

2022 Seattle City Council Statement of Legislative Intent

Council Budget Action: Agenda

Tab	Action	Option	Version
MO	001	A	001

Budget Action Title: Request that MO provide recommendations regarding creating a chief arborist position

Ongoing: No Has Attachment: No

Primary Sponsor: Alex Pedersen

Council Members: Kshama Sawant, Dan Strauss

Staff Analyst: Yolanda Ho

Date		Total	LH	TM	KS	AP	DJ	DS	AL	BC	LG
	Yes	0									
	No	0									
	Abstain	0									
	Absent	0									

Statement of Legislative Intent:

This Statement of Legislative Intent (SLI) would request that the Mayor's Office (MO), Urban Forestry Interdepartmental Team (IDT), Urban Forestry Commission (UFC), and other departments as necessary, provide recommendations for the creation of a "chief arborist" position that would promote the preservation of Seattle's tree canopy and provide independent oversight of the City's management of trees, with an initial focus on the preservation of exceptional trees. The goal would be to have this position filled no later than January 1, 2023.

The response should include the following:

- Position title, classification, department, and position within the department's organization chart;
- Job responsibilities;
- Desired qualifications; and
- Assessment of opportunities and challenges related to establishing the new position; and
- Description of how the proposal responds to and/or incorporates input from the Urban Forestry IDT and UFC.

This position's duties would be expected to include reviewing and providing input on permit applications that involve the removal of exceptional trees, as long as this review does not cause any delays in the permitting process.

The MO should submit the report to the Land Use & Neighborhoods Committee, or successor committee, and the Central Staff Director by April 8, 2022.

Responsible Council Committee(s):

Land Use & Neighborhoods

Date Due to Council: April 8, 2022