



TreePAC Newsletter – Apr/May 2019

Updates: RJ gone, MOB not running again, ADU final challenges complete (and unfortunately, unsuccessful); ST kills 5,000+ trees

One key tree opponent, *Rob Johnson*, has exited the Seattle City Council before the end of his term and isn't running again. Councilmember Mike O'Brien has announced he's not running again. Two other current members (Bruce Farrell and Sally Bagshaw) are not running again either. There are three other incumbents (Juarez, Sawant and Herbold) running again, and the citywide seats occupied by Mosqueda and Gonzalez aren't up this time around.

We've got our work cut out for us in the case of most incumbents, as well as a huge slate of candidates that have announced for the open seats – the coming summer is going to be busy, **speak out** and **speak up for the trees!**

In a similar vein, [TreePAC intervened on the Queen Anne Community Council appeal of the City's proposed ADU ordinance](#). Kudos to Rich Ellison and David Moehring for all their hard work. There are a number of additional background players – you know who you are – and thank you for added input, suggestions and edits along the way! Unfortunately as we saw earlier this month, the Hearing Examiner [largely ignored our input](#), giving the 'win' to the City.

Finally, not to be outdone, ["Sound" Transit is cutting down 5,000+ trees along the northbound I-5 corridor to put in light rail](#). One hopes we can STOP this irresponsible construction in the south end when that comes around (because it will be more of the same from what has been announced to date. Amazing how [BART has been running nearly as long as I've been alive](#), goes right down the freeway in the middle (no trees) and hauls thousands of people in a much more heavily populated area than the Seattle metro area – **why can't you?** And the negative impact on our air for the next 20+ years? Protecting the south end from a similar fate has to jump to a very high priority, and soon!

In sum, we continue to strongly urge supporters to **keep up the pressure on the Seattle Mayor's office and City Council** on a regular basis to **demand** they finally **enforce and improve the Seattle Tree Ordinance!** If you don't live in Seattle, your local city and/or county govt should also be in the mix – we're all in this together.

Take Action: How else can you help protect Seattle trees?

Here's a [comprehensive list of actions you can take](#) and points to include, including contact info.

Trees for Seattle - quick note:

In this month's issue of the [Trees for Seattle newsletter](#) (click link to sign up) – the main article was about [reporting tree cutting, damage and illegal removal](#) – I suspect our message is getting through – thanks for putting that front and center! Now if only SDCI (run by development interests) wasn't the agency responsible for 'protecting' trees in our fair city (they mostly don't). Keep the pressure up and we'll get that changed too!

Other Cities and places: tree efforts and situations:

[11 surprising things you never knew about US forests](#) – SeaPI, 4/9

[Editorial: Calculation instrument provides value for planting or saving a tree \(MO\)](#) – SeaPI, 3/28

[SoCal Edison Is Cutting Your Trees And There's Not Much You Can Do About It](#) – Los Angeles, 3/19

[How many trees are cut down every year?](#) (RAN, 2017)

Local Tree Activist Groups and Events:

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

TreePAC: If you wish to become involved in working on an updated Seattle Tree Ordinance, please watch the homepage for suggested action steps, or the mailing list for similar updates: Please check <https://www.treepac.org/> or friends.urbanforests.org.

Seattle Urban Forestry Commission:

Meetings are posted at the link immediately below, usually 1st and 3rd Wed each month. Next meetings are **June 5, June 12, July 3 and July 10, 2019**. [Meetings are held in Room 2750 of the Seattle Municipal Tower, 27th floor, 700 Fifth Avenue downtown.](#)

Plant Amnesty (Seattle area):

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

[PA Tree-specific upcoming events, click link above for more info/signup:](#)

[Urban Forest Symposium - Trees for the Future: The critical role of urban forests in combating the climate crisis – Tuesday, May 21, 2019.](#)

Local Tree Activist Groups and Events (cont.):

Bloedel Reserve (Bainbridge Island) – [Events listing](#)

DIRT Corps (Duwamish Infrastructure Restoration Training) – [more info](#) - [Facebook](#)

E3 Washington (Environment, Equity, Economy) – [Western WA Events Calendar](#)

Earth Corps (events across Greater Seattle) – [Volunteer Calendar](#) (most environment restoration work events are on Saturdays each month, often several each day, not all in Seattle)

Forterra (Greater Seattle area) – [Events](#)

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

King County: [We're Planting 1 Million Trees by 2020](#)
[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. [Facebook page](#).

Seattle Audubon – click here for their [Events Calendar](#).
Volunteer Open House: 2nd Tuesday of the month, 8050 35th Ave NE in Seattle, 6-7pm.

