Seattle Urban Forestry Commission

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August 7, 2013

Honorable Councilmember Richard Conlin
Chair, Planning, Land Use, and Sustainability Committee
Seattle City Hall
600 4th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98124

RE: Support for adoption of the 2013 Urban Forest Stewardship Plan

Dear Councilmember Conlin,

Over the past two years, the Urban Forestry Commission has worked with the Urban Forest Inter-departmental Team and City Council staff on the production of the 2013 Urban Forest Stewardship Plan.

This update of the 2007 Urban Forest Management Plan contains changes to broaden the audience the Plan is speaking to and focuses on involving Seattle residents, organizations, and businesses alongside City government in the stewardship of this valuable resource. New sections in the Plan discuss *guiding principles, integrated approach, update process, priority actions, monitoring, funding, and future research needs.*

The Plan is written to provide clear guidance for the improved stewardship of our urban forest. The Commission supports the adoption of the Plan.

Because, unlike other City infrastructure, trees require time to grow and mature for the city to realize its functional benefits, the Commission will continue to advocate for full funding to implement the goals of the Plan and measure progress both on increasing stewardship activities as well as reaching our canopy cover goal.

Sincerely,

John Floberg, Chair

Tom Early

cc: Mayor Mike McGinn, Council President Clark, Councilmember Bagshaw, Councilmember Burgess, Councilmember Godden, Councilmember Harrell, Councilmember Licata, Councilmember Rasmussen, Councilmember O'Brien, Diane Sugimura, Fred Podesta, Jorge Carrasco, Peter Hahn, Christopher Williams, Ray Hoffman, Jill Simmons, Robert Nellams, Brennon Staley, Sara Calvillo-Hoffman, Beth Duncan, Brent Schmidt, Darren Morgan, Doug Critchfield, Deb Heiden, Jana Dilley, Mark Mead, Phyllis Shulman, Meg Moorehead, Eric McConaghy

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