

RECEIVED ON: January 20, 2024

From: [Mariel Delgado](#)
To: [Rigo Garcia](#)
Subject: Against Tree Removal on Greenleaf Ave
Date: Saturday, January 20, 2024 11:57:29 AM

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Good morning,

I am writing to urge you to reconsider and halt the planned action to remove the trees along Greenleaf avenue.

These trees are older than many Whittier residents. They are unique and vital fixtures of the city's ecosystem, providing shade, cleaning of the air, and homes for local wildlife. Any replacement trees planted might take decades to reach the same benefits provided by these existing trees. By then local biodiversity might be irreversibly damaged. As someone with a degree in Biology with a concentration in Ecology, this is of particular interest for me, but will have effects on everyone.

More than that, a generation or more of whittier children and residents of all ages will miss out on the recognizable character and positive ambiance that these trees give to one of whittier's most beloved streets.

Nature, seeing and experiencing it, has proven benefits for mental health and stress reduction. These trees make the neighborhood feel like a caring community, rather than simply another extension of city sprawl, indistinguishable from any other town. Their age reminds us of the town's history. They are calming and provide shade that entices people to linger, to shop and patronize local establishments. Where there is nature, people feel safe. If you remove them, all this will be permanently lost. The planned move towards urbanization is at odds with the heart of whittier's appeal, and will result in a colder and more alienating ambiance for the for the neighborhood. Please, consider this well. What's done here, can not be undone.

Sincerely,
A concerned citizen
Mariel Delgado