






City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

Appointee Name: <i>Sandra S. Whiting</i>		
Board/Commission Name: <i>Urban Forestry Commission</i>		Position Title: <i>Urban Ecologist</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appointment OR <input type="checkbox"/> Reappointment		Council Confirmation required? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Appointing Authority: <input type="checkbox"/> Council <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <i>Fill in appointing authority</i>	Date Appointed: <i>mm/dd/yy-</i> <i>11/21/2017</i> 	Term of Position: * <i>12/1/2016</i> to <i>12/1/2016</i> <i>3/31/2020</i> 
Residential Neighborhood: <i>West Seattle</i>	Zip Code: <i>98136</i>	Contact Phone No.: <i>n/a</i>
Background: <p><i>Sandra holds a Bachelor's degree in biology, a master's degree in Urban/Environmental Planning, and a certificate in Wetland Restoration and Management. She also completed the Community Tree Management Institute program through the Washington State Department of Natural Resources.</i></p> <p><i>Sandra's experience spans over 20 years in environmental management. Most recently she spent ten years as the City of Tukwila's Urban Environmentalist. In that role she was responsible for implementing the City's critical areas ordinance, tree protection ordinance, and vegetation management and mitigation for the Shoreline Management Program.</i></p> <p><i>Sandra's strong background and experience will be an asset to the Urban Forestry Commission, especially as the Commission prepares to support the City on the Urban Forest Stewardship Plan update process and implementation of the Tree Protection Executive Order.</i></p>		
Authorizing Signature (original signature): 		Appointing Signatory: <i>Mayor Tim Burgess</i> Mayor of Seattle

*Term begin and end date is fixed and tied to the position and not appointment date.

Sandra S. Whiting

Education

Certificate Master Fruit Tree Steward, City Fruit, 2015
Certificate Community Tree Management Institute, Washington Dept. of Natural Resources, 2012
Certificate Wetland Restoration and Management, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, 2001
MUP Urban/Environmental Planning, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, 1983
BA Biology, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan, 1978

Relevant Work Experience

City of Tukwila, Urban Environmentalist, 2005 - 2014

Served as Tukwila's biologist responsible for critical areas management, urban forestry issues, and shoreline ecosystem management. Responsibilities included:

- Implementation of Sensitive Areas Ordinance protecting wetlands, watercourses, steep slopes and other critical areas, reviewed mitigation plans, monitored implementation of mitigation, reviewed monitoring reports.
- Enforcement of Tree Ordinance (permits for tree clearing, requirements for tree replacement).
- Development of an urban forestry chapter as part of an update to the Tukwila Comprehensive Plan, which included objectives, goals, and specific policies to increase urban tree canopy and protect existing trees. Coordinated grant-funded urban forest canopy study. Staffed volunteer urban forestry advisory committee. Defended the new chapter before Planning Commission and City Council. Designed and coordinated grant-funded training program for City maintenance personnel regarding tree pruning and recognizing hazardous trees.
- Implementation of Shoreline Master Program for issues related to shoreline habitat mitigation, restoration of shoreline vegetation, contaminated sites and salmon enhancement projects. Wrote sections of proposed SMP update relating to tree and vegetation protection and shoreline habitat restoration. Developed new standards for re-vegetation of buffer areas and mitigation of unavoidable impacts.
- Represented City on the WRIA 9 Duwamish River Blueprint update for the salmon transition zone.
- Reviewed SEPA checklists and environmental impact studies related to the natural environment.
- Coordinated with other regulatory agencies (Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Ecology, Corps of Engineers, National Marine Fisheries Service, Washington Department of Natural Resources, etc.).

Environmental Restoration/Mitigation Project Examples:

- Designed wetland buffer enhancement project for the east side of 19 acre Tukwila Pond; recruited and lead volunteers and other city department staff in implementation; obtained grants for soil enhancements, fencing and plants; managed budget, contracts and monitoring/reporting.
- Prepared restoration plan for very disturbed seasonal urban creek next to City Hall. Led removal of invasive plants (volunteer and contracted crews), installation of large woody debris, and planting and installed irrigation. Oversaw maintenance activities for 3 years.
- In collaboration with BECU and Forterra supported restoration of Duwamish River Shoreline for the Restore the Duwamish Shoreline Program. Obtained City and grant funding. Prepared planting plans, ordered plants and supplies, worked with volunteers, and oversaw monitoring and maintenance.
- Developed planting plan for shoreline restoration on Duwamish River (Codiga Park) for implementation by volunteers from local environmental organization.
- Developed planting plan for restoration of riparian area along section of Southgate Creek (carried out by Public Works and Parks Departments).
- Reviewed design and oversaw implementation of Tukwila Pond wetland mitigation project on a 4 acre emergent wetland vegetated with Reed Canarygrass. Reviewed & approved planting plan, wildlife features, grading plan, soil amendment plans, and proposed monitoring program. Reviewed monitoring reports, maintenance activities and conducted site visits.
- Developed off-site wetland mitigation program using City-owned properties in Tukwila for prioritizing mitigation sites where site conditions favor wetland enhancement or creation and long term maintenance. Approved by City Council.
- Reviewed and commented on proposed mitigation plans for watercourse restoration, wetland enhancement and wetland creation, including proposed planting plans for a proposed 400-acre development in South Tukwila involving nearly 20 acres of wetland, stream and shoreline mitigation.
- Supervised final plantings and maintenance and monitoring for wetland, watercourse and buffer mitigation by Sound Transit related to the installation of Link Light Rail.

