

Urban Forestry Commission 2017 Annual Report

Sustainability & Transportation Committee

June 5, 2018

Weston Brinkley, Chair

Joanna Nelson de Flores, Vice-chair

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Seattle Urban Forestry Commission

Today's presentation

- UFC Background
- 2017 Annual Report
- 2018 Work Plan
- Tree Regulations Update



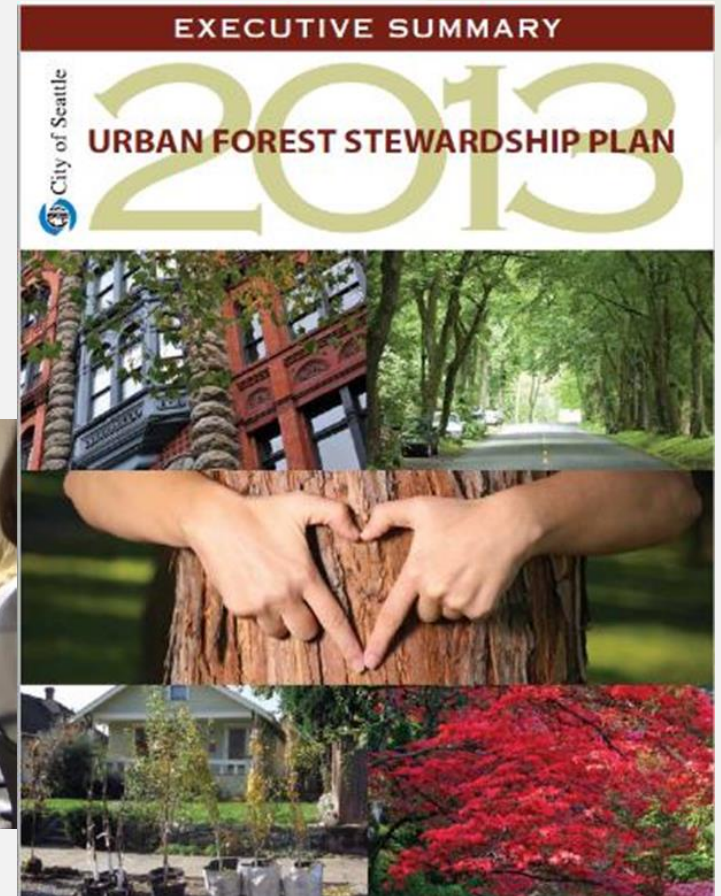
UFC Mission

The Urban Forestry Commission (UFC) was established to **advise** the Mayor and City Council concerning the establishment of **policy** and **regulations** governing the protection, management, and conservation of **trees** and vegetation in the city of Seattle



UFC Objectives

- Make recommendations on specific policy actions
- Provide a forum for public dialogue
- Support implementation of the UFSP



2017 Highlights

- OSE/SDCI Tree Regulations Research Project
 - Findings
 - Losing exceptional trees and groves
 - Development is resulting in tree loss
 - Large trees are being replaced with small trees
 - Recommendations
 - Code and process improvements
 - Process improvements
 - Tree removal permit system for private property



2017 Highlights

- Canopy Cover Assessment
 - Current: 28%
 - Goal: 30%
 - 2015 study shows downward trend



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2017 Highlights

- Building relationships
 - Seattle Audubon
 - King County Million Trees
 - City Fruit
 - Urban Forestry Symposium
 - Annual UFC/IDT working meeting
 - Duwamish Valley Youth Corps



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2017 Highlights

- Recommendations
 - Tree Executive Order/Tree regs Research Project
 - Children's Hospital
 - Design Review Program improvements
 - MHA Draft EIS
 - Urban Bird Treaty
 - SCL/SDOT tree pruning cycle coordination
 - UW Urban Forest Management Plan



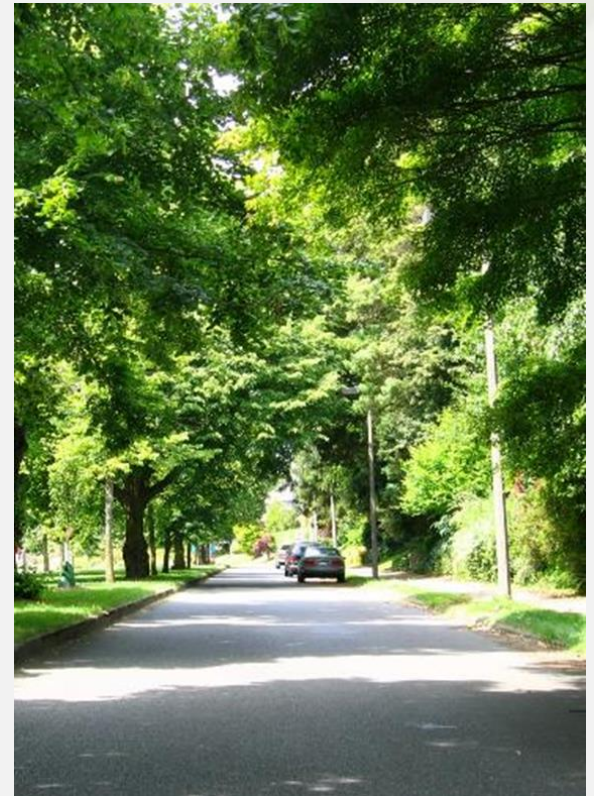
2018 Workplan

- Priority actions:
 - Tree Protection Ordinance update
 - Tree Protection Executive Order implementation
 - UFSP update
 - Policy decisions affecting UF goals
 - Outreach and engagement



Tree Protection Ordinance

- General principles include:
 - Tree removal permit
 - Protect exceptional trees and groves
 - Fee-in-lieu program
 - Incentives for tree retention
 - Tree service provider registration
- Specific input to Trees for All:
 - Permit threshold: 6" DBH
 - Remove small lot exception
 - Properly fund enforcement



Thank you!



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