

Terra Bella Ave. 2016



Terra Bella Ave. 2021



From: [Maria Marroquin](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Cc: [Carlos Arreola](#); [Ruth Silver-Taube](#)
Subject: Item 7.1 Wage Theft and Responsible Construction Ordinance
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 1:59:32 PM
Attachments: [DWCMV letter Wage Theft10-26021.docx](#)

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Ensure you trust this email before clicking on any links or attachments.

Honorable City Council of Mountain View,

I hope this email finds you well.

Please find attached to this message, a letter regarding item 7.1 Wage Theft and Responsible Construction Ordinance.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

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María Marroquín | *Pronouns: She/Her*
Executive Director
[Day Worker Center of Mountain View](#)
(650) 903-4102 | 113 Escuela Ave. Mountain View, CA 94040





October 26, 2021

City Council of Mtn. View
500 Castro St.
Mtn. View, CA 94041

Re: Item 7.1 Wage Theft and Responsible Construction Ordinance

Dear Mayor Kamei, Vice Mayor Ramirez, and Honorable City Council Members:

The Day Worker Center of Mtn. View, appreciates the ongoing efforts that City of Mtn. View is exploring to protect vulnerable workers from the perils of wage theft. Please let this letter serve to you as a letter of support with an added recommendation for the Council to consider to the proposed Wage Theft and Responsible Construction Ordinance.

As a community partner of Santa Clara County's Office of Labor Standards Enforcement (OLSE), and member of the Fair Workplace Collaborative (FWC), the Day Worker Center of Mtn. View (DWCMV) strongly advocates for: day laborers, domestic workers, immigrants and low-wage workers. In its 25 years of service, DWCMV knows very well the ramifications that wage theft entails. Since 2019 – to present day, in its capacity as community partner of the OLSE and member of the FWC, DWCMV has assisted and currently assists numerous wage theft victims in multiple industries in recovering their stolen wages from unscrupulous employers who have negated in paying their workers their well-earned wages. The industries that wage theft victims come from are: the construction industry (including landscaping, masonry, remodel work, etc.), the restaurant/food industry, domestic work, and the hospitality industry all which is included in the City of Mtn. View's October 26, 2021 Study Session Memo (***Study Session Memo***) (see pg. 2, under definitions of ***Wage Theft and Responsible Construction***).

Of the workers that DWCMV assisted and continues to assist, a large amount of them are not members of the center. However, despite that, DWCMV still assists them in recovering their stolen wages by connecting them with legal resources that can help them. Vulnerable workers from the industries mentioned in the City of Mtn. View's October 26, 2021 Study Session Memo are exposed the perils of wage theft on a daily basis. Per ***Santa Clara County Wage Theft Coalition 2020 Wage Theft Report in Silicon Valley***, the report shed light in how rampant wage theft is in our communities and in terms of dollar amount, roughly \$128,871,256.00 dollars is owed from 25,856 Wage Theft Cases, from 32,826 employees. In regards to the city of Mtn. View particularly, Mtn. View has over 904 cases of wage theft in total, affecting 1075 workers, resulting in \$9,514, 851 dollars owed to workers. Of the industries that are affected, were the exact industries that were mentioned in the Study Session Memo.

Wage theft victims do not only suffer from unpaid wages, but their families as well. Most low-wage workers depend on their wages to: pay rent, buy groceries, pay their bills, and other family related expenses. Numerous workers who have sought assistance from DWCMV regarding wage claims, have expressed that because they have not been paid on time or properly paid, they did not have enough for rent, thus sought help from CSA for rental assistance. This is one clear example on how detrimental wage theft is to low-wage workers and their families.

In preventing further cases of wage theft, DWCMV asks that the following recommendation be added to the Wage Theft & Responsible Construction Ordinance:

1. Inclusion and oversight to residential projects that are less than 15,000 sq. ft. not only be applied to commercial and multi-family housing projects. While a large segment of current development projects are commercial & multi-family housing projects, there are still a good amount of residential construction projects that are being developed that is below the 15,000 sq. ft. that are not covered in the Wage Theft & Responsible Construction Ordinance, leaving small project construction workers and day laborers exposed. In the city of Mtn. View particularly, small project construction workers and day laborers, are at risk of wage theft from unscrupulous employers that take advantage of them. Not including residential projects, may have detrimental effects to workers that may result to more wage theft claims.

With the foresaid recommendation mentioned above, we request that the City of Mtn. View to please include this recommendation. At this time, during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, DWCMV has only seen an increase of wage theft and workers who have been victims of wage theft. Once more, DWCMV appreciate the ongoing efforts that the City of Mtn. View is exploring to further protect vulnerable workers, and we hope to continue to work in tandem so we may be able to eliminate wage theft in the City of Mtn. View.

