From:	*CI-StPaul_CC-Ward5
To:	"Lisa M. Burke"
Cc:	*CI-StPaul_Contact-Council
Subject:	RE: Please don"t rush the Tree Preservation Ordinance through!
Date:	Wednesday, February 26, 2025 9:31:43 AM
Attachments:	image001.png

Hi Lisa – Thank you for reaching out to the Ward 5 Office regarding the proposed Tree Preservation Ordinance. Your message will be shared with Council VP Kim and added to the public record.

Jenna Sadjadi (she/they)
Executive Assistant to Council Vice President Kim
Saint Paul City Council - Ward 5
15 W Kellogg Blvd, Ste 320
Saint Paul, MN 55102
651-266-8650 | www.StPaul.gov/ward5

SAINT PAUL
MINNESOTA

From: Lisa M. Burke <misslisam@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2025 6:16 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward5 <Ward5@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: Please don't rush the Tree Preservation Ordinance through!

Some people who received this message don't often get email from misslisam@msn.com. Learn why this is important

Think Before You Click: This email originated **outside** our organization.

While I'm happy to read that the St. Paul City Council is considering a Tree Preservation Ordinance, I'm writing to ask for a delay in the passage of the ordinance as currently written until it can be revised.

My understanding is that the ordinance currently lacks prioritization of trees over projects, comprehensive rules and a mechanism for enforcement by a TRUSTED entity. We need an ordinance the provides MEANINGFUL PROTECTION for the existing canopy and oversight/enforcement we can trust.

NO trees should be destroyed during a project unless there is no other feasible alternative, and a determination needs to be made for who makes that decision - The Department of Public Works should have to work in concert with others and not have the final word. A group of independent arborists and/or the Forestry Department should be involved . We witnessed the destruction of beautiful, healthy, OLD trees in St. Anthony Park that have sequestered carbon and provided cooling shade and wildlife habitat for a hundred years or more. We NEED

THOSE OLD TREES NOW MORE THAN EVER as we face the growing existential threat of climate change.

I understand the current ordinance calls for a 1:1 ration for tree replacement when the city destroys trees for a project. It will take YEARS before a young sapling provides the carbon sequestration, shade and other benefits the old tree that was killed in the process would have. There is scientific data the city needs to use to determine what the proper ratio should be.

"Mini forests" could also be planted

https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/24/climate/tiny-forests-climate-miyawaki.html

Hannah Lewis, who literally wrote the book on mini forests, has a strong Minnesota connection.

https://www.hannahlewis.org/miniforest-revolutionbook

Rushing the ordinance through as is feels like "greenwashing". The new administration is taking a chainsaw to so many valuable environmental projects and putting the country, and the world, at greater risk of the worst effects of climate change. Without leaders at the top to lead as needed, it's up to those at the more local level - you - to do the right thing and take us into the future in the most meaningful way possible.

Thank you.
Lisa Burke
St. Paul

From: *CI-StPaul_CC-Ward5
To: "robrien@legatorose.com"
Cc: *CI-StPaul_Contact-Council
Subject: RE: Tomorrow"s Vote on a Proposed Tree Ordinance
Date: Wednesday, February 26, 2025 9:28:57 AM
Attachments: image001.png

Hi Rosalie – Thank you for reaching out to the Ward 5 Office regarding the proposed Tree Preservation Ordinance. Your message will be shared with Council VP Kim and added to the public record.

Jenna Sadjadi (she/they)
Executive Assistant to Council Vice President Kim
Saint Paul City Council - Ward 5
15 W Kellogg Blvd, Ste 320
Saint Paul, MN 55102
651-266-8650 | www.StPaul.gov/ward5

SAINT PAUL
MINNESOTA

From: robrien@legatorose.com <robrien@legatorose.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2025 6:37 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward5 <Ward5@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: Tomorrow's Vote on a Proposed Tree Ordinance

Some people who received this message don't often get email from robrien@legatorose.com. Learn why this is important

Think Before You Click: This email originated **outside** our organization.

Dear Councilmember Kim,

I understand that the City Council is poised to vote tomorrow on the tree preservation ordinance recently introduced by Council President Rebecca Noecker and Council Member Nelsie Yang.

I understand also that the ordinance fails to establish adequately the importance of preserving the city's mature trees, that it lacks any meaningful protection for our city's canopy, and it also fails to identify a trusted entity to oversee enforcement. It is difficult for me to understand why a council that wants to do the right thing would be considering the passage of an ordinance that fails to achieve its stated goal in such an obvious way.