Environmental/Natural Resources Consultant - 1996 – present

Have worked part-time as an environmental and natural resource consultant in Latin America and the Caribbean for the Inter-American Development Bank and a variety of international firms. Responsibilities have included:

- Provision of technical assistance and training in environmental enforcement, preparation of environmental regulations, and environmental compliance inspections to national and local government regulatory personnel in developing countries.
- Assessment of potential environmental and social impacts of proposed projects and programs (infrastructure, agriculture, environmental management, technology development, tourism) in developing countries. Identification of mitigation measures to reduce impacts, improve sustainability. Preparation of environmental and social management plans including: institutional strengthening requirements and designation of responsibilities; required mitigation and timing; monitoring and reporting plans; and budgets for implementation.

Environmental Volunteer Experience - 2000 - present

- Rare Care Program volunteer for University of Washington, monitoring and reporting of plants listed as sensitive, threatened and endangered in a variety of habitats.
- Volunteer for the Restore the Duwamish Shoreline Restoration Project in Tukwila with BECU and Forterra, weeding, planting, sheet mulching, leading volunteers.
- Volunteer for City Fruit, assisting with fruit tree pruning.
- Washington Nature Conservancy, various habitat restoration projects including prairies, forested areas and estuary. Weed surveys, weeding, seed collecting, seed starting, and planting.
- Solstice PPatch volunteer: Orchard steward. Led sheet mulching and planting of native shrub wetland area adjacent to Solstice P-Patch.

Previous Advisory Committee Experience

- King County Stormwater Utility Citizen's Advisory Committee (1 year)
- METRO Citizen's Water Quality Advisory Committee (4 years, one as chairperson)

Urban Forestry Commission

11-17-17

13 Members: Pursuant to SMC 3.14.920, all members subject to City Council confirmation, 3-year terms:

- 6 City Council-appointed
- 6 Mayor-appointed
- 1 Commission-appointed

Roster:

*D	**G	RD	Position No.	Position Title	Name	Term Begin Date	Term End Date	Term #	Appointed By
6	M		1.	Wildlife Biologist	Steve Zemke	12/1/16	3/31/20	2	Council
6	F		2.	Urban Ecologist	Sandra Whiting (finishing Donna Kostka's term)	12/1/16	3/31/20	1	Mayor
6	M		3.	Natural Resource Agency or University Representative	Weston Brinkley	12/1/15	3/31/19	1	Council
6	F		4.	Hydrologist or Similar Professional	Sarah Rehder	12/1/14	3/31/18	1	Mayor
6	M		5.	Arborist	Leif Fixen	12/1/14	3/31/18	2	Council
6	M		6.	Landscape Architect	Tom Early	12/1/14	3/31/18	2	Mayor
6	F		7.	NGO Representative	Joanna Nelson de Flores	12/1/15	3/31/19	2	Council
6	M		8.	Development Community or Utility Representative	Andrew Zellers	12/1/15	3/31/19	1	Mayor
6	M		9.	Economist, Financial Analyst, Realtor, or Similar Professional	Craig Johnson	12/1/16	3/31/20	1	Commission
6	F		10.	Get Engaged Member	Megan E. Herzog	9/1/17	8/31/18	1	Mayor
			11.	Environmental Justice Rep.	Vacant (recruitment to begin January 2018)	4/1/18	3/31/21	1	Council
			12.	Public Health Rep.	Vacant (recruitment to begin January 2018)	4/1/18	3/31/21	1	Mayor
			13.	Community/Neighborhood Rep.	Vacant (recruitment to begin January 2018)	4/1/18	3/31/21	1	Council

SELF-IDENTIFIED DIVERSITY CHART

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)				
	Men	Women	Transgender	Unknown	Asian	Black/African American	Hispanic/Latino	American Indian/Alaska Native	Other	Caucasian/Non-Hispanic	Pacific Islander	Middle Eastern	Multiracial
Mayor	2	3								5			
Council	3	1								4			
Other	1									1			
Total	6	4								10			

Key:

- *D List the corresponding *Diversity Chart* number (1 through 9)
- **G List *gender*, M= Male, F= Female, T= Transgender, NB= Non-Binary O= Other U= Unknown
- RD Residential Council District number 1 through 7 or N/A

Diversity information is self-identified and is voluntary.