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**From:** Julie Langabeer <kjlanga@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 29, 2024 11:00 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Urban Tree Canopy Policies

Dear Council Members:

Please support the proposed urban tree canopy policies in the draft plan. I have been in Vancouver B.C. a couple times lately and have been impressed by the number of large trees which have been retained in spite of extensive development. Those trees add immeasurably to the attractiveness of the city. It can be done, and will make our county a better place to live for years to come!

Sincerely,

Julie Langabeer  
1409 Grand Ave.  
Everett, WA 98201

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**From:** Bonny Headley <bonnyheadley@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 31, 2024 10:10 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Urban trees

Please give the Urban Tree Policy now under consideration your unanimous approval. The value of living trees is unquestionable in our cities, where they mitigate air pollution and drainage issues, offer relief from heat island effects, and add grace and beauty to the urban landscape. Snohomish County has many green areas to protect and preserve. Think of the warmer future our children and grandchildren will likely face. Every tree planted now, and every tree allowed to continue to grow will be a boon to future generations. In this fractious and divided world, providing for future comfort and grace by a strong Urban Tree Policy is something we can all support.

Thank you,

Bonny Headley

Snohomish

Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** Daniela Birch <danielabirch@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 1, 2024 1:49 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Urban Tree Canopy

Dear Council Members-

Please adopt a strong Urban Tree Canopy element in 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update.

Trees in our county should be protected wherever they exist and added to our environment wherever possible. They help moderate temperatures (and this will be a far more significant issue with climate change as years go by). They reduce air and water pollution and help reduce soil erosion.

Please use the Comprehensive Plan Update to establish strong regulations as well as incentives to retain and grow our county's tree assets. This will reward all citizens as we face more climate challenges today and into the future.

Kind regards,

Daniela Birch

14507 21st Drive SE  
Mill Creek, WA 98012-5795  
c 206-240-5767



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**From:** Donna Leavitt <donnaleav@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 2, 2024 8:32 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Tree canopies



Just a note of strong support for the new tree canopy efforts!!

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**From:** Toni Reading <toni.reading@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 2, 2024 8:33 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Urban Tree Canopy

I fully support efforts to enhance county urban trees and canopies!

Sincerely,

Toni Reading

Sultan, WA

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**From:** George Lockeman <llockeman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 2, 2024 8:34 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Canopy Plan

I'm highly in favor of a strong improvement in tree canopy to both increase carbon storage as well as reducing temperature levels in urban areas as heat risks increase. George Lockeman 38th district Everett.

Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** Paula Sullivan <neatpea@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 2, 2024 8:48 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** URBAN TREE CANOPY POILCIES

County Council-

We urge type to adopt the URBAN TREE CANOPY Policies previous outlined.  
Urban trees are imperative for the health - ecosystem and beauty of our communities We will be watching and listening.

Regards-  
The Sullivan's  
Mukilteo

Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** Barbara Hagen <hagen-tribe@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 2, 2024 9:05 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Please support!

Dear Council Members,

In your position you have the opportunity to put in policies that will positively affect people, birds, and the beauty of our communal living spaces for generations to come. Passing the Urban Tree Canopy is one of those policies. The places that attract and impress people the most, whether tourist or grateful locals, are those that nature, walking and biking areas are prioritized.

Please do your part in creating livable spaces.

Sincerely,

Barbara and Dave Hagen

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**From:** Ed Dinan <eddinan@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 2, 2024 10:16 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Urban Tree Canopy Policies.

Hello,

I'm asking you to please support the

**Urban Tree Canopy Policies.**

Thank you,

Ed Dinan

Arlington WA

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

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**From:** Joanne Rousslang <jcrousslang@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 2, 2024 11:36 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Urban Tree Canopy Policies

Please, please approve the Urban Tree Canopy Policies. We need the trees!