Best regards,

Maria Marroquin
Executive Director
Day Worker Center of Mtn. View

From: [Brian Pahl](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Regarding removal of mature redwood trees on Middlefield
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 12:35:50 PM

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Dear City Council Members:

I live in the Monta Loma neighborhood, not far from the mature trees that are being discussed today for removal. Our side of Mountain View has many automotive repair shops, asphalt and tire companies, etc. -- and we aren't very far from the 101 and 85 highway interchanges either. This means the citizens in our area are in closer proximity to the fumes and particulates that surround those businesses and roads. However one really great thing we have going for us is the canopy provided by the large trees on Middlefield Road. I urge you to save our neighborhood's assets and understand that safe roads can coexist with our statuesque, mature trees. Please consider these often-overlooked environmental & economic benefits of our large trees:

- **Trees clean the air:** Trees act as giant filters that clean the air we breathe by intercepting airborne particles, cooling the air and absorbing pollutants like carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide. A mature leafy tree produces as much oxygen in a season as 10 people inhale in a year.
- **Trees benefit the soil:** Trees can store harmful pollutants and change them into less harmful forms. Trees filter sewage, reduce effects from animal wastes, clean roadside spills, and clean water runoff into streams. Trees control soil erosion, conserve rainwater and reduce sediment deposit after storms. Tree roots bind the soil and their leaves break the force of wind and rain.
- **Trees increase property value:** Real estate values can increase when trees are planted. Data shows that buyers are willing to spend more on homes with ample trees over few or no trees.
- **Trees shade and cool:** Shade reduces the need for air conditioning in summer. Studies show that parts of cities without cooling shade from trees can literally be "heat islands" with temperatures between 10 to 20 degrees higher than in surrounding areas.
- **Trees bring people together:** Data shows neighborhoods with shady trees and parks create outdoor spaces that attract people. When people are drawn to spaces with trees, they are more likely to see and interact with their neighbors and become friends.

Let's be mindful of the trees and protect our environment, health and property values. Our children, their children, and all the generations to

come as the heirs of our fragile planet will be grateful to us.
Thanks for your consideration!

Brian Pahl

Resident in the Monta Loma Neighborhood

Cheers,
Brian

From: [Divya Ranga](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Tree Removal at Mountain View City
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 1:12:19 PM

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Dear City Council Members:

I live in the Monta Loma neighborhood, not far from the mature trees that are being discussed today for removal. Our side of Mountain View has many automotive repair shops, asphalt and tire companies, etc. -- and we aren't very far from the 101 and 85 highway interchanges either. This means the citizens in our area are in closer proximity to the fumes and particulates that surround those businesses and roads. However, one really great thing we have going for us is the canopy provided by the large trees on Middlefield Road. I urge you to save our neighborhood's assets and understand that safe roads can coexist with our statuesque, mature trees. Please consider these often-overlooked environmental & economic benefits of our large trees:

- **Trees clean the air:** Trees act as giant filters that clean the air we breathe by intercepting airborne particles, cooling the air, and absorbing pollutants like carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide. A mature leafy tree produces as much oxygen in a season as 10 people inhale in a year.
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Let's be mindful of the trees and protect our environment, health and property values. Our children, their children, and all the generations to come as the heirs of our fragile planet will be grateful to us.

Thanks for your consideration!

Divya Ranga.

Resident in the Monta Loma Neighborhood

From: [Robert Whyte](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: From Robert Whyte regarding Heritage Tree Removal on Middlefield
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 2:27:42 PM

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Dear City Councilpersons,

This is my second email to voice my opposition to the removal of the Heritage Trees on Middlefield Road. As I mentioned in my first email, I have been a resident of the Stanton Place townhomes at Middlefield road and Linda Vista since 1997. I have watched these trees blossom, bloom, and grow for almost 25 years.

I respectfully implore you to keep these intact and not remove them for two reasons.

First, these trees are aesthetically beautiful and enhance our neighborhood. If the trees are removed, decades of growth will be forever gone. The junction of Middlefield and Shoreline will become similar, if not identical, to San Antonio Road and El Camino.

Second, it is my understanding that the North Bay Project may not get built. If the trees are removed, and the planned development canceled or endlessly delayed, the damage done to the trees once removed is irreversible.

This is the only the second time I have ever written to the City Council, and like the first time, my reason was to respectfully request that you reconsider removing these beautiful Heritage Trees.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Whyte


Mountain View