As a twenty-year resident of Summit Avenue, I beg you to act honorably and in keeping with the heavy responsibility you bear for the welfare of the city's tree canopy by refusing to pass an inadequate ordinance simply in order to claim that your responsibility has been met.

Thank you in advance for all of the good work that the City Council does and for acting as necessary to preserve the quality of our tree canopy.

Rosalie O'Brien
1825 Summit Avenue

From: *CI-StPaul_CC-Ward5
To: "Claudia Clark"
Cc: *CI-StPaul_Contact-Council
Subject: RE: Tree Ordinance
Date: Wednesday, February 26, 2025 9:28:36 AM
Attachments: image001.png

Hi Claudia – Thank you for reaching out to the Ward 5 Office regarding the proposed Tree Preservation Ordinance. Your message will be shared with Council VP Kim and added to the public record.

Jenna Sadjadi (she/they)
Executive Assistant to Council Vice President Kim
Saint Paul City Council - Ward 5
15 W Kellogg Blvd, Ste 320
Saint Paul, MN 55102
651-266-8650 | www.StPaul.gov/ward5

SAINT PAUL
MINNESOTA

From: Claudia Clark <sewclaud@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2025 5:41 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward5 <Ward5@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: Tree Ordinance

Some people who received this message don't often get email from sewclaud@aol.com. Learn why this is important

Think Before You Click: This email originated **outside** our organization.

I am opposed to the planned Summit Avenue Regional Trail because:

- It puts the 100s of trees in the historic tree canopy at risk and will cause irrevocable damage to our treasured city street. Replanting is not preservation.
- I'm against spending $12M on a trail that will risk trees, will not be safer especially when there are less costly options available to improve the biking experience on Summit. The City should be spending our tax dollars on other more important things that benefit a larger number of its citizens.
- The plan calls for widening of drive lanes in almost all segments and closing median crossings. This will lead increase speeding on Summit putting pedestrians and cyclists at higher risk.
- It violates the City Ordinances which state that new, public infrastructure construction, in historic preservation districts, should preserve the

traditional pattern of the streets, the granite curbs and the lantern-style street lights. This plan intends to change all of those in the name of "improvements".

- Vehicles using the 150 driveways on Summit will block the trail when waiting to exit into the drive lanes increasing the risks of car bike accidents. Vehicle turning into driveways will also be less aware of bike traffic on an off-road trail also raising the risks of crashes and injuries.

Please VOTE NO on the Summit Avenue Regional Bike Trail plan.

Claudia Clark
Sent from my iPad

From:	Jenna Sadjadi
To:	"Lisa M. Burke"
Cc:	*CI-StPaul_Contact-Council
Subject:	RE: Please don"t rush the Tree Preservation Ordinance through!
Date:	Tuesday, February 25, 2025 9:03:13 AM
Attachments:	image001.png

Hi Lisa – Thanks for reaching out. Your comment on the proposed Tree Preservation Ordinance will be shared with CVP Kim and added to the public record.

Jenna Sadjadi (she/they)
Executive Assistant to Council Vice President Kim
Saint Paul City Council - Ward 5
15 W Kellogg Blvd, Ste 320
Saint Paul, MN 55102
651-266-8650 | www.StPaul.gov/ward5

SAINT PAUL
MINNESOTA

From: Lisa M. Burke <misslisam@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2025 6:16 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward5 <Ward5@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: Please don't rush the Tree Preservation Ordinance through!

Some people who received this message don't often get email from misslisam@msn.com. Learn why this is important

Think Before You Click: This email originated **outside** our organization.

While I'm happy to read that the St. Paul City Council is considering a Tree Preservation Ordinance, I'm writing to ask for a delay in the passage of the ordinance as currently written until it can be revised.

My understanding is that the ordinance currently lacks prioritization of trees over projects, comprehensive rules and a mechanism for enforcement by a TRUSTED entity. We need an ordinance the provides MEANINGFUL PROTECTION for the existing canopy and oversight/enforcement we can trust.

NO trees should be destroyed during a project unless there is no other feasible alternative, and a determination needs to be made for who makes that decision - The Department of Public Works should have to work in concert with others and not have the final word. A group of independent arborists and/or the Forestry Department should be involved . We witnessed the destruction of beautiful, healthy, OLD trees in St. Anthony Park that have sequestered carbon and provided cooling shade and wildlife habitat for a hundred years or more. We NEED THOSE OLD TREES NOW MORE THAN EVER as we face the growing existential threat of climate

change.