Joanne Rousslang  
Everett, WA

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**From:** marvin dawson <marvin\_dawson@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 2, 2024 12:09 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Urban Trees

We strongly support this Please support Marvin and Nancy Dawson. 23319 19th Place West 98021  
Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** Rena Connell <connell.rena@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 2, 2024 12:38 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Input on GMA 2024 Updates

Dear County Council Members:

Thank you for accepting comments on the 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update related to the Growth Management Act (GMA). I am encouraging your full adoption of the Urban Tree Canopy Policy, critical for addressing the negative impacts of climate change. I urge your retention of the 38% tree canopy coverage standard and hope the Council will consider improved enforcement of those policies by investing funds to assure tree canopy compliance.

In conjunction with the recommendations of Futurewise, I urge the Council's adoption of Alternative 2 without expansions of Urban Growth Areas (UGA) to better protect county residents from developments that further degrade our precious open spaces. The 2024 Update makes inadequate provision to protect encroachment in Urban Growth Areas. Provisions need to be added that discourage expansion in Urban Growth Areas (UGA), because protections are inadequate in the current draft. Residential housing options need to increase near urban transit areas. The 2024 Update needs to better protect those areas where there is limited access to services, especially transit options. Snohomish County needs to avoid policies that increase residential housing options where transit options are severely limited. There is a significant need for improvement discouraging growth in Urban Growth Areas before adoption of Alternative 2.

Regarding Agenda Item #5, **Ordinance 24-021**: As a resident of unincorporated Snohomish County, I remain extremely concerned that the proposed changes would allow greater housing density by making changes to Rural Cluster Subdivisions in those areas designated R-5. Increasing the number of residences under these ordinance changes would further undermine the intent of the Growth Management Act and would jeopardize ground surface water, increase traffic on arterials, and ultimately result in risk from fire, impairing emergency response times to reach residents in times of crisis when traffic volumes clog roadways. Proposed changes are simply unacceptable. No changes for Rural Cluster Subdivisions and Short Subdivisions should be approved. Do not amend Chapters 30.25 and 30.41 of the Snohomish County Code and drop the ordinance in its entirety.

Thank you again for accepting taxpayer input to the future quality of life for residents in our county. The Growth Management Act was meant to better assure the livability of this area, but policy changes are needed to make this document fully protect the future of our county residents.

Sincerely,

Rena Connell, 15422 228th St. SE, Snohomish, WA 98296

(h) 360-863-7741

(c) 425-246-8592

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**From:** v mcvey <vmcvey1@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 2, 2024 1:06 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Tree canopy protection

Hello council members. I'm a longtime resident of the PNW and a Snohomish County resident and voter since 2015.

I support the recommended Urban Tree Canopy Policies you'll be voting on Tuesday.

I urge you to vote yes and support critical and common sense protections for urban trees.

Thank you for your service.

Vanessa McVay  
360.502.6227

"Only within the moment of time represented by the present century has one species — man — acquired significant power to alter the nature of his world." - Rachel Carson

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**From:** Lael Bradshaw <laelbrad@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 2, 2024 1:12 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Urban tree canopy

Since we are in dire need of legislation for protection for our county trees, I feel this is an opportunity for support for said endeavor. The trees will help to minimize our changing the climate of our area do to changing climate brought on by us. Please help save our trees.

Sincerely, Lael Bradshaw

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**From:** Andrea Kovalesky <akovalesky@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 2, 2024 3:42 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Urban Tree Canopy Policies

As a resident of Everett and Snohomish County I want you to know that I support the urban tree canopy policies that will be coming up for consideration on Tuesday's meeting.

