Open House to Be Held on Draft Tree Plan

(Edmonds - WA) A draft plan about City management of trees in Edmonds will be presented at an open house on Thursday, April 19 from 6:00 to 7:30 pm in the Brackett Room, third floor of Edmonds City Hall, 121 5th Avenue N. The public is invited.

The open house will feature display boards showing highlights about the draft plan. A staff team, including the project consultant who prepared the draft plan, will be at the meeting to answer questions and talk with attendees. At 6:45, a slideshow presentation will start. A “comments” box will be available for people who want to give written comments. More opportunities for public input will continue into at least May and June.

The tree management plan, also known as the urban forest management plan, is intended to provide direction and new ideas for the City to carry out, in part for the management of trees on City property and in part for the City’s activities to encourage good tree management on private properties.

Besides background information, the draft plan includes 22 objectives about what the City can do to manage the urban forest. Each of the objectives has a set of actions the City can take. To view the current draft plan and related information online, go to: http://www.edmondswa.gov/2011-07-27-22-31-43/urban-forest-mgmt-plan.html.

After the public open house, the Planning Board will have a public hearing, currently set for May 9, to get input and consider any recommendations to the City Council.

While the draft plan will undergo minor clean-up, it will not change substantively before going to the City Council in June. Whether to adopt the plan, with any changes, is a City Council decision.

If adopted, the plan would be implemented over time, taking into account budget impacts.