

# Tree Protections Update



Photo by John Skelton





Land Use Committee
July 13, 2022

# TODAY'S PRESENTATION

- Introduction
- Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) Update
- Tree Protections Update
- Next Steps

#### UFMP UPDATE

- Implementation
  - 2022 work plan, UFMP tracker
  - 2021 Accomplishments Report
  - Preparing for upcoming canopy cover assessment

#### OUR 2021 ACCOMPLISHMENTS







#### City of Seattle actions in support of our urban forest

Tree Care and Management

1,708 Trees planted by City departments

7,787 Trees maintained to keep them healthy

**25,386** Trees inventoried to better manage our urban forest

**356** Miles including **7,045** Sites of trimmed trees for safety & reliability of the power grid

#### Planning and Protection

- Finalized the update to the Urban Forest Management Plan
- Conducted 5 listening sessions and outreach to 9 communities in preparing the SEPA (environmental) draft tree protection ordinance

#### **Engaging community**

Trees for Seattle provided planting outreach to 1,500 residents in low canopy neighborhoods (South Park, Georgetown, Lake City, New Holly).

GSP supported 177 pald and stipended positions providing on the ground restoration and community-building experience.

Seattle City Light planted 60 street trees and provided education and outreach to residents in Beacon Hill, Central District

and Rainier Beach



## Work done in Seattle's forested parklands

324 Acres
of weed management
done on Seattle's forested
parklands

1,851 Acres
of parklands
now under restoration

10,573 Seedlings of native trees planted by the Green Seattle Partnership



#### Code Compliance/Enforcement

- Most recent \$25,635 penalty
- Penalties consistently over \$3,000 in Q1/Q2 2022
- Total to-date \$56,836 (2022)
- Feedback timely and comprehensive assistance to preservation questions
- Quick action via new online feature to reach a City arborist



# Partnership with Urban Forestry Commission and other stakeholders

- Past briefings: Feb 9 and March 2
- Other stakeholders: consideration of comments received

## SEPA Appeal

- Hearing scheduled for three days between June 10 - 22
- Anticipated Ruling: end of July

### SEPA Appeal – Possible Outcomes

- Affirm SDCI's Determination
- Require additional analysis
- Require EIS

SDCI will work with Mayor & Council on next steps



# Tree Service Provider Registration Ordinance 126554

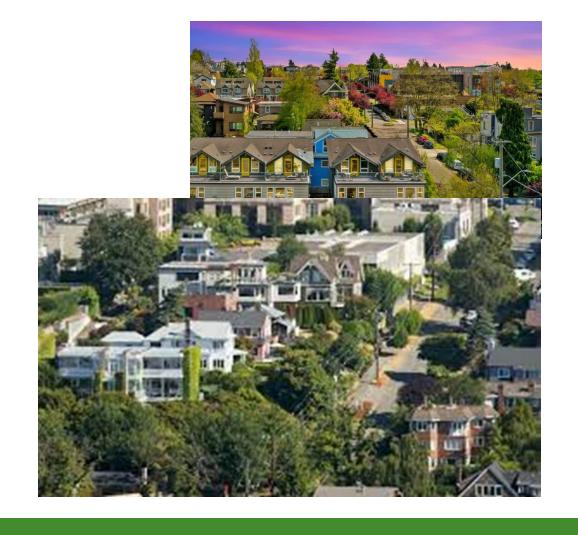
- Adds a tree service provider registration procedure and requirement
- Exploring options for implementing
- New regulations effective November 2022



### **NEXT STEPS**

#### Q2 to Q4 2022

- Work with stakeholders, including UFC, on any potential revisions to SEPA Draft legislation
- Identify resources needed for implementation and enforcement
- Work with the Mayor and City Council on the next steps



# QUESTIONS?

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www.seattle.gov/sdci/codes/changes-to-code/treeprotection/project-documents

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