

From: [Lucy West](#)
To: [Yau, Ellen](#)
Subject: Heritage Redwood Tree Removal at 500 and 550 Ellis St
Date: Sunday, October 1, 2023 6:43:14 PM

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Hi Ellen,

I recently visited the site to take in the sheer scale of these trees, something that other members of the Mountain View community will not be able to do once they are gone. These trees provide large amounts of natural shade, much needed habitat for animals, birds, and insects, and provide beautiful views. Did you know that redwood trees are some of the best trees at a process called carbon sequestration on the planet? They are also endemic to the West Coast of the US. At a time when climate change is a great global concern we should be protecting living redwoods in perpetuity and ensuring that their population grows and that they are able to continue sequestering carbon and outlive all of us.

I urge you to consider the building process and the livelihood of these trees. Surely not all of them need to be killed. Perhaps you would consider saving the bigger ones that have likely been there for over 150 years and would continue living for another 150 years if they were not cut down.

I would also like to know what plans are in place if you do decide that the lives of these trees are inconsequential. Perhaps a new grove of redwoods could be planted elsewhere to mitigate the high carbon emissions from the construction of this project. I suggest 100 - 200 redwood trees which would be extremely beneficial to the community. We would also have to ensure they are growing and protected indefinitely from being removed. Do you think these terms are enough?

What are the developers on this project obligated to do under Mountain View code in terms of planting new trees and mitigating damage to the environment especially since these are mature heritage redwood trees?

Again I urge you to reconsider the removal of these trees.

Thanks,
Lucy

From: [Ollie Robinson](#)
To: [Yau, Ellen](#); [ollie \[REDACTED\]](#)
Subject: Feedback re application PL-2022-097 / 500 and 550 Ellis Street
Date: Monday, October 2, 2023 8:20:44 PM

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Dear Ellen Yau,

I am unable to attend the hearing on October 4th due to work travel but wanted to submit my feedback regarding the proposal:

LOCATION: 500 and 550 Ellis Street
APPLICANT: Loren Brown for Portola Land Company
APPLICATION NO(S): PL--2022-097

Feedback/comments as follows:

I am vehemently against further heritage tree removal in this area. There have already been other recent developments around Ellis Street where Heritage Trees have been removed (and so far nothing has replaced them). Unnecessary removal of heritage trees by developers out of convenience needs to stop.

- The heritage trees in the area add to the diversity of the geography and prevent it being perceived as a concrete jungle, devoid of fauna and variety.

- The heritage trees in the area are responsible for the protection and sustaining of local wildlife including birds, and squirrels.

- Replacement of heritage trees - all of them planted over thirty years ago - with saplings will take decades to grow to full height.

- A hotel and other buildings can and should be built around the heritage trees in the area. There is no reason why this cannot happen.

In all cases, removal of these heritage trees will adversely affect the local environment and diminish the attractiveness of the area.

It is reasonable that development should happen, but I firmly believe it should be done in a way that is sensitive to the environment (and challenges we face such as climate change, and local wildlife preservation).

Please take on board this feedback and refuse to allow the developer to remove the heritage trees and ask them to work around their existence.

Thank you for reading. Please do confirm receipt of this email and feedback and any actions taken.

Best Regards,
Oliver Robinson

[REDACTED]