



MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 1, 2013

TO: Tukwila Tree and Environment Advisory Committee

FM: Carol Lumb, Senior Planner
Sandra Whiting, Urban Environmentalist

RE: March 13, 2013 Advisory Committee Meeting

At our next meeting, we will begin the discussion of proposed urban forestry goals and policies. A preliminary draft of goals and policies focused on general tree issues is enclosed. These policies do not address landscaping or street tree policies (although sometimes it is difficult to separate them). We plan to discuss the landscaping and street tree policies at the April Advisory Committee meeting.

Staff will e-mail you a Word copy of the proposed goals and policies so that, after reviewing the material, if you have specific edits you would like to see, these can be provided to staff prior to the meeting. We hope that by providing staff with specific edits prior to the meeting this will allow the discussion to focus more on giving broader policy direction to staff.

We are also enclosing a copy of the final Urban Tree Canopy Assessment, completed by Davey Resource Group. Recommendations from this Assessment form the basis for the proposed canopy goals included in the Draft Goals and Policies document. This packet includes two other background reading pieces:

- City of Seattle "Private Property Tree Regulations Update" Director's Report, dated July 16, 2012.
- City of Tacoma Urban Forest Policy Element – Tacoma has had an urban forestry program for a number of years – their Policy Element is more extensive, reflecting a larger City than Tukwila and greater resources to devote to urban forestry efforts. We are including it as a good example of an urban forestry comprehensive plan chapter. Over time, as Tukwila gains experience with an urban forestry program and, as staffing and resources permit, the City may build to a more extensive urban forestry program like this one.

We will post Brooke Alford's PowerPoint presentation from the February 27th meeting on the City's website (<http://www.tukwilawa.gov/dcd/treepolicy.html>) by early in the week of March 4th.

As has been mentioned, we are running behind schedule as we spent more time on the natural environment goals and policies than expected. DCD is scheduled to present the Natural Environment Comprehensive Plan chapter at the Planning Commission's June 27th meeting, which means the Committee work needs to be wrapped up by late May. Would you please look at your calendars and see

if it is possible to meet a little longer on our scheduled meeting nights, or, as an alternative, if it is possible to schedule additional work sessions. We would like to discuss these options at the March meeting, so please bring your calendars.

We look forward to seeing you on **March 13th** - please call or e-mail if you have any questions in the meantime or if you will not be able to attend the meeting.

Enclosures:

- Agenda
- Draft 2-27-13 Meeting Notes
- Draft Urban Forestry Goals and Policies
- Final Tukwila Urban Tree Canopy Assessment
- City of Seattle “Private Property Tree Regulations Update”, Director’s Report (July 16, 2012)
- City of Tacoma Urban Forest Policy Element

cc: Nora Gierloff, Deputy Director, Department of Community Development
Kimberly Matej, Government Relations