

**Full Council – September 16, 2019**

**Amendment 1 to Resolution 31902: Tree legislation analysis and engagement priorities**

**Sponsor:** Councilmember González

**Description:** This amendment adds language specifying that the technical analysis and associated community engagement process for the update to the City’s tree regulations should prioritize low-income and low-canopy neighborhoods and that engagement should be culturally and linguistically appropriate.

Notes:

Double underlines indicate new language to be added.

~~Double strikethroughs~~ indicate language proposed to be removed.

**Amendments**

1. Amend Section 1 of Resolution 31902, as follows:

Section 1. The City Council is ready to consider strategies recommended by the Mayor that would: protect existing trees, particularly exceptional trees, and trees at least 2 feet in diameter at breast height; increase Seattle’s tree canopy; and balance City goals to support future growth and density as provided in the City’s Comprehensive Plan. These strategies should prioritize the needs of low-income and low-canopy neighborhoods and are expected to include exploring the feasibility of:

- A. Retaining protections for exceptional trees and expanding the definition of exceptional trees.
- B. Adopting a definition of significant tress as trees at least 6 inches in diameter, and creating a permitting process for the removal of these trees.
- C. Adding replacement requirements for significant tree removal.
- D. Simplifying tree planting and replacement requirements, including consideration of mitigation strategies that allow for infill development while balancing tree planting and replacement goals.

- E. Reviewing and potentially modifying tree removal limits in single-family zones.
- F. Establishing an in-lieu fee option for tree planting.
- G. Tracking tree removal and replacement on both public and private land throughout Seattle.
- H. Providing adequate funding to administer and enforce tree regulations.
- I. Requiring all tree service providers operating in Seattle to meet minimum certification and training requirements and register with the City.

2. Amend Section 2 of Resolution 31902, as follows:

Section 2. The Mayor shall direct the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI) and the Office of Sustainability and Environment (OSE), in partnership with other City departments as appropriate, to pursue the following actions in 2020 that will result in recommendations to update City policies, practices, and regulations related to trees in Seattle:

- A. Develop a project scope and conduct technical analysis to identify key issues regarding current regulations governing the management of trees in Seattle.
- B. Analyze the Urban Forestry Commission recommendations previously shared with the Mayor and the Council to inform development of recommendations.
- C. Develop and execute a culturally and linguistically appropriate community engagement plan that prioritizes engagement with residents of low-income and low-canopy neighborhoods and includes, but is not limited to, homeowners, renters, developers, neighborhood groups, environmental organizations, and climate and environmental justice organizations.

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