

Thank you and follow up on 6/26/2018 meeting regarding draft Tree Protection Ordinance update  
Tue 7/3/18, 5:00 PM

Dear Councilman Johnson,

Thank you for the invitation and meeting last week to discuss our thoughts on ways to strengthen the current tree ordinance. We appreciate your interest in preventing a SEPA appeal in July/August so an updated ordinance can pass prior to the budget period. As we noted, the Coalition's response depends on what changes are made in the draft update.

We are glad to know you will be including in the ordinance three of our recommendations:

- 1) Required replacement of trees 6" DBH rather than "12" DBH.
- 2) Requirement for developers along with owners of already developed property to replace removed trees.
- 3) Removal of 5000 square foot lot exemption in the current ordinance.

We also understand that you will follow-up on the items below and get back to us on them:

- 1) Continuation of protection for exceptional trees.
- 2) Expansion of SDOT's current registration system and certificate of compliance process for all tree service providers requiring them to acknowledge that they are familiar with the city tree ordinance and regulations and the consequences if they fail to comply with them.
- 3) Establishment of one citywide database for tree removal and replacement permitting to allow the city to track changes in the tree canopy.

We want to recap our recommendation to amend the current ordinance given most changes are technical in nature to align with existing Seattle policies. This simplifies our job of explaining the changes to our Coalition and supporting public.

Please let us know if we have interpreted our conversation with you correctly. It is difficult in a short period of time to discuss all the details involved and we do not want to misrepresent your current thinking on this issue. Our next Coalition for a Stronger Tree Ordinance meets again on Saturday July 7, 2018 and we would like to brief them on our meeting with you.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Steve Zemke  
Maria Batayola  
Carolyn Rodenberg  
Lynn Fitz-Hugh

\*Note – Councilmember Johnson never responded to this e-mail to confirm or deny what it says.