I understand the current ordinance calls for a 1:1 ration for tree replacement when the city destroys trees for a project. It will take YEARS before a young sapling provides the carbon sequestration, shade and other benefits the old tree that was killed in the process would have. There is scientific data the city needs to use to determine what the proper ratio should be.

"Mini forests" could also be planted

https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/24/climate/tiny-forests-climate-miyawaki.html

Hannah Lewis, who literally wrote the book on mini forests, has a strong Minnesota connection.

https://www.hannahlewis.org/miniforest-revolutionbook

Rushing the ordinance through as is feels like "greenwashing". The new administration is taking a chainsaw to so many valuable environmental projects and putting the country, and the world, at greater risk of the worst effects of climate change. Without leaders at the top to lead as needed, it's up to those at the more local level - you - to do the right thing and take us into the future in the most meaningful way possible.

Thank you.
Lisa Burke
St. Paul

From:	*CI-StPaul_CC-Ward5
To:	"Winston Kaehler"
Cc:	#CI-StPaul_Ward5; *CI-StPaul_Contact-Council
Subject:	RE: tree preservation ordinance
Date:	Monday, February 24, 2025 3:42:53 PM
Attachments:	image001.png

Hi Winston -- Thanks for reaching out regarding the proposed Tree Preservation ordinance. Your message will be shared with Council VP Kim and added to the public record.

Jenna Sadjadi (she/they)
Executive Assistant to Council Vice President Kim
Saint Paul City Council - Ward 5
15 W Kellogg Blvd, Ste 320
Saint Paul, MN 55102
651-266-8650 | www.StPaul.gov/ward5

SAINT PAUL
MINNESOTA

From: Winston Kaehler <winkaehler@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2025 3:35 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward5 <Ward5@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: Fwd: tree preservation ordinance

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from winkaehler@gmail.com. Learn why this is important

Think Before You Click: This email originated **outside** our organization.

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Winston Kaehler** <winkaehler@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Feb 24, 2025 at 3:34 PM
Subject: Fwd: tree preservation ordinance
To: <ward6@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Winston Kaehler** <winkaehler@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Feb 24, 2025 at 3:34 PM
Subject: Fwd: tree preservation ordinance
To: <ward4@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Winston Kaehler** <winkaehler@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Feb 24, 2025 at 3:33 PM
Subject: Fwd: tree preservation ordinance
To: <ward2@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Winston Kaehler** <winkaehler@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Feb 24, 2025 at 3:33 PM
Subject: Fwd: tree preservation ordinance
To: <ward1@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Winston Kaehler** <winkaehler@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Feb 24, 2025 at 3:30 PM
Subject: tree preservation ordinance
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3 <ward3@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

The so-called tree preservation ordinance as currently proposed is a toothless tiger that will result in serious harm to the city of St. Paul. Please send it back to the drawing board to give it some much-needed changes so that St. Paul will not be sacrificing its mature trees to special interests that do not recognize the crucial benefits that mature trees provide to the city and its future.

Winston Kaehler
1712 Palace Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55105
651-699-4183
winkaehler@gmail.com

From: *CI-StPaul_CC-Ward5
To: "peter brozek"; #CI-StPaul_Ward5
Cc: *CI-StPaul_Contact-Council
Subject: RE: Tree Policy
Date: Monday, February 24, 2025 3:41:14 PM
Attachments: image001.png

Hi Peter – Thanks for reaching out regarding the proposed Tree Preservation ordinance. Your message will be shared with Council VP Kim and added to the public record.

Jenna Sadjadi (she/they)
Executive Assistant to Council Vice President Kim
Saint Paul City Council - Ward 5
15 W Kellogg Blvd, Ste 320
Saint Paul, MN 55102
651-266-8650 | www.StPaul.gov/ward5

SAINT PAUL
MINNESOTA

From: peter brozek <petr.brozek@outlook.com>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2025 12:34 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward5 <Ward5@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: Tree Policy

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from petr.brozek@outlook.com. Learn why this is important

Think Before You Click: This email originated **outside** our organization.

Please **delay in the passage of the ordinance until it can be revised into a meaningful plan to protect our city's tree canopy.**
Peter M Brozek- AIA Emeritus

PMB Consulting
651-440-4186

From: Jenna Sadjadi
To: "misskitty66@hotmail.com"
Cc: *CI-StPaul_Contact-Council
Subject: RE: Tree Preservation
Date: Friday, February 21, 2025 12:39:36 PM
Attachments: image001.png

Hi Kathleen -- Thank you for contacting the Ward 2 office.

