

RECEIVED ON: January 19, 2024

From: [Emilia Wilson](#)
To: [Rigo Garcia](#)
Subject: The Whittier Trees
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I am born and raised in Whittier, my family has been here for generations, this is not coming from a newcomer.. but when I think of Whittier, I think of those ficus trees, those trees are a staple of Whittier, especially uptown. When I was a child, I remember observing those trees, I knew we were in uptown as soon as I saw those trees. Being in any other city and seeing a ficus tree, all I can think about is my home Whittier, I can immediately smell the scent of popcorn coming from the Starlight Whittier Village Cinema, I can see the older regular folk outside of Mimo's cafe smoking their cigars with their large dog sitting under the red sculpture, I can feel the cold breeze those trees provided despite how hot the weather was. The ficus trees bring a sense of home, a sense of comfort, those ficus trees are Uptown Whittier, losing them would be a great loss.