW Tree News:

[South Park: What is the Tree Planting Program? \(Video\)](#) – SeaTimes

***[City council passed ordinance to protect large trees](#) – (BB Island) SeaPI, 6/30

[Shelton Inland Wetlands to hire own engineer to review Shelter Ridge plans](#) – SeaPI, 6/30

[Don't upzone Seattle neighborhoods](#) – SeaTimes, 6/29

[Looking back at Seward Park through the years](#) – SeaPI, 6/26

[Op-Ed: Trees make Shoreline liveable](#) – Shoreline News, 6/22

[Public hearing at Planning Commission: staff recommend changing tree retention codes in high density zones](#) – Shoreline News, 6/19

[If you want to get to know Seattle, walk through it](#) – SeaTimes, 6/18

[The secret life and value of trees](#) – SeaTimes, 6/8

[100 redwoods are on their way to a Seattle man. Now he needs someone with room for them to grow](#) – SeaTimes, 6/4

[Battling Scotch broom along Olympic's Hoh River that threatens fish, forests](#) – SeaTimes, 5/27

[Lake Forest Park City Council approves city-wide Conservation Cluster Housing \(CCH\)](#) – Shoreline News, 5/26

[Public hearing re changes to Shoreline tree retention at planning commission meeting Jun 21 – Shoreline News, 5/25](#)

[All that fluffy stuff swirling around in the air? It's cottonwood, practicing its signature survival strategy – SeaTimes, 5/21](#)

[Eastside environmentalists turn up the heat on climate change – MiR, 5/17](#)

[Planning commission to reconsider saving trees in MUR 70 developments – Shoreline News, 5/14](#)

[LFP Conservation Cluster Housing -- Citizen's Voices – Shoreline News, 5/8](#)

Tree News generally: _____

[Hawk nesting home spared from demolition in Salt Lake City \(UT\) – SeaPI, 7/1](#)

[Study: Warming winters could lead to bark beetle spread – SeaPI, 7/1](#)

[Tropical forests see high loss of tree cover for 2nd year – SeaTimes, 6/27](#)

[Redwood grove on California coast to become public park – SeaPI, 6/27](#)

[Officials compromise to keep trees at Burlington park \(VT\) – SeaPI, 6/26](#)

[Up a tree with James Aldred, in his memoir 'The Man Who Climbs Trees' – SeaTimes, 6/24](#)

[A renewed view of some of the world's oldest trees – SeaTimes, 6/22](#)

['Hero Tree' in Houston in distress amid nearby development – SeaPI, 6/22](#)

[After nearly three long years, Yosemite National Park reopens Mariposa Grove – SeaTimes, 6/18](#)

[Professor hopes to save rare walnut tree on development site – SeaTimes, 6/12](#)

[Orangutan forest being logged despite Indonesian gov't vow – SeaTimes, 6/5](#)

[Strapped Ohio school proposes harvesting old-growth trees – SeaTimes, 6/3](#)

[The Fig Tree That Traveled Two Oceans & Three Generations](#) – SeaTimes, 6/2

[Crews move 122,000 pound live oak at Hemisfair](#) – SeaTimes, 6/1

[Forests watchdog sends ultimatum to Indonesian paper giant](#) - SeaTimes, 5/30

[Michigan canopy walk to open this year](#) – SeaTimes, 5/25

[Officials discover Hawaii tree-killing disease on Kauai](#) – SeaTimes, 5/12

[Forest tent caterpillars damaging many Michigan trees](#) – SeaTimes, 5/7

[Montana commissioner reaches deal in tree destruction case](#) – SeaTimes, 5/4

TreePAC organization info:

“Are you tired of pleading, asking, arguing and proving that trees have public value? Join TreePAC and make change happen. Together we will be a lobby as powerful as the sports lobby.” Cass Turnbull, TreePAC founder.

Mission: The TreePAC mission is to influence the government to protect, maintain and increase the Seattle-area urban forest.

Website: <http://www.treepac.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TreePAC.org/>

How to join TreePAC: <http://treepac.org/join/>

Who we are: <http://treepac.org/board/>

Mailing List: send an email to ovaltinelatte@hotmail.com to be added