



May 3, 2021

San Rafael City Council
1400 Fifth Avenue
San Rafael, CA 94901

RE: 3rd Street Tree Cutting

Honorable Mayor and Council Members:

Since the Council last viewed the 3rd Street project in November, *another* mature median tree has been added to the three previously slated to be cut. This magnificent London Plane forms the western gateway to San Rafael. Your choice tonight is to save a living landmark that welcomes thousands of people to our 'tree city' each day, or cling to two parking spaces. Both are shown below:



The tree is approximately 40 feet tall, with an equal spread, a nearly two-foot caliper, good clearance, and the space to continue growing through this century. It is estimated to sequester about a ton of CO₂ climate

pollution every three years, an amount that will continue to grow with the tree. For comparison, an average gasoline car emits about twelve times that amount. We need every sizable tree we have—and many more—to counter that pollution and do their part for healthy streets and a stable climate.

Other than the two spaces shown, there would be no net loss of parking according to the project plans.

Sustainable San Rafael urges you to sacrifice two parking spaces in order to protect a beautiful constituent of our natural community.

Sincerely,

William Carney
President