URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN



PUBLIC SURVEY #2 RESULTS AND SUMMARY

10/13/21





SUMMARY OF RESPONSES

Survey Date: September 1 – October 7, 2021 Total Responses: 64

Demographics:

- ✤ 52% live in Renton (Q1)
- ✤ 86% own a home (Qg)
- ✤ 17% live and work in Renton (Q1)
- 19% live in City Center, 18% in Benson, 17% in Highlands Community Planning Areas (Q2)
- ✤ 73% are white/Caucasian (Q10)
- ✤ 30% are in the 35-44 age class (Q8)
- ✤ 28% are in the 65 and older age class (Q8)

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES

Funding Urban Forestry:

- ✤ 86% of respondents support additional funding. (Q3a)
- 44% support more funding to the Urban Forestry Program in addition to what is currently provided. (Q3a)
- 34% desire additional funding to be used in neighborhoods with low urban forest coverage. (Q3a)
- 47% support more City funding for an improved proactive pruning program that addresses all street trees. (Q6)
- If respondents had \$100 to allocate towards programs and services, the majority would distribute \$5-24 to removals and replacements (27 of 64 or 42%), planting in public parks (30 of 64 or 47%), Tree Preservation Ordinance enforcement (36 of 64 or 56%), and removal and replacement of trees that are dead, dying, or of an undesirable species (39 of 64 or 61%). Regarding street tree plantings, the majority (30 of 64 or 47%) would distribute \$25-49 of the \$100. (Q4)

Urban Forest Management

- 75% of respondents view planting more trees in public areas as a priority. (Q3b)
- 69% of respondents would like to require additional trees be set aside in tree preservation tracts, retained, or replanted after developing forested land. (Q3b)
- Primary opportunities include addressing roots damaging underground utilities (34%), public tree planting to increase tree canopy (31%) and maintenance (31%), planting in underrepresented neighborhoods (30%) and addressing sidewalk cracking due to roots (30%). (Q7)

Q1: Please select from the following. Select all that apply.



Q2: Please indicate which Community Planning Area (if applicable). Select all that apply.



QUESTION 3A

Q3a: Do you feel Renton's Urban Forestry Program should increase funds that support tree planting and tree planting maintenance initiatives throughout the City?



QUESTION 3B

Q3b: Managing urban tree canopy includes increasing tree canopy and sustaining existing canopy. Please select from the list below how you would prioritize tree canopy management within Renton. Select all that apply.

City plants more trees in publicly owned areas.

Require additional trees be set aside in tree preservation tracts, retained, or replanted after developing forested land.

Retain existing trees through industry standards like alternate sidewalk design and better tree protection.

City plants more street trees outside homes and businesses within the public right-of-way.

Incentivize street tree plantings by property owners near street trees.

Amend existing city codes related to trees aimed at preserving larger trees.

City plants more street trees outside homes and businesses within the public right-of-way.

I do not support prioritizing tree canopy management in the City.

I am unsure.



Q4: If you had an additional \$100 to direct towards the urban forest, how would you allocate the funds among the types of services listed below? Enter a whole dollar amount between \$100 and \$0 for each of the funding options below. Total value must add up



- Removal and replacement of trees that are dead, dying, or of an undesirable species.
- Planting more trees along city streets, downtown, and/or central business districts.
- Plant more trees in public parks.
- Permitting/enforcement of Tree Protection Ordinances.
- Street tree maintenance including managing historical trees.

Q5: Community involvement is a key factor to program success and urban forest sustainability. Using the list below, tell us how you would like to stay involved and continue learning about urban forestry. Select your TOP THREE (3) methods.



Q6: In general, the City of Renton is responsible for maintaining street trees within public rights-of-way. This includes tree pruning and tree removal within street medians and planting strips between the roadway and sidewalk. There are approximately 30,000 trees that the City maintains in these areas though only a small portion are addressed each year depending on available funding. Industry standards recommend a city prune every street tree within a 7-year timeframe— referred to as routine, proactive, or programmed pruning. Use this information and your own perspectives to select from the following:



Q7: Below is a list of urban forest and tree management opportunities the City currently provides or could provide. Please select your THREE (3) MOST IMPORTANT tree management services potentially provided by the City of Renton



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Q9: Do you own or rent your residence? Select all that apply.



Q10: Please specify your race/ethnicity. Select all that apply.

