

RECEIVED ON: January 19, 2024

**From:** [Jennifer Guarnacci](#)  
**To:** [Rigo Garcia](#)  
**Subject:** Uptown Streetscape Beautification  
**Date:** Friday, January 19, 2024 6:00:17 PM

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To Whom It May Concern,

I am a 40-year old Whittier Native who lived on many streets in Uptown Whittier during my upbringing. I've lived on Bright, Milton, Greenleaf and Comstock. Uptown is the crown jewel of Whittier. I've been in several of the Christmas parades, went to every one of the summer festivals that used to take place, enjoy the farmer's markets on summer evenings, during high school, Rocky Cola Cafe after football/basketball games was a must and where Skin Perfect is now, before the Whittier Narrows quake destroyed many of the historical buildings, my mom used to take me to the ice cream shop and we'd drink New York Seltzers there (I used to think they were exclusive to Uptown Whittier since it was the only place I saw them!). My Italian grandfather migrated from Boston and of all the places he could've gone, he settled in Whittier. In my adulthood, with most of my family also being Whittier residents, Uptown Whittier is our go-to. I have a cousin that plays in bands at Steve's BBQ and Spin Lounge and my best friend used to be the manager of the theater. During the pandemic, it was nice to see how Uptown managed to thrive by accommodating state mandates with the outside seating. It was actually kind of sad when the outdoor seating was removed. I urge you, please do not remove the beautiful trees that line Greenleaf Avenue. Having them gone is definitely not something that would beautify Whittier. It'd look uninviting and during the heatwaves, the most walked street will lack shade. I ask this because I'm passionate about Whittier and its' rich history and these trees are part of it. So please don't change this aesthetic. Don't take our trees away.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Kind regards,

Jennifer N. Guarnacci

<https://www.keepersofthewaters.org/blog/trees-have-feelings#:~:text=Trees%20can%20feel%20pain%2C%20and,his%20life%20to%20studying%20them>.