



**City of Seattle**  
Urban Forestry Commission

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Julia Michalak (Position #1 – Wildlife Biologist) • Falisha Kurji (Position #3 – Natural Resource Agency) • Stuart Niven (Position #5 – Arborist – ISA) • Hao Liang (Position #6 – Landscape Architect – ISA) • David Moehring (Position #8 – Development) • Blake Voorhees (Position #9 – Realtor) • Jessica Hernandez (Position #11 – Environmental Justice) • Jessica Jones (Position #12 – Public Health) • Lia Hall (Position #13 – Community/Neighborhood)

## 2023 Work Plan

### 2023 Priority Action Areas:

|   |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Advise City on tree and urban forest protection ordinance update | 4. Climate change issues and impacts |
| 2. Incorporate RSJI principles into UFC work                        | 5. Support Comprehensive Plan update |
| 3. Urban Forestry-related Statements of Legislative Intent          | 6. Community engagement/education    |

The Urban Forestry Commission's work for 2023 is organized in five focus areas; tree-related City regulations and policies, urban forestry funding, outreach and engagement, Seattle Comprehensive Plan 2024 update, and internal operations. The following five worksheets contain the topics and actions, and their related tracking information, for each of these focus areas. The topic areas are arranged in order according to priority. Then within each topic area, actions are prioritized from 1 to 3, using criteria including urgency/timeliness and topic importance. All work of the Commission is conducted with the lenses of the impacts to and importance of environmental justice and climate change

### 1. Tree-related City Regulations/Policies

| Topic Area/Action   | Priority Level | UFC Lead     | UFC Additional | Other Parties Involved | Start Date | Outcome/Deliverable       | Response Tracking | Status  |
|---|----------------|--------------|----------------|------------------------|------------|---------------------------|-------------------|---|
| <b>1.1 Urban Forestry Statements of Legislative Intent</b>  |                |              |                |                        |            |                           |                   |   |
| 1.1.1 UF Consolidation SLI - Participate in deliberative sessions with City staff and Council around urban forestry consolidation | 1              | Stuart       |                |                        | TBD        | Coordination/relationship |                   |   |
| 1.1.2 Coordinate with city staff in the process of filling the City Urban Forester position.                                      |                |              |                |                        |            | Issue/project monitoring  |                   |   |
| 1.1.3 Urban Forestry Funding SLI - Participate in deliberative sessions with City staff   | 1              | Stuart       |                |                        | TBD        | Recommendations           |                   |   |
| <b>1.2 Advise City on tree and urban forest protection ordinance update</b>   |                |              |                |                        |            |                           |                   |   |
| 1.2.1 Participate in deliberative sessions on Tree and Urban Forest Protection Ordinance update                                   | 1              | Stuart       |                |                        | Q2         | Recommendations           |                   |   |
| 1.2.2 Provide input to SDCI regarding payment-in-lieu as mitigation   | 1              | Stuart       |                |                        | Q2         | Recommendations           |                   |   |
| 1.2.3 Review and provide input on legislation dealing with zoning that can affect urban forestry                                  | 2              | TBD          |                | SDCI/CC LUC            | TBD        | Recommendations           |                   |   |
| 1.2.4 Reviewing and advising on tree loss data as it becomes available  | 2              |              | Julia, Hao     | SDCI/CC LUC            | TBD        | Recommendations           |                   |   |
| 1.2.5 Monitor implementation tree service provider registration process   |                |              |                |                        |            | Issue/project monitoring  |                   |   |
| 1.2.5.1 Provide feedback on potential ordinance amendments  |                |              |                |                        |            | Recommendations           |                   |   |
| <b>1.3 Advise the City on urban forestry policies</b>   |                |              |                |                        |            |                           |                   |   |
| 1.3.1 Review climate change issues and impacts, and identify areas for UFC involvement and action                                 | 1              | Hao          | Becca          |                        | TBD        | Issue/project monitoring  |                   |   |
| 1.3.1.1 Engage with Green New Deal Oversight Board  | 2              | Julia, Laura |                |                        | Q3         | Coordination/relationship |                   |   |
| 1.3.2 Explore opportunities for tree planting in industrial areas: Port of Seattle, Freight Advisory                              | 3              | TBD          | Hao, Becca     |                        | TBD        | Recommendations           |                   | Hao will update on his work on this in early 2032 |

## 2. Funding for Urban Forestry

| Topic Area/Action  | Priority Level | UFC Lead | UFC Additional | Other Parties Involved | Start Date | Outcome/Deliverable      | Response Tracking | Status |
|--|----------------|----------|----------------|------------------------|------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--------|
| <b>2.1 City budget tracking</b>  |                |          |                |                        |            |                          |                   |        |
| 2.1.1 Engage with city budget process during development                               | 2              | Josh     |                |                        | Spring     | Recommendations          |                   |        |
| 2.1.2 Provide feedback on draft city budget  | 2              | Josh     |                |                        | November   | Recommendations          |                   |        |
| <b>2.2 Encourage City to allocate necessary budget to implement new tree ordinance</b> |                |          |                |                        |            |                          |                   |        |
| 2.2.1 Confirm budget needs for ordinance implementation                                | 2              | TBD      |                |                        | TBD        | Recommendations          |                   |        |
| 2.2.2 Include in city budget recommendations   | 2              | TBD      |                |                        | TBD        | Recommendations          |                   |        |
| <b>2.3 Green Seattle Partnership use of funds and reimagining process</b>              |                |          |                |                        |            |                          |                   |        |
| 2.3.1 Receive annual briefing from GSP/SPR staff                                       | 2              | Patti    |                |                        | TBD        | Issue/project monitoring |                   |        |
| <b>2.4 Trees for Seattle program update</b>  |                |          |                |                        |            |                          |                   |        |
| 2.4.1 Receive annual briefing  | 2              | Patti    |                |                        | TBD        | Issue/project monitoring |                   |        |

