

Objective 1

Relative Canopy Cover

Achieve a climate-appropriate amount of tree cover,
community-wide **(2)**

Short-term strategies

- 🌳 Update Tree Code for better retention on private property.
- 🌳 Develop reasonable replacement standards for trees to be removed. **(1)**
- 🌳 Develop a tree list to ensure better retention of appropriate trees contributing to the canopy. **(1)**

Long-term strategies

- 🌳 Develop a GIS layer of the existing tree canopy and compare to impervious surface (unavailable space) and other vegetative cover to determine current level. **(2)**
- 🌳 Identify potential planting spaces in publicly-owned and managed areas. **(5)**

Objective 2

Healthy and Diverse Tree Population (2)

Establish a diverse tree population suitable for the urban [built] environment and adapted to the region

Short-term strategies

- 🌳 Develop a comprehensive Edmonds' community tree list of suitable and appropriate species and utilize with development, redevelopment, and replacement opportunities.
- 🌳 Establish a public tree policy that considers the appropriateness of a species when managing trees in the right-of-way (ROW). **(5)**
 - *If existing trees have been there for years and grown to "inappropriate" size have code allow removal. **(1)***

Long-term strategies

- 🌳 Use tree inventory information to work toward a more diverse tree population. **(1)**

Objective 3

Tree Inventory & Assessment

Acquire a comprehensive understanding of the tree resource to direct its management **(2)**

- Detailed understanding of the condition and risk potential of publicly-managed trees.
- Detailed understanding of the ecological structure and function of all natural areas. **(2)**

Short-term strategies

- 🌳 Collect information about private trees on “tree plans” submitted for development and tree removal permits (under new code). **(2)**
- 🌳 Compile all known information about the park, ROW, and street (downtown) trees into a basic inventory program. **(1)**

Long-term strategies

- 🌳 Conduct a tree inventory (includes condition and risk) of downtown trees and ROW trees on major arterials.
- 🌳 Conduct plant studies in the City natural areas (UW or ECC students).
- *Need guidelines for tree removal on private property. Not necessary to go through the city now for most tree removal. We are losing more & more of our canopy that exists on private property by the week. **(1)***

Objective 4

City-wide Management Plan

Develop and implement a comprehensive urban forest management plan for the community **(1)**

- All public trees are managed with safety as a high priority.
- Urban forest renewal is ensured through a tree establishment program driven by canopy cover and diversity objectives (1 & 2).
- The benefits derived from large-stature/mature trees are ensured by the implementation and enforcement of municipal-wide policies and regulations. **(2)**

Short-term strategies

- 🌳 Support the Tree Board in establishing a Heritage Tree Program. **(1)**
- 🌳 Update private tree code to safely and reasonably retain significant trees. **(2)**

Long-term strategies

- 🌳 Develop a management work plan from inventory and plant studies that will include risk management, appropriate replacement, and successful establishment.
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- *Need to re-evaluate development code to allow flexibility of building placement on lots with significant trees/tree habitat.*

Objective 5

City Resources – Funding & Staffing

Develop and maintain adequate funding and resources to implement a community forestry program **(3)**

Short-term strategies

- 🌳 Retain a contract qualified professional to administer updated private tree code; consider assistance for Public Works and Parks as well. **(3)**
- 🌳 Seek initial funding through permit fees, fee-in-lieu options.

Long-term strategies

- 🌳 At least one employee in Parks and Public Works get arborist certification; budget ongoing training. **(4)**
- *Need to photograph significant (heritage) trees on private property so there is documentation. Enforce fines – makes it easier to do so with documentation that includes before and after.*
- *A City Arborist that focuses on tree issues. **(1)***
- *We need an arborist full-time!*
- *Must have clear codes and significant enforcement so it is too costly to ignore for “big money” developers.*

Objective 6

Community Awareness and Cooperation

The community recognizes the role of the urban forest as vital to Edmonds' environmental, social, and economic well-being

- Ensure all city departments, other public agencies, green industry, local businesses, *development community*, and large private landholders cooperate with common community forestry goals and objectives.

Short-term strategies

- 🌳 Create an informal “Tree Team” within the city to meet and discuss community tree issues; cooperate & *collaborate* with agencies, large landholders.
 - 🌳 Utilize the Tree Board to engage the community with Fall Arbor Day, Community Tree Walk, Heritage Tree program, etc. **(3)**
 - 🌳 Set city standards for pruning, protection and tree selection to disseminate to citizens and green industry. **(1)**
 - 🌳 Develop an educational component to connect the community value of trees with the purpose and intent of private tree regulations. **(1)**
- *Stop advocating for smaller lots for developers so there is no room for planting tree and a large house too. (1)*

Additional comments at Open House (written):

From Dawna Lahti (edmondite1@hotmail.com)–

Why are there no trees included in the Five Corners roundabout? Can this be rectified?

What happens to street trees that die?

What is the time-frame for replacement?

Do the neighbors have responsibilities toward the success of these trees? (in Snohomish they do!)

Why are there no street trees along the new sidewalk across Edmonds Methodist? Can this be retrofitted?

Rather than spending energy preventing folks cutting their own trees, what about making policy that parking lots must have shade trees planted (the hospital remodel might be a test case).

Where the schools' playgrounds are bereft of trees (elementary), how does next generation learn to live with/value them?

The petanque fields [at Civic Center Playfield] cry for shade – in France, Napoleon deigned they'd be sycamores but none is not good.