

From: [Lesla Gilbert](#)
To: [Public Testimony](#)
Subject: Support Ord. 220961
Date: Wednesday, March 1, 2023 7:46:44 PM

I am writing in support of the tree protection ordinance. One of the reasons I purchased my home in the Timber Hill subdivision on Platte Purchase was the forested land connecting the subdivision southern property line was a watershed and it could not be developed. During the real estate open house several deer were grazing in the subdivision.

Trees play a critical role for people and the planet. Studies have demonstrated that the presence of trees and urban nature can improve people's mental and physical health, the property values in a neighborhood, and beyond. Trees are essential for healthy communities and people. In addition, trees cool our urban centers.

It was my understanding there is an ordinance which requires a pre-construction meeting be convened before any land disturbance. Also, the ordinance stated no trees can be removed for surveying without permission if the trees are in protected areas. Preserving trees has positive effects on the image and attractiveness of developments and enhances developers' reputations and profits.

Each of the development projects between 169 highway and I29, and between 152 highway and 64th Street have removed all trees on the land. I understand some trees need to be removed for development, however the planning of the projects could have minimized the number of trees removed for the development. It is my hope the City Council's Neighborhood Planning and Development Committee members take a drive on Platte Purchase from Pathfinder Elementary School to Coventry, and on Barry Road from 169 Hwy to Greenhill's road to see the extent of the trees being removed for all of these developments.

Lesla Gilbert