Andrea Kovalesky  
331 N. Cabot Road  
Everett, WA 98203



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**From:** edmondskar@aol.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 2, 2024 3:45 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Urban Tree Canopy policy

Dear Council, when considering on June 4<sup>th</sup>, and in the future, the proposed Urban Tree Canopy policies, please take into account residents of Snohomish County's voices. I support the Urban Tree Canopy Policies to be adopted with the 2024 Comprehensive Plan - it is in the interests of all citizens and the community to preserve and enhance the tree canopy for both health and aesthetic benefits. Thank you. Kathleen Ryan, resident Snohomish County

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**From:** Joan M. Pryor <JMPryor@frc.edu>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 2, 2024 5:40 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Urban Tree Canopy Policies

As a both a rural and urban land owner in Snohomish, I support the Urban Tree Canopy Policies the County Council will be considering on June 4, 2024. Trees have a huge impact on our neighborhoods and environment. They have the ability to capture carbon, clean our air of pollutants, provide the cooling effects of shade, and provide shelter and food for birds and wild critters.

I encourage all council members to adopt the policies, particularly those supported by FutureWise and The League of Women Voters, to insure our neighborhoods are sustainable and contribute to the health and well being of our neighbors.

Joanie Pryor  
18717 Soundview Place  
Edmonds, WA 98020

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**From:** Dianna Davis <diannadavis51@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 2, 2024 5:40 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Adopt the Urban Tree Canopy Policies

We all need urban tree canopies to enhance our environment and to contribute to the well-being of cities and their residents.

The benefits of an urban tree canopy:

1. Temperature regulation  
Provides shade, reduces urban heat island effect
2. Air Quality improvement  
Absorbs pollutants and enhances air quality
3. Stormwater Management  
Reduces stormwater runoff, helping to prevent flooding
4. Biodiversity Support  
Provides habitats for wildlife
5. Aesthetic Enhancement  
Beautifies streetscapes & landscapes
6. Health & Well-being  
Supports mental health and outdoor activities
7. Economic Value  
Increases property values, attracts businesses
8. Energy Conservation  
Reduces energy consumption for cooling.

As a long-time Snohomish County resident, PLEASE adopt these policies as part of the 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update.

Sincerely,

Dianna Lynn Davis  
ARS (American Rhododendron Society) Western VP  
425.330-9431

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**From:** Julie Martinson <jmartinson8@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 2, 2024 9:07 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Crucial UrbanTree Canopy Policies

To: the Snohomish County Council Members

I'm writing today, once again, to address the Urban Tree Canopy policies that you are considering on June 4, which are such an important part of the 2024 Comprehensive Plan.

Having trees in our urban growth area communities is very important to me, having grown up in Alderwood Manor on 5 mostly wild, native woods and part of a swamp. Wildlife abounded everywhere and depended on this rich mix of huge evergreens, vine maples, hazelnut, ferns, and trilliums, and the area was alive with frogs, salamander, mountain beavers and many species of birds. I very much want to preserve this type of essential biodiversity for others growing up as we become more crowded and in need of these peaceful, green spaces.

I understand we will have huge increases in our need for affordable housing, but I urge you to keep the Urban Growth Management boundaries where they are. I support the Urban Tree Canopy policy goal of **38 percent** for tree canopy in our urban growth areas. In order to build our green, equitable future, please ensure the policies will provide adequate funding for the program.

I am especially concerned for urban trees to be planted and nurtured in the hotter, mostly paved sections of South Everett and areas where more low-income communities are housed, which suffer from 'heat island effects' where residents will suffer more health effects and deaths during predicted greater heat waves. To ensure the policies are implemented and enforced, please **change the world “should” to “shall” in Policies 9.A.3 and 9.A.4.**

**Add language to Policy 9.B.A** to ensure an annual assessment of urban tree canopy using the best available technology, in order to prevent the damages that could occur because of permitting mistakes and problems that occur after developments are built.

Thank you for your attention to these popular and important sets of new policies that will ensure trees in our urban growth areas and for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Julie Martinson  
2303 6th St  
Everett, WA 98201-1114

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**From:** Laurie Sorensen <laurietuza@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 3, 2024 5:21 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Please support Urban Tree Canopy Policies

Hi,  
I am writing to urge you to support good Urban Tree Canopy Policies. This is important to me because I am concerned about the die-off of birds in North America. Birds need trees. We need trees - more and more as the climate changes.

