**SEVEN How can we reverse our Saanich Core declining tree canopy?**

Benjamin Allan How can we reverse our Saanich Core declining tree canopy? Over the past four years, council has lost a lot of trust with the electorate, due in large part to the heavy-handed line with the Environmental Development Permit Area. Council needs to work with residents to create a balanced replacement to the EDPA, which protects our environment while respecting property rights.

Trevor Barry a - again, zoning and performance- and outcome-based incentives.  Pay landowners in targeted areas (via property tax exemptions, deferrals, etc) to keep/grow trees, etc.

Susan Brice Maintain and care for existing trees by ensuring any development promotes healthy underground water drainage, provide incentives for future development to retain as much tree canopy as possible, require a generous tree replacement for projects that remove or disturb trees, through public education get the community to care for trees on their own property, replant in public parks and green spaces.

Judy Brownoff Ensure we reduce tree loss through development. Measure tree loss and plant two for one replacement. Measure how many removed and planted annually. Recognize and invest in trees as part of our asset management plan.

Fred Haynes *The short answer of growing more trees, needs to be supported by the longer answer of ensuring improved tree replacement where tree are taken down, and greater care to preserve existing tress. In new developments look to have trees with larger future growth potential larger included. Trees that produce a larger canopy. Too often the replacement trees are ones that have a “urban scale” canopy, which is smaller than the more majestic trees they are replacing.*

Shawn Newby It is very important to preserve the tree canopy. As properties are repurposed there will unfortunately be canopy loss. This why it is important that as we redesign the Uptown Core we are introducing new opportunities to plant trees. The Superstore property is an example of a concrete slab that can be resigned to have housing, greenspace and new trees where currently there is nothing.

Teale Phelps Bondaroff Saanich’s [Urban Forest Strategy](http://www.saanich.ca/EN/main/community/natural-environment/trees/urban-forest-strategy.html) needs to be revised to include quantifiable targets for fruit and nut-bearing trees. Community orchards should also be considered for inclusion in existing landscaped parks. By working with local businesses and organizations (such as [LifeCycles](http://lifecyclesproject.ca/)) we can ensure that the harvest from these trees are fully utilized within the community. We also should protect and restore native ecosystems, and look to plant native trees where possible.

Art Pollard I feel that increasing our tree canopy is a vital decision. When we provide new sidewalks, there should be trees incorporated into the design as was done on the redevelopment of Cloverdale avenue.  We also need to increase our tree replacement ratio when new developments occur.

Ned Taylor It's crucial that we protect parks, urban trees, and our natural environment as our community increases in density and grows throughout the coming years. There's cities now that are spending millions of dollars to create green space because they got rid of it in the past. That's not what we want in Saanich and Greater Victoria 10, 20 or 50 years down the line. We need to protect the natural environment that we have for both current and future generations.

Rob Wickson *We must stronger on our 2 for 1 tree replacement requirement and simply plant more trees.*