We appreciate your writing and expressing your perspective on potential changes to the proposed Tree Preservation Ordinance (25-4). I have shared your message with Councilmember Noecker so that she can take your perspective into account as she makes her decision on this issue.

We will add your email to our public comments section.

Thank you again for getting in touch.

Best regards,

Jenna Sadjadi (she/they)
Interim Executive Assistant to Councilmember Noecker
Saint Paul City Council - Ward 2
15 W Kellogg Blvd, Ste 310
Saint Paul, MN 55102
651-266-8620 | **www.StPaul.gov/ward2**

SAINT PAUL
MINNESOTA

From: Kitty <misskitty66@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 16, 2025 3:38 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3 <Ward3@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; #CI-StPaul_Ward2 <Ward2@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; *CI-StPaul_Forestry <Forestry@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; andy.rodriquez@ci.stpaul.mn.us
Subject: Tree Preservation

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from misskitty66@hotmail.com. Learn why this is important

Think Before You Click: This email originated **outside** our organization.

Hello,

Thank you for the recent **Tree Preservation ORD Community Conversation** that was held.
Appreciate you all!

Please do all you can to save trees in Saint Paul.

And please bring together a citizen advisory committee to help revise the next draft of the ordinance.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Croswell
1218 James Avenue
Saint Paul, MN. 55105

From: Jenna Sadjadi
To: melissa.a.wenzel@gmail.com
Cc: #CI-StPaul_Ward2; *CI-StPaul_Contact-Council
Subject: RE: Protect Saint Paul's Future – Deny Ryan Companies' Appeal
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 1:38:11 PM
Attachments: image001.png

Dear Melissa -- Thank you for contacting the Ward 2 office.

We appreciate your writing and expressing your perspective on the current Ryan Ford Site appeal. I have shared your message with Councilmember Noecker so that she can take your perspective into account as she makes her decision on this issue.

We will add your email to our public comments section.

Thank you again for getting in touch.

Best regards,

Jenna Sadjadi (she/they)
Interim Executive Assistant to Councilmember Noecker
Saint Paul City Council - Ward 2
15 W Kellogg Blvd, Ste 310
Saint Paul, MN 55102
651-266-8620 | **www.StPaul.gov/ward2**

SAINT PAUL
MINNESOTA

From: Melissa <melissa.a.wenzel@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 8, 2025 3:53 PM
To: Rebecca Noecker <Rebecca.Noecker@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Cc: CouncilHearing (CI-StPaul) <CouncilHearing@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; *CI-StPaul_Contact-Council <Contact-Council@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: Protect Saint Paul's Future – Deny Ryan Companies' Appeal

Think Before You Click: This email originated **outside** our organization.

Dear Council Member Noecker,

As a Ward 2 resident deeply invested in the future of our city—its financial health, climate resilience, and housing abundance—I urge you to stand with the community and vote against Ryan Companies' appeal. Please uphold the BZA's decision to deny their 26 Height & FAR variance requests for 0 Cretin Ave & 2200 Ford Parkway.

For years, residents and city staff poured their time, energy, and voices into shaping a bold, forward-thinking vision for the Ford Site. Not once did that vision include a single-story strip mall with a sea of surface parking. Saint Paul does not need another low-value, car-centric development that will drain our tax base for decades to come. We need what the Ford Master Plan calls for: a thriving, transit-oriented, high-density community that will create homes, strengthen our economy, and build a more sustainable future.

Ryan Companies claims their proposal is necessary due to rent stabilization, market conditions, and financing challenges. These may be real obstacles, but they are not legal justifications for such extreme variances. Granting them would set a dangerous precedent—one that undermines years of careful planning and disregards the public interest.

Even more troubling, Ryan is also requesting $18 million in TIF subsidies for this project. A public handout for a project that ignores the city's vision? That's not just bad policy—it's an insult to every resident who worked to create a better future for this site.

You have the power to protect our city's future. Please stand up for smart growth, climate action, and fiscal responsibility by rejecting Ryan's appeal. Honor the thousands of hours of community effort that went into shaping the Ford Master Plan. Saint Paul deserves better.

Sincerely,

Melissa Wenzel
349 Michigan Street
Saint Paul, MN 55102

From: Laura Norén <laura.noren@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 31, 2025 4:01 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward2 <Ward2@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; #CI-StPaul_Ward1 <Ward1@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: Tree Protection Ordinance

Think Before You Click: This email originated **outside** our organization.

Hello Councilwomen-

Rebecca, thank you for taking a stab at writing a tree protection ordinance.
Anika, including you because I'm in your ward.

