



## **Save Shoreline Trees, a Washington-State Nonprofit, Keeps Pressure on the City to Save 133 Mature Trees from Development**

***Rally for the Trees This Friday and Saturday in Shoreline***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SHORELINE, WA, Tuesday, February 4, 2020—Residents of Shoreline are asking the City of Shoreline to amend its plans to remove more than 133 significant trees on Dayton Avenue North, North 155<sup>th</sup> Street and North 160<sup>th</sup> Street that are in the way of development. The trees are slated for removal to make way for a redesigned, environmentally friendly Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) building, that will also house the Department of Ecology, and for Right-of-Way (ROW) improvements by the City on the affected streets. The ROW improvements include eight-foot-wide sidewalks, a five-foot amenity strip (for utilities and signage) and curbs.

Representatives of the City and WSDOT attended a community meeting January 28 to discuss their plans. The Save Shoreline Trees group reiterated that sidewalks can meander around trees and be composed of asphalt or gravel, both more environmentally friendly to tree roots than concrete. These materials are also ADA accessible, as is a three-foot rather than an eight-foot sidewalk. Ronald Bog Park and Richmond Beach Saltwater Park in Shoreline have ADA-accessible gravel paths.

The City has received more than 300 emails, letters and postcards stating community concern for the trees. Some mentioned the irony of redesigning an environmentally friendly LEED building by the state, but an environmentally unfriendly removal of trees by the City. Because of public comment, the City has asked WSDOT to redo its designs and provide another arborist report for street improvements. Both the City and the State own land (and trees) in the affected areas.

To keep visibility on the trees, rallies will be held Friday, February 7 at 4 p.m. and Saturday, February 8 at 12 noon, along Dayton Avenue North, between North 155<sup>th</sup> street and North 160<sup>th</sup> street. Students at area middle schools and high schools have been invited to attend. Participants will hold signs alerting the public to the imminent removal of the 70- to 100-year-old trees: Douglas Fir, Western Hemlock and White Cedar.

“Once they are gone, they are gone forever.”

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Save Shoreline Trees: <https://saveshorelinetrees.com/>