Seward Park Audubon Center – [Events Page](#)

Sierra Club of WA – Wed 6/5, 7/3, 9/4, 7pm: [National Forest Committee Meeting](#)

Thornton Creek Alliance – [Upcoming events here](#) (click through)

Trees for Seattle – [Upcoming events](#) (Facebook)- regular [Tree Work Parties](#)

Sat June 1: Wedgwood Tree Walk

Sat June 8: Care for Beacon Hill's Street Trees!

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:

[Visit the Echo Lake Elementary Native Plant Garden](#) – **Shoreline Area News, 5/17**

[Housing study pokes holes in conventional wisdom](#) – **Seattle Weekly, 5/15**

[QACC \(and TreePAC\) lose challenge of city's analysis of ADU legislation impacts](#) – **Madison Park Times, 5/14**

[Ruling could pave way for more mother-in-law units, backyard cottages in Seattle](#) – **SeaTimes, 5/13**

[Nature has the power to increase happiness and reduce stress](#) – **DailyUW, 5/13**

[Bush School students provide Harrison Ridge Greenbelt stewardship](#) – **Madison Park Times, 5/12**

[PSE; street paving; homelessness](#) – **Bellevue Reporter, 5/10**

[After delay, Oregon restricts tree-killing herbicide](#) – **SeaTimes, 5/9**

[Mamie Bolander honored as Environmental Steward](#) – **Shoreline Area News, 5/9**

[KOMO: Audubon society raises concerns about Sound Transit cutting trees during nesting season](#) – **Shoreline Area News, 5/8**

[TIMBER! City approves easements for transmission line](#) – **Bellevue Reporter, 5/8**

[Candidates; PSE](#) – **Bellevue Reporter, 5/8**

[Tree Walk \(West Seattle, on 6/8\)](#) – **West Seattle Blog, 5/8**

[WASHING AWAY A RIVER: UW study finds logging to be key contributor in accelerated erosion of Washington river](#) – **DailyUW, 5/6**

[Vigil and poem for the trees - tree removal at 145th](#) – **Shoreline Area News, 5/3**

[Work to remove over 5,000 trees for Lynnwood light rail begins](#) – **KIRO, 5/2**

[Seattle Parks prioritizing neighborhood boulevard projects in 2019](#) – **Queen Anne News, 4/30**

[Capehart Forest now open: Friends of Discovery Park making it official with May 11 celebration](#) – **Queen Anne News, 4/30**

Local/PNW Tree News (cont.):

[Sound Transit tree and vegetation removal starting near NE 145th St and I-5 and moving south](#) – **Shoreline Area News, 4/30**

[Eugene couple says clearing trees caused emotional distress](#) – **SeaPI, 4/26**

[Diane Buckshnis releases priorities for reelection](#) – **Edmonds Beacon, 4/25**

[Queen Anne Elementary neighbors plea to save tree: Parks clears school district to remove ailing Norway Maple](#) – **Queen Anne News, 4/25**

[Spruce Elementary students help with tree planting](#) – **Lynnwood Today, 4/24**

[Photo: Trail clearing at Shoreview Park](#) – **Shoreline Area News, 4/23**

[Through the Trees to the Mountains](#) (*Through the Trees to the Mountains is an art installation by artist Thendara Kida-Gee exploring liminal spaces and digital influence. Sat, Apr 20 through Jul 7*) – **Federal Way Mirror, 4/19**

[King County forests are facing new challenges](#) – **MI Reporter, 4/18**

[Lynnwood Link Extension early work, tree replacement program to begin soon](#) – **Shoreline Area News, 4/17**

[Friends of Discovery Park outline preferred South Beach Trail design](#) – **Queen Anne News, 4/17**

[To make room for light rail, 5,300 trees will fall along I-5](#) – **Seattle Weekly, 4/16**

[Thousands of trees will be removed for light rail to Lynnwood](#) – **SeaTimes, 4/15**

[Exhibit highlights artists' love for Pacific Northwest trees](#) – **Everett HeraldNet, 4/11**
(*"Woodland Reverie: The Art of Helen Loggie" at Cascadia Art Museum in Edmonds, is showing through June 30*)

[Save Madison Valley continues opposition to The Madison in court](#) – **Madison Park Times, 4/11**

[LFP Police seek culprit who felled tree across Ballinger Way](#) – **Shoreline Area News, 4/9**

[District 7 candidate fighting tree removal for school sewer line: Harper threatens legal action if maple comes out for Queen Anne Elementary Addition project](#) – **Queen Anne News, 4/4**

