



**DES MOINES MEMORIAL DRIVE PRESERVATION ASSOC.  
WWI LIVING ROAD OF REMEMBRANCE**

LivingRoadofRemembrance.org • P.O. Box 66482, Burien WA 98166

November 1, 2016

Comments by Rose Clark regarding the removal of trees at SeaTac Airport

Thank You for giving me an opportunity to speak and for taking time to really understand local community input on the proposed removal of trees at SeaTac Airport. I am President of the Des Moines Memorial Drive Preservation Association. We are a non-profit association whose mission is to work with the Highline cities through an existing Inter-Local Agreement to restore this WW1 Memorial Drive dedicated to the memory of those who gave their lives for our freedoms. The restoration plan for DMMD is part of the Comprehensive Plans in Burien, SeaTac, Des Moines, Normandy Park, and King County. Previously, I have asked that you consider the DMMD Restoration Plan as a mitigation effort to replace the trees you are suggesting that need to be removed in various areas.

The Drive was originally planted on both sides in the 1020's with over 1,200 elm trees on an 80 ft. spacing. Those elms have fallen to urbanization: power lines, driveways, intersections, and disease. The community has always been very protective of this Drive, and there have been several previous efforts to restore. Because of the Inter-Local Agreement, any development on the Drive today requires that elm trees have to be planted instead of other street trees. These new elm trees are disease-resistant and do not interfere with power lines. In the last few years, about 40 new, disease-resistant elms have been planted. Another 20 trees will be planted this year as part of the King County Lake-to-Sound Trail. Total restoration of the Drive would require another over 1000 more trees. If possible, I would like to be able to do this all at once, so that the trees will grow at an even pace. Additionally, it would be awesome to have the new trees in place for the celebration of the Centennial of the end of WW1 in 2018. If it would not be possible to plant the trees all at once, then I would recommend working with the cities to establish a tree fund that would be governed by an inter-local agreement that would set rules for use of the funds in accordance with the current plan until all the trees have been replanted. This inter-local could be patterned after the fund you established with the Highline School District to provide funding for the sound insulation for new schools. This would allow the planting of trees as future city road construction takes place. I would be pleased to help convene a meeting with you of the City Managers and Public Works Directors of the three cities abutting the Drive to determine the best way forward.

Whatever your decision, the Des Moines Memorial Preservation Association stands ready to work with you in this mitigation effort. Please feel free to contact me at any time. Again, Thank you for the opportunity to give input in this important decision.

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Check out our website at  
[LivingRoadofRemembrance.org](http://LivingRoadofRemembrance.org)

E-mail your thoughts at  
[info@LivingRoadOfRemembrance.org](mailto:info@LivingRoadOfRemembrance.org)

Join us today in preserving and maintaining this historical, one of a kind, Living Road of Remembrance for future generations. Your membership is tax deductible.

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DMMDPA is a nonprofit, charitable organization in the State of Washington and under the 501c3 code of the IRS.

## Des Moines Memorial Drive Preservation Association



We celebrate our freedoms by honoring those who died to preserve it.



*Mission Statement: To honor those who died in WW1 by advocating for the preservation and maintenance of DMMD as a unique, living historic monument through educational, cultural, civic, and fundraising endeavors.*