

## Kaplan, Dave

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**From:** Sandy Hunt <sandyh@defendersofhighlineforest.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 16, 2025 9:42 PM  
**To:** Kaplan, Dave  
**Cc:** Sandy Hunt  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Highline Forum Topic for the coming year: Tree Canopy Reforestation (the Miyawaki method)

Dear Highline Forum Members,

To clarify, my previous email is intended for public comment at the upcoming Highline Forum. It could be helpful to append this second email to the first so that you the members have the electronic addresses for the Miyawaki articles for the record. I am hoping the Shoreline link is active in my original email, but if not, the website can be accessed using the address below.

[Miyawaki method for creating forests.](https://www.creatingtomorrowforests.co.uk/blog/the-miyawaki-method-for-creating-forests)

<https://www.creatingtomorrowforests.co.uk/blog/the-miyawaki-method-for-creating-forests>

[Shoreline](https://shorelinehistoricalmuseum.org/exhibits-to-see/miyawaki-forest/)

<https://shorelinehistoricalmuseum.org/exhibits-to-see/miyawaki-forest/>

[South Seattle College Campus Georgetown](https://newscenter.southseattle.edu/2024/02/15/georgetown-campus-open-space-transformed-native-urban-forest)

<https://newscenter.southseattle.edu/2024/02/15/georgetown-campus-open-space-transformed-native-urban-forest>

[West Seattle](https://westseattleblog.com/2025/01/you-can-help-plant-a-miyawaki-forest-in-west-seattle/)

<https://westseattleblog.com/2025/01/you-can-help-plant-a-miyawaki-forest-in-west-seattle/>

[Issaquah Alps](https://www.issaquahalps.org/hikesandevents/2025/03/15/restoration-work-dogwood-street)

<https://www.issaquahalps.org/hikesandevents/2025/03/15/restoration-work-dogwood-street>

[UW Tacoma](https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/microforest/miyawaki-method)

<https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/microforest/miyawaki-method>

I would also like to clarify what I meant by "cheated out of any meaningful mitigation." I am referencing how the system defines "significant impact." Rather than implement projects to address the added harm of increased airport traffic on the surrounding neighbors (regardless of the cause of the expansion of air travel), the government spends the money on projects that make air travelers' lives more convenient and efficient. Even the mitigation being required in the SAMP to address surface street travel will benefit those heading to and from the airport.

Those who hold power clearly project an increase in air travel to and from SeaTac Airport. In a just society, however, those projected increases in and of themselves would generate funds to compensate or mitigate the harm for those who will suffer due to this growth. The more growth, the more funding should be made available for those living in neighborhoods around the airport and under flight paths. Put

another way, the money being spent on improving the airport for those wealthy enough to fly and use the cargo system, should first be spent to address the health and mental health needs of those who can only afford to live under flight paths and near airports. Once negative impacts of air travel growth have been or are being addressed for residents, only then should funds be spent on airport enhancements.

Thank you,

Sandy Hunt  
Defenders of Highline Forest

On Fri, Nov 14, 2025 at 10:35 AM Kaplan, Dave <[Kaplan.D@portseattle.org](mailto:Kaplan.D@portseattle.org)> wrote:

Hi Sandy,

Are you intending your email to be shared with the Highline Forum members?

I'll share that with the Forum members as public comment.

Thank you.

Dave Kaplan  
Local Government Relations Manager

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17801 International Blvd, MS 5F07D

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C: 206.265.9179

E: [Kaplan.D@portseattle.org](mailto:Kaplan.D@portseattle.org)

Pronouns: [He/Hi m](#)



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**From:** Sandy Hunt <[huntsl77@gmail.com](mailto:huntsl77@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 14, 2025 5:19 AM  
**To:** Kaplan, Dave <[Kaplan.D@portseattle.org](mailto:Kaplan.D@portseattle.org)>  
**Cc:** Sandy Hunt <[sandyh@defendersofhighlineforest.org](mailto:sandyh@defendersofhighlineforest.org)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Highline Forum Topic for the coming year: Tree Canopy Reforestation (the Miyawaki method)

You don't often get email from [huntsl77@gmail.com](mailto:huntsl77@gmail.com). [Learn why this is important](#)

**WARNING:** External email. Links or attachments may be unsafe.

Esteemed Highline Forum Members,

I am writing to point out that there has been a substantive loss of trees experienced in the area south of the airport, possibly you have noticed that when you drove to the meeting today. For a variety of reasons, we anticipate frontline communities will experience much more death and destruction of their limited natural environment between now and the full realization of the SAMP.

I am wondering as you select forum topics for the coming year if I could suggest studying as a group the [Miyawaki method for creating forests](#).

This method has a number of advantages for growing native trees, doing so at a rapid pace, which is what is needed on Port of Seattle property and undeveloped spaces in jurisdictions adjacent to the airport. As luck would have it, there is a growing number Miyawaki demonstration projects underway in the vicinity.

[Shoreline](#)

[South Seattle College Campus: Georgetown](#)

[West Seattle](#)

[Issaquah Alps](#)

[UW Tacoma](#)

The Defenders of Highline Forest and possibly other environmental groups as well as public entities such as King County Parks and/or WA State Departments charged with addressing health and environmental disparities identified in the HEAL Act may wish to join in this undertaking as well. My apologies if the Port of Seattle is already utilizing this method for the reforestation of the properties it has acquired from the cities surrounding it. I am aware of their award-winning environmental work so this may be something that is already underway.

My rationale for suggesting this topic at this time comes from sitting through recent meetings where the flying public who generally live nowhere near the airport (and never would) clamor for far more passenger and cargo service coming in and out of SeaTac, while I notice so far that the frontline communities are once again cheated out of any meaningful mitigation for the physical and mental health-related injuries they suffer because somehow those using the airport are not required to pay for the impacts of passenger travel and cargo service on the surrounding neighbors and their communities.

Sincerely,

Sandy Hunt

Defenders of Highline Forest