

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

In a continuing effort to persuade you to phase-in tree removal & replacement instead of chopping down ALL the mature, shady canopy of trees in the heart of Uptown on Greenleaf Ave, yesterday I delivered the attached letters to the Whittier Uptown Association and the Uptown Whittier Improvement Association. The letters clarify that residents involved with www.saveourtreeswhittier.com ARE in favor of the City making improvements to Uptown. We simply want what the City promised during 4 1/2 years of collaborative discussions with community residents which is to phase-in tree removal & replacement in conjunction with the Plan.

We realize you are heavily influenced by the opinions of members of these business associations. We also know you care about the opinions expressed to you by hundreds of city residents who are horrified and outraged that the Plan calls for ALL of the mature canopy of trees to be guillotined at once. Residents' outcry was heard loud and clear at the Rally held on March 16 in front of City Hall, followed by marching up Greenleaf Ave chanting "Save Our Trees" and adopting individual trees in their names. KCAL led off their 6 pm news that evening with coverage of the Rally. That newscast, as well as another short Rally video can be viewed at www.saveourtreeswhittier.com. There is a viable compromise solution that can be reached that will deliver much-needed Uptown improvements without sacrificing all of these trees - that goal is not mutually exclusive. Thank you for your continued consideration to resolve this equitably.

Sincerely,
Conny McCormack

RECEIVED ON:

March 25, 2024

Conny B. McCormack
6799 Worsham Dr.
Whittier, CA. 90602
www.saveourtreeswhittier.com

David Gonzales, President
Uptown Whittier Improvement Association
8158 Painter Ave.
Whittier, CA. 9060

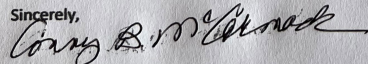
Dear Mr. Gonzales:

This letter is to clarify that the *Save Our Trees Whittier* campaign is in favor of the City making long-overdue improvements to Uptown. We simply want what the City promised during 4 ½ years of collaborative discussions with community residents, i.e. to phase-in tree removal and replacement in conjunction with the improvement Plan. That approach was abandoned in one fell swoop by the City Council on December 12, 2023 when they adopted a radically different Plan entailing cutting down ALL of the mature canopy of trees at once on three blocks of Greenleaf Ave in the heart of Uptown.

After Whittier residents learned what happened, public outcry exploded. Hundreds of letters, emails and public comments during the January 23, 2024 City Council meeting resulted in the City taking a "pause" to further study the issue. Myself and many others have continued to write and speak at every subsequent City Council meeting. Our consistent message: We want Uptown improvements without sacrificing all of the mature, shady canopy of trees - that goal is NOT mutually exclusive.

Residents, including former City Council members, expressed that clear message again at a Rally held on Saturday, March 16 in front of City Hall. Afterwards, many Rally attendees walked up Greenleaf Ave chanting "Save Our Trees" and adopting trees in their names. KCAL led off their 6 pm news that evening with coverage of the Rally. That newscast included a statement from Mayor Joe Vinatieri: "...we are a community that seeks to resolve our differences, and that is this process." To view the KCAL video footage, as well as another short video of the Rally filmed by a Whittier College graduate, go to: www.saveourtreeswhittier.com

My husband, Austin McCormack, met with you recently to also clarify that we fully support Uptown improvements but without sacrificing all of the trees. We would appreciate the opportunity to speak at an upcoming meeting of the Whittier Uptown Improvement Association to express this message to your members. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Conny B. McCormack
Former LA Co. Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk (Ret.)
27-year resident of Whittier (213) 216-6569; connymccormack@gmail.com

Council Meeting: _____
Agenda Item No: _____

March 25, 2024

Conny B. McCormack
6799 Worsham Dr.
Whittier, CA. 90602
www.saveourtreeswhittier.com

Justin Tipton
Director of Operations
Whittier Uptown Association
6717 Bright Ave.
Whittier, CA. 90601

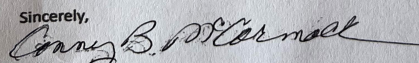
Dear Mr. Tipton:

This letter is to clarify that the *Save Our Trees Whittier* campaign is in favor of the City making long-overdue improvements to Uptown. We simply want what the City promised during 4 ½ years of collaborative discussions with community residents, i.e. to phase-in tree removal and replacement in conjunction with the improvement Plan. That approach was abandoned in one fell swoop by the City Council on December 12, 2023 when they adopted a radically different Plan entailing cutting down ALL of the mature canopy of trees at once on three blocks of Greenleaf Ave in the heart of Uptown.

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My husband, Austin McCormack, stopped by your office and spoke with you several times over the past two weeks to also clarify that we fully support Uptown improvements but without sacrificing all of the trees. We would appreciate the opportunity to speak at an upcoming meeting of the Uptown Association to express this message to your members. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Conny B. McCormack
Former LA Co. Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk (Ret.)
27-year resident of Whittier (213) 216-6569; connymccormack@gmail.com

CC: CM; ACM; CA; Council; Original to CC; Public Binder; Department