Our Arboretum, Our Gardens, United

For 90 years, Seattle's Washington Park Arboretum has told the story of a green city that connects people with plants and trees. With 230 acres of botanic gardens, trails, and wetlands, providing opportunities for peace and connection, **the Arboretum has always been more than a park—it's an active, living plant museum and oasis for all, right in the heart of the Emerald City.**

You deserve a world-class place where plants are celebrated in community. We're ready to answer the call.

With the voice of the broader community guiding us, we are discussing new ways to unite the Arboretum Foundation and the University of Washington Botanic Gardens to bring together the Washington Park Arboretum, the Seattle Japanese Garden, and the Center for Urban Horticulture. Through reimagined and expanded spaces, we could take everything we love about these places—from scientific research, to recreation and community-building, to the plentiful benefits of awe-inspiring plant life—and harness them for even greater connection, education, and inspiration.

By evolving our partnership with the UW Botanic Gardens, we would be able to create a more meaningful place to experience the power of plants, observe changes in the seasons and natural world, and become changed ourselves.

What we heard from you:

The Arboretum is beloved by our community.

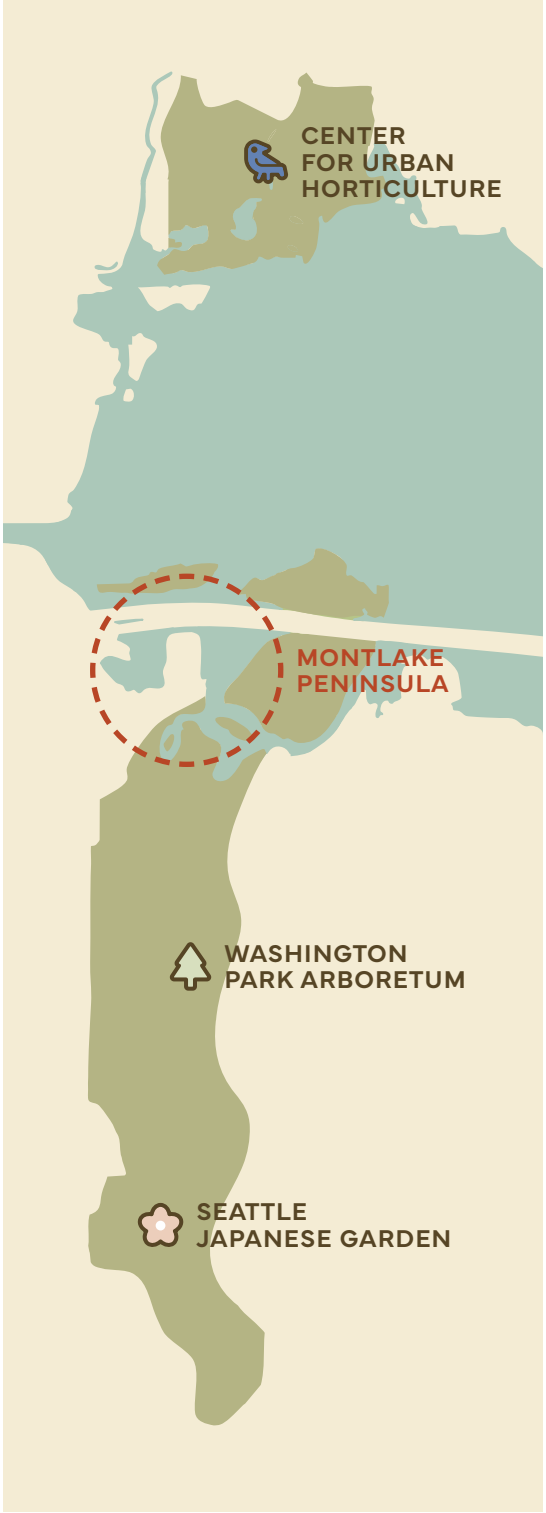
92% of respondents in a recent community survey reported they are **highly likely to recommend visiting**, indicating they deeply value the Arboretum's trails, wildlife habitat, and preservation of plant species.

In our next chapter, our community wants a more accessible, more diverse Arboretum with...

- Improved sense of belonging and inclusion
- Better transportation options
- More accessible facilities and amenities
- Increased active and social programming
- Collaboration with and recognition of the Coast Salish peoples

One Vision, Three Locations

Bringing people & plants together for greater connection, knowledge, and inspiration



Why a Newly Imagined Partnership?

Through reimagining our work together to better organize our expertise and talents, we would be able to:

- **create a better experience for our visitors**
- **provide more opportunities for learning and engagement**
- **unlock a new level of fundraising resources**

By sharing our strengths, we would be capable of greater connection, knowledge, and inspiration.

The Center for Urban Horticulture is a vibrant hub for plant science, education, and community engagement. Spanning 16 acres of landscaped grounds and adjacent to the 74-acre Union Bay Natural Area, it offers diverse environments for exploration and research, and is a haven for birdwatchers, with over 200 bird species.

The Washington Park Arboretum is our state's home for hundreds of world-class plant collections. With cherished local species and rare plants from around the world, the Arboretum attracts thousands of visitors each year.

The Seattle Japanese Garden is an urban oasis of mindfully tended peace and beauty. Many visitors are especially drawn to the cultural celebrations, art displays, and tea ceremonies uniquely offered at the Japanese Garden.

Future: Reimagining the Montlake Peninsula

The Arboretum is on the traditional land of Coast Salish peoples. As we look to the future, our work offers a restorative opportunity to honor Indigenous connections in partnership with its original caretakers. The Montlake Peninsula is currently in use for the 520 bridge project and will be returned to the Arboretum in the coming years. In partnership, we would work to restore to restore and reimagine these 28-acres for generations to enjoy.

We want you to be part of an exciting new chapter.

For more information, visit **arboretumfoundation.org/a-new-united-organization**

Arboretum Foundation

University of Washington Botanic Gardens