

From: Irina Trapido
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 10:52 PM
To: Parks and Recreation Commission
Subject: Plymouth Street to Space Park Way Realignment

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Dear Parks and Recreation Commission and Urban Forestry Board:

I would like to comment on the tree replacement plan for Plymouth Street to Space Park Way Realignment project:

It is very sad to see so many beautiful mature trees slated for removal for a traffic improvement project. There are more heritage trees on this site than in most of Mountain View parks! They are very valuable and are called "heritage trees" for a reason.

I don't know if there is any way convince Mountain View to rearrange this plan to save the trees or at least some of them. But the very least you could do is to replace these trees with species comparable in size, beauty, and canopy. I understand that Redwoods are not doing well in a drought, but there are other evergreen conifers (pines or firs) that grow fast and can do quite well.

Instead, the project proposes replacing huge heritage redwoods with small trees, almost shrubs, such as Laurus Nobilis and Chinese Fringe. I fail to understand how this makes for an adequate replacement, even if it's in 5:1 ratio.

Finally, for good canopy coverage, trees need to be planted on BOTH sides of the sidewalks as well as at the intersections. This does not seem to be the case in the proposed project.

More generally, please plant more trees around all sidewalks and walking paths in city parks. Mountain View spends a lot of water to irrigate large lawns in city parks, and this water would be much better used for growing our canopy.

Thank you very much,

Best,
Irina Trapido
Mountain View resident