

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Opposition to tree removal on Friar's Way

Members of the Council,

I am writing to express my great disappointment with the Civic Works Committee to refuse to exempt our neighborhood from upcoming sidewalk installation. I urge you to reconsider this decision and to support the Sherwood Forest request for an exemption. This exemption would benefit both the neighborhood and the city, as the installation of sidewalks on our quiet street would destroy a large number of mature trees and negatively impact the city's plan to expand forest canopy.

I have walked these streets every day for the past year of the pandemic, and I have never felt the need for sidewalks. This is not a high traffic area, people do not commute via our streets, and cars are rare. I have friends and neighbors who walk their dogs, walk with their children, and use mobility devices and we are all coming together to ask you to please not force this upon us.

Sherwood forest is an old, quiet, neighborhood, and like so many of London's wonderful neighborhoods it does not need a one size fits all solution. I'm sure that the goals of safety, accessibility, and expanding forest canopy can be achieved without the destruction of so many wonderful old trees.

Best,

Bobby Glushko