# City of Seattle
# Notice of Appointment

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| **Name:**<br><br>*Steve Zemke* | | ☐ **Executive Appointment** ☐ **Reappointment**<br>☒ **Legislative Appointment**<br>☐ **Agency Appointment**<br>☐ **PDA Council** ☐ **PDA Constituency** |
| **Residential Neighborhood:**<br>*Bitter Lake/North Seattle* | **Zip Code:**<br><br>*98133* | **Contact Phone No.:**<br>*n/a* |
| **Appointed to:**<br><br>*Urban Forestry Commission (Pos. 1, Wildlife Biologist)* | | **Date of Appointment:**<br><br>*February 11, 2014* |
| **Authority (Ord., Res.):**<br><br>S.M.C. 3.14.920 | | **Term of Office:**<br>**From:** *December 1, 2013*<br>**To:** *December 1, 2016* |

**Background:**

*Mr. Zemke's broad experience includes environmental research, real estate, and public policy related to growth management, recycling, public energy, minimum wage, and toxic waste cleanup. He is adept at working with diverse groups and helping them reach compromise in order to move efforts forward.*

*Mr. Zemke manages rental properties he and his wife own. This has given him a useful perspective on the concerns of both neighborhoods and the business community. He is very involved with non-profit environmental organizations. He is the chairperson of Save the Trees – Seattle; board member of the Cascade Chapter of the Sierra Club, member of Washington Citizens for Recycling, the Seattle Audubon Society, Washington Environmental Council, and Washington Native Plant Society.*

*Mr. Zemke's broad experience and strong background in natural science will be an asset to the Urban Forestry Commission. He is being appointed to a three-year term that ends December 1, 2016.*

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| **Authorizing Signature:**<br><br>SG Bagshaw | **Name and Title of Officer Making Appointments:**<br><br>*Councilmember Sally Bagshaw* |

# Urban Forestry Commission

JANUARY 2014

*Nine (9) Commission* members: Per S.M.C. 3.14.920, all subject to City Council confirmation, *3*-year terms

- *4* Appointed by City Council
- *4* Appointed by Mayor
- *1* Appointed by

| D* | G | Position No. | Name | Appointed | Term Ends | Term # | Position | Appointed By |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *6* | *M* | *1* | *Steve Zemke* | *12-01-13* | *12-01-16* | *1st* | *1: Wildlife Biologist* | *Council* |
| 6 | M | *2* | Donna Kostka | 12-01-13 | 12-01-16 | 1st | 2: Urban Ecologist | Mayor |
| 6 | M | 3 | Dr. Gordon Bradley | 12-01-09 | 12-01-15 | 2nd | 3: Natural Resource Agency or University Representative | Council |
| 6 | F | 4 | Peg Staeheli | 11-02-09 | 12-01-14 | 2nd | 4: Hydrologist or Similar Professional | Mayor |
| 6 | M | 5 | Leif Fixen | 05-23-12 | 12-01-14 | 1st | 5: Arborist | Council |
| 6 | M | 6 | Tom Early | 07-08-11 | 12-01-14 | 1st | 6: Landscape Architect | Mayor |
| 6 | M | 7 | Matt Mega | 12-01-09 | 12-01-15 | 2nd | 7: NGO Representative | Council |
| 6 | M | 8 | Jeff Reibman | 11-02-09 | 12-01-15 | 2nd | 8: Development Community or Utility Representative | Mayor |
| 6 | M | 9 | Erik Rundell | 12-01-13 | 12-01-16 | 2nd | 9: Economist, Financial Analyst, Realtor or Similar Professional | Commission |

## *Diversity

| | Men | Women | Vacant | Minority | (1) Asian-American | (2) African-American | (3) Hispanic Latin@ | (4) Native-American | (5) Other** | (6) Caucasian |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Mayor** | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| **Council** | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| **Other Bodies** | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| ***Total*** | *7* | *2* | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | *9* |

**Other includes diversity in any of the following: race, gender and/or ability*

Resume

Steve Zemke

[redacted]

Working to protect native trees and shrubs in the city is important to maintaining native bird species, insects they need to feed their young, and other wildlife in the city. I would like to continue my past work on advocating for protection of Seattle's urban forests and trees and wildlife in Seattle as a member of Seattle's Urban Forestry Commission for Position 1 – Wildlife Biologist.

My background and interest in Biology has been a major component of my life. For example I lead Save the Trees – Seattle's successful effort to gain protection for most of the NW grove of trees at Ingraham High School that was threatened. I have chaired the citizens group for the last 5 years. I was able to identify the plant community present at the site as a unique habitat that should be protected and the Hearing Examiner in our appeal agreed. We were also able to find information of Band-tailed pigeons associated with the grove and eagle sightings at nearby Haller Lake which was used in our appeal.

**Professional Background** I have been active on environmental issues for much of my professional life, working mostly in the nonprofit sector. This work has included environmental research, environmental advocacy, legislative activity and politics.

**Educational Background** My educational background includes a BA from Case Western Reserve University and an MA in Biology from Wesleyan University. I also completed several additional years of graduate work at the University of Washington in the College of Fisheries. Besides courses at the UW in Fish Biology I also completed coursework in Limnology, Population and Community Ecology, Advanced Ecology, and Ecology of Marine Communities. This strong background in natural science has been important in my career over the years.

**Work Experience** My work experience has been varied over the years and has included working for the Pacific Science Center as an environmental researcher and working as a Fisheries Technician for the METRO Outfall and Nearshore Fish Survey. I have been involved in numerous initiative campaigns on public policy issues that included my being Chairperson and/or Campaign Director on campaigns on growth management, recycling, public energy, minimum wage, and toxic waste cleanup.
These and other efforts have been collaborative efforts working with groups of people to make decisions and reach compromises as needed to move efforts forward.
Other work experience includes being a real estate agent and running a used bookstore in Pioneer Square and managing rental properties my wife and I own, all of which has given me a useful perspective on the business community and their concerns and concerns of neighborhoods.
Recently I was Chair of the King County Democrats, twice a candidate for Seattle City Council in the past and remain active in Democratic politics and issue advocacy for tax reform and urban forestry.

**Nonprofit Environmental Affiliation** Chairperson of Save the Trees – Seattle, past Chair of Washington Citizens for Recycling, State Board member of the Cascade Chapter of the Sierra Club, and member Seattle Audubon Society, Washington Environmental Council, and Washington Native Plant Society.