

22 February 2016

Mayor Murray, in an effort to find much needed funding to address the homeless situation in Seattle, has proposed selling Myers Parcels and using a portion of the money to fund this initiative. ([see map](#))

We are writing in support of TreePac's effort to stop the sale of Myers Parcels.

Although we appreciate the urgency of addressing the needs of providing more resources for the homeless, we believe selling off Myers Parcels is shortsighted. This property is one of the last large tracts of undeveloped land in Seattle. Because it already is composed of trees, wetlands and meadowland and associated wildlife, Myers Parcels seems particularly well suited to serve Seattle in adding to much needed greenspace in the city. Although we are known as 'the Emerald City', in comparison to other cities of similar size, we fall very short. With population in Puget Sound expected to grow exponentially in the coming years, saving Myers Parcels would preserve some open space amidst the increased density. In addition, Myers Parcels has potential to be developed into a park, which could provide access to nature to an underserved neighborhood.

Saving Myers Parcels would align with the city in its commitment to clean the lower Duwamish waterway and also serve in helping meet other important commitments/goals surrounding climate change: as a green utility by helping mitigate air, noise and light pollution, as filtration for storm water runoff, and by leaving its trees - and potentially planting more - it would have a positive impact on tree canopy goals.

Lastly, saving Myers Parcels would carry on John Beal's vision. A self-made environmentalist who devoted thirty years of his life to restoring Hamm Creek, his philosophy was so simple, yet one often forgotten by city decision makers - 'to leave this place better than it was when I found it'. We believe if the city chooses not to keep the future in mind and sells Myers Parcels to developers, it will be squandering an opportunity to save a greenspace, to help with the restoration of the lower Duwamish waterway and potentially develop a park that could be enjoyed by many generations to come.

Please choose to leave a legacy of hope. Save Myers Parcels.

For additional information, please see our blog post at: <http://wp.me/p4CAda-Bo>

Thanks for your time and consideration,

Seattle Nature Alliance

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