City of Seattle's 2035 Comprehensive Plan currently requires our City to

1. ..."strive to increase citywide tree canopy coverage to 30 percent by 2037 and to 40 percent over time." (Current policy EN 1.2) The "One Seattle Plan" now proposes to **remove this policy**. Why?
    a. The 2021 Seattle Tree Canopy Report shows an overall loss of canopy of 1.7% relative to 2016.
    b. That report also showed 39.5% canopy loss within developed properties. As that trend continues, urban heat islands increase!
    c. The July 2023 adopted Ordinance significantly reduces protection of large trees during development. Essentially, any large tree over 25-inch tree diameter is now automatically deemed to cover over a 50-foot diameter, and is guaranteed by the new tree ordinance to be removed even without a site design.
2. ..."promote the care and retention of trees and groups of trees that enhance Seattle's historical, cultural, recreational, environmental, and aesthetic character." (Current policy EN 1.7) The "One Seattle Plan" now proposes to **remove this policy**. Why?
3. ..."develop regulations that minimize lot clearing and ensure creative designs to retain mature trees." The "One Seattle Plan" now proposes to **remove this policy**. Why?

What opportunities has the "One Seattle Plan" missed?

1. It is not possible to retain or replant trees when the land area is covered by new structures. Like Portland Oregon, the Seattle Comp Plan must acknowledge the only means of achieving 30-percent equitable citywide canopy cover is to designate at least 30% of the residential lot area with space for trees.
2. The Seattle 2022 short video, "Canopies of Green Urban Density" includes examples of multifamily developments – including one within your district – that intentionally design dense housing while retaining existing tree canopy.
3. Building upward, not sprawling within. Why are Seattle transit hubs missing residential towers? Why does the proposed comp plan looking at just 15-story buildings when Canadian suburban residential towers accommodate twice the population.

Suburbs Got Towers!

Build Upward!

- Seattle accommodates an average of 5,274 per square mile, which is 27% less dense than the Canadian suburb of Burnaby, British Columbia).
- Seattle is 27% less dense than Burnaby
- Burnaby, British Columbia occupies 37.3 sq miles, with a 2022 population of 270,264, and includes urban "town centres" of highrise residential at major transit stops of Lougheed, Edmonds, Metrotown, and Brentwood. Burnaby comfortably accommodates an average of 7,245 per square mile.
- Seattle occupies 142.07 sq miles, with a 2022 population of 749,256 and includes just the downtown and the University District allowing highrise residential at a few major transit stops.

4. Unlike the City of Kenmore, Seattle does not allow the vertical stacking of row house and town house dwellings. Two-story townhouses over ground-level accessible flat allows for both density and space for trees!

https://www.seattletimes.com/opinion/seattles-town-house-residents-deserve-trees-too/

- COMP PLAN 101
- SEATTLE TRANSPORTATION PLAN
- PUBLIC SAFETY
- IN THE D4
- COMMUNITY GROUPS
- DID YOU KNOW?