EXTERNAL

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I strongly recommend while this the tree ordinance goes forward that there be a **Time Out for tree removals** permitted for development.

Priorities as per forests unlimited:

<u>What we want</u> We want an ordinance that is **science based** and not politically based.

We want an ordinance that **protects mature trees**. These are the ones that sequester the most carbon, have higher fire resistances, store more water, more wildlife, and have more developed roots and canopies

The best available science says that we have less than 10 years to rein in our green house gas emissions. Based on the fact that older trees and woodlands sequester the most carbon, **trees and woodlands of that age or older** should not be cut down. We cannot afford to lose significant amounts of sequestering time.

Thank you , Jan Lochner

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