Protection of the environment is a high priority in my little world, in Edmonds. It is at least something that we can do.

Thank you for your service to the community,  
Laurie Sorensen  
Edmonds

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**From:** Robert Chaffee <robertgchaffee@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 3, 2024 6:52 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Urban Tree Canopy Policies

Please vote to adopt the Urban Tree Canopy Policies recommended by the Snohomish County Planning Commission. Trees are valuable for so many reasons: CO2 capture, cooling, shade and protection for wildlife, and beauty. As the population increases, they become more and more important.

Robert Chaffee  
Edmonds

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**From:** Jilda SN <jildanet@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 3, 2024 9:45 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Protect our trees - Adopt the Urban tree Canopy Policy in the Comprehensive Plan Update

I'm writing to urge all of you on the Snohomish County Council to support and to adopt the Urban Tree Canopy Policy as part of the Comprehensive Plan Update.

I'm sure you have all heard about how this is good for the environment, will help combat climate change, reduce pollution, prevent flooding along with landslides. These trees are also good for the people living in the community in less easily measurable ways. I personally love having trees around me. I bought my current house because there are trees in the backyard and when I can, I sit out on our deck between them. I love sitting in the shade listening to the sound of the wind and the animals around me. I feel very privileged to have such ready access to trees, but I know that many people in our county do not. Protecting trees in public spaces, gives everyone an opportunity to enjoy this quiet and calmness that a forest provides.

I understand that we can't preserve every tree and that other factors are important too (like more housing). I do want that our natural standing forests to be seen as a valuable resource. They are and will prevent us from having to clean up the damage from floods and landslides. Since they reduce air and water pollution, fewer people will get sick. They protect salmon which are a resource not only for us but for our famous Washington orcas. I believe the Urban Tree Canopy Policy strives to balance competing priorities and ask the Snohomish County Council to adopt it.

Thank you,

Jilda Nettleton  
Snohomish County Resident - Bothell, WA

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**From:** Beth M <betham95@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 3, 2024 10:31 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Urban Tree Canopy Policy: keep trees in urban spaces!

Dear SnoCounty Council,

Please approve the UTCP that you will be voting on June 4th.

Below are some salient points I saw in the news recently.

Thank you,

Elizabeth Menig  
Lake Stevens, WA



Perhaps we should not be surprised by  
Researchers estimate 61,672 people died  
related deaths in the summer of 2022, th  
on the continent at the time. In June of 2  
in nearly 900 excess deaths in the Pacific  
A lot can be done to reduce these risks.  
concrete and asphalt and more parks a  
and lakes would help. So would a more  
standardized heat wave warning system  
identify the most vulnerable residents a  
emergency response plans and long-ter

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**From:** Shirley Wood <inspired51@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 3, 2024 11:32 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Support Urban Tree Canopy!

Hello,

Please support Urban Tree Canopy policies to keep our neighborhoods beautiful, provide fresh air and homes for birds and other wildlife!

Sincerely,

Shirley Wood

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**From:** Katherine Voss <katherine.voss@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 3, 2024 12:24 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Support for Urban Tree Canopy Policy

Good afternoon,

I live in the Mukilteo area and fully support using science to make decisions about our environment, especially in the cities in which we live. Please support the Urban Tree Canopy Policy as this will ensure the best options for birds and all the animals dependent on our tree canopy. We've already lost so much habitat to development. It would be great to adopt policies that would be a win win for our cities and nature.

