

Submitter: Derron Coles

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure: HB3016

Developing a community green infrastructure grant program is a community-centered approach that would add capacity and resources to coalitions like Connecting Canopies that will use the funds to not only shift the number of green spaces in critical areas of the region but also increase the diversity of the urban forestry profession and strengthen the relationships between communities, industry, and the government.

The Community Green Nursery designation is another opportunity to build relationships between the community and industry. It is also an opportunity to grow existing BIPOC-owned nurseries.

The tree canopy analysis is a project that PSU and TNC have been working on through Connecting Canopies. The purpose of the work is as stated in the one-pager. This information would be critical, especially if temperature and canopy data is layered with impact assessment data, such as air quality and health data.

The maintenance component to prevent the loss of trees and vegetation due to disease and pests is also significant, especially if contracts for on-the-ground monitoring and mitigation are contingent on a commitment by companies/organizations to do the work while training new practitioners.