Local/PNW Tree News (cont.):

[Commentary: The Tree Board's mission is 'Right Tree, Right Place' – MyEdmonds News, 4/3](#)

[What to love about Bigleaf Magnolias – Madison Park Times, 4/3](#)

[Let's not lose our beautiful trees – SeaTimes, 4/1](#)

[Shoreline Parks/ Tree board meeting Thursday will hear recommendations of funding advisory committee – Shoreline Area News, 3/28](#)

[Mercer Island aims to balance development with environment – MI Reporter, 3/28](#)

[On-the-spot-poetry soon avail: "Listen To The Trees" – Westside Seattle, 3/25](#)

[BPA could remove thousands of trees along Eastside transmission lines – Seattle Weekly, 3/25](#)

[Hearing examiner grants TreePAC's motion to intervene in ADU appeal – Queen Anne News, 3/22](#)

[East Mercer neighbors' concerns about wetlands, trees – MI Reporter, 3/11](#)

[King County moves closer to planting one million trees – MI Reporter, 3/11](#)

[Community group urges common CENSE in energy proposal – MI Reporter, 3/11](#)

Tree News elsewhere:

[130,000 trees to be planted in English cities and towns – Guardian, 5/19](#)

[The Suburbs Are Coming to a City Near You – NY Times, 5/18](#)

[Wood wide web: Trees' social networks are mapped – BBC, 5/15](#)

[Loving nature to death: My struggle with balancing appreciation and conservation – DailyUW, 5/13](#)

[California couple to pay nearly \\$600,000 for uprooting tree – SeaPI, 5/8](#)

[This tiny bug could put a \\$625 million hole in Sweden's forests – SeaPI, 5/7](#)

Tree News Elsewhere (cont.):

[Ltr: Neighbor's tree felling shows Norwalk needs an ordinance](#) (CT) – SeaPI, 5/7

[Groups seeking to conserve Indiana forests make new push](#) – SeaPI, 5/6

[Editorial: Norwalk should not rank last for tree coverage](#) (CT) – SeaPI, 5/3

[City plants trees to offset doomed ash trees](#) – SeaPI, 5/2

[Climate change damage to Queensland's world heritage rainforest 'as bad as Great Barrier Reef'](#) – Guardian, 4/29

['Death by a thousand cuts': vast rainforest expanse lost in 2018](#) – Guardian, 4/25

[What can you do to fight climate change? Plant a tree](#) – Everett HeraldNet, 4/23

[IDOT, preservationists give 5,000 trees to schools statewide](#) – SeaPI, 4/22

[Amazon's trees get taste of air of the future](#) – Guardian, 4/19

[Town denies request to cut down more trees at Hamilton Avenue School](#) – SeaPI, 4/16

[A tiny beetle is killing an urban forest in South Africa and there's no solution](#) – SeaPI, 4/6

[No town arborist protects Guilderland trees](#) (NY) – SeaPI, 4/13

[Weatherwatch: the new forests helping to clean our atmosphere](#) – Guardian, 4/8

[Sikhs aim to plant million trees as 'gift to the planet'](#) – Guardian, 4/5

[Last time CO2 levels were this high, there were trees at the South Pole](#) – Guardian, 4/3

[Letter to the Editor: Concerned about lost trees](#) (CT) – SeaPI, 4/2

[5 Tips for Planting and Caring for Trees this Arbor Day](#) – SeaPI, 3/27

[US-China soy trade war could destroy 13 million hectares of rainforest](#) – Guardian, 3/27

[South Katy resident tries to protect old oak trees](#) (TX) – SeaPI, 3/26

Tree News Elsewhere (cont.):

[Neighbors accuse Saratoga board chair of conflict of interest](#) – SeaPI, 3/21

[Guardian view on rewilding Scotland: an immodest proposal](#) – Guardian, 3/21

[Like maple syrup on your pancakes? You have a tree to thank](#) – SeaPI, 3/12

Books and other reading:

[The value of trees: 4 essential reads](#) – SeaPI, 4/26

[Talk on hidden lives of trees and other things to do in Greenwich](#) – SeaPI, 3/12

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 local government to protect, maintain and increase the Seattle-area urban forest.

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

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

How to join (or donate) to TreePAC: <https://treepac.org/join/>

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

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

Tree Apps: Since you're going to be on your phone anyway, why not identify the tree you're standing next to? Check out our [Tree Apps page](#) and let us know your tree identification results! Also, the **SoCoCulture** crowdsourced [tree map page here](#).