

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jane Demian

**Date Submitted:** 08/22/2023 07:03 AM

**Council File No:** 23-0801

**Comments for Public Posting:** Thank you for this Motion. As temperatures increase due to climate change, our street trees are necessary to protect us from inordinate amounts of heat by providing shade and cooling. Street trees are the workhorses of our communities absorbing CO2 and providing oxygen. Unfortunately, property owners and developers damage / cut down mature, healthy trees without obtaining a permit because they do not care that they are harming our shared environment. There is very little enforcement to prevent such aberrant behavior. They pay someone to bring their saws in the middle of the night to cut up a tree, hacking the trees' branches beyond recognition. Trees are weakened when a large number of branches are removed. The greater crime is cutting the tree down altogether. I support issuing a hefty fine to anyone who cuts down a street tree or hacks a tree to remove significant number of branches; a fine of at least \$3,000 needs to be applied so that the violator will never cut a mature, healthy tree again. The fine should be increased to \$5,000 for protected trees. The violator and cohorts must pay the fine and be required to attend classes on the importance of trees in our environment.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** marianne king

**Date Submitted:** 08/22/2023 08:02 AM

**Council File No:** 23-0801

**Comments for Public Posting:** I wholeheartedly agree, trees are invaluable assets in our communities! I support this motion however strongly believe the value of the tree needs to be included in the fine. Not all trees are the same. A healthy 24-inch diameter ash tree and an 8-inch half dead crape myrtle have different values. It is critical that this value system be included in the fine and to set the standard for all trees going forward. Also, revoking and putting an automatic one, two, to ten year hold on pending building permits and liens on properties and or businesses should be considered. Let's truly SHOW we value our trees!!