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Council Meeting: 04/30/2024  
Agenda Item No: 9

**From:** [Marilyn Avila](#)  
**To:** [WebMail - CCD](#)  
**Subject:** Save the Trees!!  
**Date:** Sunday, April 28, 2024 10:13:58 PM

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Mayor and City Council Members,

We want to express our opposition to the destruction of the ficus trees in uptown Whittier, for all the reasons already expressed by so many others.

In your “Brand Vision”, you describe Whittier’s “natural beauty, quaint local charm, and small town spirit”, yet you propose to remove from the heart of the city, which is uptown, the very thing that makes it that way - the trees.

Do what you need to in order to repair or divert the sidewalks or sewer lines. But please do not make the irreversible mistake of killing these beneficial trees!! Whittier would never be the same, and any replacement trees will not grow as fast or as hardy & strong, due to all the pollution we now have in our air, soil & water. In addition, these trees keep their leaves throughout the year and don’t lose them like most other trees, so it provides cool shade all year long. Hire a maintenance crew to clean up the other droppings on a regular basis.

We are actually not even in favor of phasing out these beautiful trees, much less destroying them all at once. We were living here and remember when they were first planted. It seems like a sin and a crime against nature to kill these over half-century old, yet still healthy, sturdy trees that contribute so much to the health and well-being of all living things that benefit from them.

Thank you.

Marilyn & Leonard Avila  
Greenleaf Avenue

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