

From: [REDACTED]
To: [PARKS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE](#)
Subject: Memorial Park Neighborhood
Date: Thursday, May 12, 2022 5:54:14 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Albany. Think before you click!

Dear Commissioners Abbot, Beall, Kent, Marten, Chang Frank, Price and Armendariz and Ms. Leduc,

I will try and call in tonight but will be leaving the Cornell Elementary Open House.

Firstly, the *great* things: Move N Groove was wonderful! I am happy to hear that the 4th of July Memorial Park thing might move forward. I loved meeting Danielle Brownlie as new Parks and Rec head. I watched with awe as the trashcans in Memorial Park were power-washed. Yay!

Secondly, please register my objection to current tree removals. We need to hit pause in my opinion for several reasons:

--I don't think the *general vicinity* concerning tree removals is being addressed. I have watched 3-4 trees removed from the intersection of Washington and Pomona, 2 trees on one property 1-2 on the property across the street. If a homeowner petitions to remove a tree, nearby trees should be assessed. The way the rules work now, you basically have elderly homeowners tired of maintenance and cleaning who are cutting down trees. They've told me as much. Can we de-incentivize tree removals? I understand that a lot of our trees (campors and liquid ambers) are at the end of their lifespan and aren't great urban trees. But we must work with what we have. Can we incentivize tree planting? Make it even cheaper and easier for people to plant trees in front of their apartments/homes?

Finally, sidebar: That tree removal subcontractor recently working on Washington and Carmel has a driver who is a menace. I watched him run our hard-won stop sign at Carmel and Washington, then wheel around with a trailer in the middle of the street at 8:20am as kids were rushing to make the late bells on bikes and on foot. Not okay. When I approached him and said, "Please do not drive like that in our town," he ignored me.

Thanks for your work! We really appreciate your dedication and time and join you in community service!

Becca Black
Cubmaster, Albany Pack 003 2020-2023
Albany Poet Laureate 2016-2020