

Mr Lehman and Mr Holder

I live on Hampton Cres. We have just received word of plans to remove many of the mature trees in our neighbourhood for sidewalks. The trees in our very small neighbourhood are THE defining characteristic of Old Hazelden. It is the sole reason we purchased a home in this neighbourhood. I find it shocking that in response to our concerns we are hearing the city say "we will replace with new trees". I will never live long enough to see these "new trees" become the mature trees that exist here today.

The value and beauty of these trees is priceless. But have you ever considered the other benefits.

Our neighbourhood stays cool in the summer. We actually don't need to run our AC like people do in neighbourhoods without mature trees. It is a huge benefit among so many others to keeping our incredible mature trees. It has taken decades and decades...lifetimes...to achieve the maturity we so deeply love in our neighbourhood. You are going to destroy this.

A change like this throughout Hazelden will impact our property values. The trees are why people want to live here. We have done just fine without sidewalks. Traffic is calm because the majority of people who drive through our tiny neighbourhood are those who live here. We share the road calmly. We respect our neighbours who are out walking. Personally I walk to enjoy the trees, and I'm not alone. Neighbours all share stories of which trees are their favourite. We watch them change throughout the year and we adore the canopy they create over us in the heat of the summer. You cannot simply take that from us? You will destroy what defines Old Hazelden. The people who live here should get to decide what happens here.

I vehemently oppose a single tree being removed and ask that you advise how my concerns can be represented at council.

Erin Craven  
CEO UROSPOT