### 3. Outreach and Engagement

| Topic Area/Action   | Priority Level | UFC Lead           | UFC Additional       | Other Parties Involved | Start Date | Outcome/Deliverable       | Response Tracking | Status  |
|---|----------------|--------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------|---------------------------|-------------------|---|
| <b>3.1 City Council and Mayor's Office interaction: Hold meetings with Council and Mayor's Office</b>   |                |                    |                      |                        |            |                           |                   |   |
| 3.1.1 Hold meetings with Council and Mayor's Office   | 2              | Josh               | Stuart               |                        | 1/1/2023   | Coordination/relationship |                   |   |
| <b>3.2 Community engagement/education</b>   |                |                    |                      |                        |            |                           |                   |   |
| 3.2.1 Intentionally expand the diversity of voices the UFC engages with. Expressly seek out underrepresented communities that have not been historically at the table.  | 1              | Jessica H., Lia    | Laura, Falisha, Josh |                        | TBD        | Coordination/relationship |                   |   |
| 3.2.2 Develop info sheet to respond to community inquiries/communications   |                | Hao                | Lia, Laura, Falisha  |                        | TBD        | Other external product    |                   | Subgroup developed draft document                                       |
| 3.2.2.1 Break down the conversation of trees vs. X (gentrification, development vs. trees, affordable housing, etc.)  | 2              |                    |                      |                        | TBD        | Other external product    |                   |   |
| 3.2.3 Meet with community groups to engage in dialogue about the importance of trees, the UFC role, and community interests/priorities (Key Arena redevelopment, tree protection ordinance update, development and real estate community) | 3              | Lia                | Josh, Laura, Falisha |                        | TBD        | Coordination/relationship |                   | First meeting scheduled with Rainier Beach Community Club February 2023 |
| 3.2.4 Work with city staff to implement recommendations for updating the UFC website developed in 2022  | 3              | Josh               | Laura, Hao           |                        | TBD        |                           |                   |   |
| <b>3.3 Race and Social Justice Initiative</b>   |                |                    |                      |                        |            |                           |                   |   |
| 3.3.1 Incorporate RSJI principles into UFC work   | 1              | Jessica H.         |                      |                        | TBD        | Internal product          |                   |   |
| 3.3.1.1 Equity and Diversity Committee meet (monthly?) to identify opportunities and make ongoing recommendations to the UFC, with intended outcomes for the group to become more inclusive and equitable in its membership and work,     | 1              | Julia, Josh, Laura |                      |                        | TBD        | Recommendations           |                   |   |
| <b>3.4 Internal Engagement</b>  |                |                    |                      |                        |            |                           |                   |   |
| 3.4.1 Align UF IDT and UFC's work plan (Hold annual joint UFC/IDT meeting)  | 3              | Patti              |                      | UFC/IDT members        | TBD        | Coordination/relationship |                   |   |
| 3.4.2 Develop annual calendar to invite City Departments to brief the UFC   | 2              | Patti, Julia, Josh |                      |                        | 1/1/2023   | Coordination/relationship |                   |   |
| 3.4.3 Review canopy cover assessment work; provide any additional input   | 2              | Julia              | Hao                  |                        | TBD        | Recommendations           |                   |   |
| <b>3.5 Engagement with Community Organizations and Urban Forestry Partners</b>  |                |                    |                      |                        |            |                           |                   |   |
| 3.5.1 Incorporate integrated perspective (including public health)  | 3              | TBD                | Hao                  | TBD                    | TBD        | Coordination/relationship |                   |   |
| 3.5.2 Identify opportunities to engage with landowners  | 3              | TBD                | Hao                  | TBD                    |            | Coordination/relationship |                   |   |



## 6. Internal Operations

| Topic Area/Action   | Priority Level | UFC Lead         | UFC Additional | Other Parties Involved | Start Date | Outcome/Deliverable    | Status |
|---|----------------|------------------|----------------|------------------------|------------|------------------------|--------|
| 5.1 Issue 2022 Annual Report                              | 3              | Patti            |                |                        | January    | Other external product |        |
| 5.2 Create 2023 work plan                                 | 3              | Patti, Co-Chairs |                |                        | January    | Internal product       |        |
| 5.3 Participate in interviews for UFC members recruitment | 3              | Patti, Co-Chairs |                |                        | January    | Internal product       |        |
| 5.4 Hold Chair and Vice-chair elections                   | 3              | Patti            |                |                        | December   | Internal product       |        |