

Harnish, Sharon L

From: Jon Becker <jonbecker@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, December 19, 2022 5:35 PM
To: Transportation Policy Board
Subject: attn TPPB : comment on Agenda Item # 3 (Legistar # 74926)

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Hello,

Apologies for the late submission of this comment on the Complete Green Streets Plan.

Here's hoping that this proposal gives the city the power to plant native shade trees in all city terraces, without requiring the approval of property owners. This provision would seem to essential to the success of the city's climate goals, among other things. Funding would also have to be provided, of course.

Since moving to my current address in 2018, I have had 3 alders (Baldeh, Halverson, Abbas). I have hosted neighborhood walks with all three of those alders, pointing out how the street where I now live is near entirely lacking shade trees. Also, there are only multi-family rental buildings on this street, most of which are owned by folks who live outside the city. The lack of trees and the type of residence and the likely are correlated.

As a renter, I apparently cannot request planting of shade trees in the terrace, even if I am willing to pay for those trees. Since 2018 there have been three owners of my apartment building. None of them has been willing to request planting of terrace shade trees by the city, even if I pay for the trees.

This is an eco-equity issue. Recently The Guardian reported on research that has established that heat contributed to nearly 8000 excess gun deaths in the USA, during just a five year period:
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/dec/16/almost-8000-us-shootings-attributed-to-unseasonable-heat-study> Please bring this research to the attention of the entire council.

Note: As a resident of D12, I no longer have an alder to answer questions about policy proposals under consideration by the city, such as the Complete Green Streets Plan. It's possible there will be no representation for four months total.

Best, Jon

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