*Thank you,*  
***Katherine***

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Katherine Voss  
katherine.voss@hotmail.com

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**From:** Maureen Traxler <maureentraxler@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 3, 2024 1:26 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Support for strong Tree Canopy Policies

I'm writing to ask you to approve the Urban Tree Canopy Policies in the 2024 update to the Comprehensive Plan. As you know, the Planning Commission and the County Executive support this action. Trees are essential to good air and water quality, they reduce temperatures in developed areas of our county, and provide many other benefits. It's very important to me that Snohomish County do its best to maintain our tree cover. Maintaining trees instead of providing air conditioning is an environmental and physical health benefit. My neighborhood south of Mukilteo has a lot of trees, and on warm days it's noticeably cooler here than in sunnier neighborhoods. I'm fortunate enough to have air conditioning in my home, but I didn't use it at all last summer, even in the warmest weather. Trees provide a direct and noticeable benefit to people.

I support the suggestions made by Futurewise, including the following:

- The policy goal of 38 percent for tree canopy in our urban growth areas;
- Provision of adequate funding for the program;
- Change the word "should" to "shall" in Policies 9.A.3 and 9.A.4.
- Add language to Policy 9.B.A to ensure an annual assessment of urban tree canopy using the best available technology, in order to prevent the damages that could occur because of permitting mistakes and problems that occur after developments are built.

Thank you for considering these policies and my comments.

Maureen Traxler  
Meadowdale

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**From:** Linda Gray <lgn899a@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 3, 2024 3:06 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Urban Tree Canopy Policy

Dear SC Councilmembers

Thank you for accepting comments on the 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update related to the Growth Management Act (GMA). I am encouraging your full adoption of the Urban Tree Canopy Policy, which is critical for addressing the negative impacts of climate change. I urge you to adopt the 38% tree canopy coverage standard and hope the Council will consider improved enforcement of those policies by investing funds to ensure tree canopy compliance.

Policing this policy requires adequate staff for code enforcement countywide. I understand it used to be close to 20 people and is now down to four. As mentioned earlier, please ensure adequate staff will support this and other county policies. Thank you - Linda Gray, Unincorporated SC resident

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**From:** Mary Riley <sjparo@frontier.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 4, 2024 7:52 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Urban Tree Policy

Honorable Council, I am writing to support a strong policy on saving urban trees. With continued population growth in Snohomish County and more large residential development, builders aren't considering the value of trees and shrubs that house, feed and hide our vulnerable species. In my own area there are fewer bird species retiring and nesting because of tree removal. I support a strong policy on tree health and removal. We can't wait any longer.

Mary Riley  
829 178 th PL SW  
Lynnwood, W  
425 797-9521

Sent from my iPhone

ORAL COMMENT  
PLANNING COMMITTEE 6.4.24

June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Honorable County Council:

Joan Smith, 14106 64<sup>th</sup> Ave. W., Edmonds, unincorporated County

Since 2006, I have stood before the County Council to testify on behalf of the silent citizens of our County. Those voiceless cedars, hemlocks and firs have gifted us with a healthy place to live - clean air, water, wind protection, stable slopes and most important have inspired our lives with their beauty. In 2006, I addressed the reality of climate change and the important carbon sequestration mitigation that our trees provided. Our trees play an enormous role in cooling that rising heat! I am excited to see that the Snohomish County Planning Department's proposals in Comprehensive Plan for 2024 now use language that addresses climate change and puts forth an urban tree protection policy. That can make a huge difference!

Without such a policy, the loss of canopy throughout our County has been extensive. An example and one painful to me is what occurred on Picnic Point Road. This policy might have saved many of 100 year plus protective evergreen trees clear cut there. Rather we have 112 "affordable" LID homes on 12 acres with fewer non-native replacement trees. Picture each house at 1.2 million dollars. The neighborhood suffers increased traffic congestion and the Puget Sound tainted runoff.

We citizens need the healthy resilience that retained and added tree canopy provides. Education can promote the significance of our trees. We need to do our part to mitigate climate change. Some areas are less suited to nurturing trees. Not so here! We can do it and do it within our current UGA. Please add the Urban Tree Canopy Policy to the Comprehensive Plan for 2024. Find ways to enforce and expand its elements.

Thank you for considering this perspective!! And thank you to the trees that work silently on behalf of us all!