I didn't learn about it until just recently and hope there is still time for amendments.

Mostly: the ordinance lacks any enforcement mechanism. Is the City supposed to protect themselves? That set up violates basic conflict of interest principles (I'm suggesting the principles are misaligned not accusing anyone of anything).

Seems like we that could be addressed in several ways:

1. **Residents need a way to route complaints** if they see either designs or implementations that violate the principle of protecting trees. What's the intake and adjudication mechanism for sorting out which trees are actually able to be preserved when residents disagree with the City's plans?
2. **Intake respondents.** If the intake simply brings residents right back to the agency that determined the trees were in the way in the first place, that doesn't seem effective. Can we get the services of a reasonable third party? I have heard someone propose to use the American Society of Consulting Arborists. That seems reasonable.
3. **Punishment. Stop orders** need to be available. Once a tree is gone, it's gone, and it will often take longer than the complainants time left on this planet for a replacement tree to grow to the size of the one that was lost. As a secondary measure, there should be fines. **Fines** can be levied against the contractors hired to complete construction work if they aren't able to meet the protection plan they have outlined. Those fines need to be tied to the size of the tree - the bigger and more valuable the tree in terms of the benefits it provides, the steeper the fine. Partial fines for partial damage, etc. Fines would also be punitive in instances of non-planned wanton and negligent destruction of trees.
4. **Wanton and negligent destruction of trees, non-construction related.** The final point would be an add-on to the scope. Please add scope so that people who wantonly destroy trees, take actions that will lead to their destruction (e.g. poison, mauling them with a vehicle, etc), or otherwise cause them to perish can be found guilty of a misdemeanor and fined. Two trees near me were killed due to drunk drivers mauling them at high speeds. Many along Lexington Parkway have died as a result of vehicular accidents.

It's a much much nicer, shadier, quieter neighborhood with trees. Thank you so much for putting this ordinance forward and, hopefully, for giving it some teeth.

Have a great weekend!

Yours,

Laura Norén
Ward 1, St Paul, MN

From: Marilyn Bach <marilynbach123@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 7, 2025 12:01 PM
To: Jenna Sadjadi <Jenna.Sadjadi@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: letter for Mon. Feb 10 virtual meeting on Ord 25-4 tree preservation

Think Before You Click: This email originated **outside** our organization.

Jenna ,
I would appreciate our assistance. Could you kindly distribute this letter to :
Director Kershaw, Director Rodriguez, Forestry Manager Jongeward and Councilmember Noecker.
prior to Monday's Feb 10 virtual meeting on ORD-25-4.
This letter has been accepted for publication by the Pioneer Press.
Thank you for your assistance .

Marilyn Bach

February 4, 2025

Letter to Editor Pioneer Press

On Feb. 12, 2025,Rebecca Noecker will become Saint Paul City Council President.
Incoming Council President Noecker stated: "I see it as my role to make sure that our city is resilient and ready for whatever it takes to protect our people and our communities."*KSTP.com January 28, 2025* .

Council President Noecker now has a unique opportunity to build a broad citizen's coalition to protect Saint Paul's urban forest...a lynchpin of Saint Paul's environmental protection. Perhaps she can follow guidance from on our city report:
"The trees that comprise the urban forest of Saint Paul provide a variety of benefits. Trees are our largest source of green infrastructure and enhance the landscape by providing shade---. *Saint Paul Urban Tree Assessment October 28, 2024*.

On Jan 22, 2025 R. Noecker introduced Ord 25-4 –a tree preservation ordinance.
Public groups commended this initiative –but believe the ordinance as presently written does not have adequate " teeth" for enforcement and conflicts with the Minnesota Environmental Rights Act MERA116BMN .
Several problems exist:
1. Planting new saplings to replace 100 – year- old established stately trees is NOT preservation.
2. Ord 25-4 does not require a MERA review to find if any prudent alternatives exist.
3. Ord 25-4 opens the door to prioritize projects over tree preservation by simply declaring that preservation 'is not feasible.'
4. A neutral / independent, certified arborist, rather than a city Public Works representative should determine the effectiveness of tree preservation plans.

Simple amendments to Ord 25-4 such as adding " subject to (MERA)) MN Stat.116B", and requiring project approval by an American Society of Urban Arborists Board member will go a long way in to

establishing Sant Paul as a leader in Tree Preservation and Ms. Noecker as an effective Council President.

Marilyn Bach, PhD
Member Save Or Street (SOS)
a citizens group formed to protect St. Paul's treasured Summit Avenue

marilynbach123@gmail.com
cell:6124232154