

From: [Hala Alshahwany](#)
To: [City Council FORWARD](#)
Cc: [. City Manager](#); [Lee, Danielle](#); [. Planning Division](#)
Subject: Comments on 590 Castro Development
Date: Monday, April 11, 2022 10:24:35 PM

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Hello Council Members and City Staff,

As I started to write my input for council regarding 590 Castro St proposal, I found this email that I had sent to the DRC members last year when design aspects were being discussed. Unfortunately the pleas made by the public and even the DRC architects (read message below) to save our heritage trees, have been ignored by the developer and project planer.

It is vital to retain the Redwood heritage trees due to their proximity to Pioneer Park and their importance in keeping our downtown beautiful and healthy. These trees are our greatest asset against climate extremes. Please protect them.

Hala Alshahwany

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From: Hala Alshahwany [REDACTED]
Date: Thu, Oct 21, 2021 at 2:48 PM
Subject: Further Comments on 590 Castro Development
To: planning.division@mountainview.gov <planning.division@mountainview.gov>, rebecca.shapiro@mountainview.gov <rebecca.shapiro@mountainview.gov>
CC: city.mgr@mountainview.gov <city.mgr@mountainview.gov>

Hello DRC Members, Shapiro, Poncini & Sherman,

Thank you all for your support on pushing for sustainable designs and practices in reviewing 590 Castro St., and other developments coming through steady fast in our city.

One of the great accomplishments of MV ESTF-2 (Environmental Sustainability Task Force 2017-18), was working with council to pass updated Reach Code requiring all new buildings, commercial & residential, to be 100% electric using clean sourced energy (through SVCE).

Now in 2021, in light of climate challenges and extremes, we have to go further.

As I mentioned in yesterday's meeting, saving mature heritage trees, at minimum the native ones is crucial to the health and beauty of our community and environment. The suggestion made by Ms Poncini to relocate the 3 native redwood trees to adjacent Pioneer park is an excellent way to accommodate the developer and preserve these trees. The developer's cost in maintaining and relocating heritage trees is justified to support long term sustainability goals.

Likewise, using green roof tops and permeable walkways should be encouraged and sought by

reviewers and builders. These small changes combined with big ones will enable us as to have a better future for all.

Best,
Hala Alshahwany
Member of ESTF-2 & MV Resident