

Son, Joshua L. - PDR

From: charles woodson <candylandmusic@earthlink.net>
Sent: Monday, October 2, 2017 10:01 AM
To: Son, Joshua L. - PDR
Cc: Agelasto, Parker C. - City Council
Subject: Removing 8 more trees from Monroe Park.

Dear Richmond Urban Design Committee and Planning Commission

Monroe Park was once a beautiful public park with its most delightful feature being its vibrant urban tree canopy. Now, under the guidance of a few individuals, it has lost much of its beautiful urban forest which previously served as an aesthetic wonder, habitat for animals and the proverbial "lungs" of our city. The city under the direction of the Monroe Park Conservancy is now requesting to forego planting 8 more trees that were included in the approved master plan and replacing them with planters in order to increase the surveillance scope from cameras attached to the Checkers House soffit. This is unacceptable and I respectfully ask that this request for approval of the tree deletion be denied.

Thank you,

Charles T Woodson
Richmond Va 23220

Son, Joshua L. - PDR

From: Turk Sties <turk.sties@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 2:17 PM
To: Son, Joshua L. - PDR
Cc: charles woodson; Charles Pool
Subject: Re: opposition letters

Mr. Son, please pass this message on to the UDC. I was a member of the Monroe Park Advisory Commission (MPAC). We worked many years to come up with a master plan for Monroe Park, a consensus plan that assured all interests were considered and, to whatever degree possible, were documented and protected. One prevailing determination was to protect the trees in Monroe Park. The way in which the MP Conservancy has betrayed the master plan is appalling. The wanton destruction of healthy trees, trees that were protected in the master plan, is deplorable. So much harm has been done already just to allow the whims of a few people to supersede the master plan. Please stop this destruction. Please refuse any request to destroy any more trees in Monroe Park. Please be a voice for the trees and for the city which approved the master plan they commissioned and which the MPAC crafted over a six year period. The conservancy was not originally intended to revise the master plan, just to get it done. Obviously, the wrong people were entrusted with that assignment. I beg the UDC to tell them enough is enough, loud and clear "No more tree destruction."

On Tue, Oct 3, 2017 at 11:39 AM, Son, Joshua L. - PDR <Joshua.Son@richmondgov.com> wrote:
Mr. Woodson,

I have not received any emails with letters of opposition except for yours which will be uploaded today.

Josh Son
Senior Planner & Secretary to the Urban Design Committee
Planning & Development Review (PDR),
City of Richmond

City Hall
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joshua.son@richmondgov.com | [804.646.3741](tel:804.646.3741)

-----Original Message-----

From: charles woodson [mailto:candylandmusic@earthlink.net]
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 11:00 AM
To: Son, Joshua L. - PDR <Joshua.Son@richmondgov.com>
Cc: Charles Pool <Charles_Pool@msn.com>; Turk Sties <turk.sties@gmail.com>
Subject: opposition letters

Good morning Mr Son

I couldn't help but notice there are no letters/emails of opposition posted online regarding the city and Monroe Park Conservancy's request to remove 8 trees from the area around the Checkers House. You should have received over a hundred by now. Will these be posted online and to the UDC and Planning Commission?
Thanks

Charles Woodson.

--
Turk Sties
432-9999

143 signatures

change.org

Recipient: Richmond Urban Design Committee and Planning Commission, Joshua Son

Letter: Greetings,

Stop the Deforestation of Richmond's Historic Monroe Park. I oppose the removal of 8 trees as requested by the City of Richmond and Monroe Park Conservancy to the UDC and Planning Commission.

Comments

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Helen Conner	Richmond, VA	2017-10-02	Trees are important to our city. Some of these trees are old growth. I also hate that it's a sellout to corporations.
Charles Pool	Richmond, VA	2017-10-02	The Monroe Park Conservancy states in its application to remove 8 more trees planned for the park that they could not guarantee the health of the trees because of the stone dust in which they would be planted, but in the same application they request replacing the stone dust with pavers! It is reprehensible to remove more trees planned for Monroe Park!
Mickey Anderson	Willoughby, OH	2017-10-02	Leave the Trees!
Mickey Anderson	Willoughby, OH	2017-10-02	Please leave these beautiful trees for all to enjoy!
Charles Woodson	Richmond, VA	2017-10-02	They are trying to convert this park to a pitiful treeless field. The trees are an important part of this park's historic fabric.
Richard Bargdill	Chester, VA	2017-10-02	Old trees are important for shade and soil. Planting new trees takes 20 years to take root.
Margaret Dobbins	Richmond, VA	2017-10-02	Please end the destruction of trees in our historic and once beautiful Monroe Park.
Bruce Terrell	Silver Spring, MD	2017-10-02	Can't understand why Richmond politicians and business leaders don't respect the city's heritage, and yes, trees are landscape heritage.
Gina Picard Picard	Villa Rica, GA	2017-10-02	I care about the environment, trees, and I think urban green spaces are very important for the mental, physical, spiritual, and social health of the community. Save the trees!!!
Arthur Kay	Richmond, VA	2017-10-02	The city should stop removing old growth trees. Monroe Park was beautiful due to these old growth trees. Nobody complained about them. They provided cool shade in the summer and a canopy of beautiful fall colors along the sidewalk and in the park. Now a select private group is deciding to axe more. Ya'll already illegally cut down a bunch along the sidewalk. Its disgraceful City of Richmond demonstrated that it can't successfully plant trees to a satisfactory survival rate during the bike race (about 30%-40% of plantings failed). Don't try to fix what isn't broken, because its a waste of money, resources, and above all else, it will not return to the same level of urban canopy ever again.
Phillip Ramirez	Quinton, VA	2017-10-02	This is a historic park and removing these trees would be detrimental
Teresa Carrel	Richmond, VA	2017-10-02	We need the big trees to help w heat in the city!
Sofia Melo	Richmond, VA	2017-10-02	Richmond needs to preserve its trees. Not only does it provide shade and scenic beauty to the area, vegetation in urban areas have

Name	Location	Date	Comment
			been proven to help reduce the heat island effect prevalent in urban areas.
Pat Harkess	Richmond, VA	2017-10-02	Healthy environment must include large shade trees which give us pleasure and filter harmful chemicals from the air.
Michael Garrett	Richmond, VA	2017-10-02	Enough is enough, already!
carli davis	Richmond, VA	2017-10-02	Because I'd like to keep the trees! When are we going to stop destroying nature? You do realize trees give us oxygen right?
Michele Riedel	Richmond, VA	2017-10-02	That is the only park in the VCU area. Students have to struggle against traffic as it is while trying to cross streets to go to class. Having the trees is important to lower stress and provide shade and relaxation
Paige Harvey	Richmond, VA	2017-10-02	SOMEONE needs to stop the city from destroying this beautiful park by butchering more and more trees!!!
Allynn Jordan	Hopewell, VA	2017-10-02	As for needing surveillance at Monroe Park it would be cheaper to pay for the police to watch it more carefully. Simply for the fact that these trees are irreplaceable. It takes a hundred years to grow a beautiful old oak. About 25 to grow a cop. I'm not being disrespectful I have a son in law enforcement. But you simply cannot do this. This is a historic area and it needs to have special attention
Tracy Gaulton	Mechanicsville, VA	2017-10-02	I'm signing today because parks have trees. People seek out the quiet and relaxation allowed by a tree canopy. AND THE SHADE. This is not a small thing. Without trees it will be a small, empty field, it will no longer be a park.
Kathleen Ryan	Richmond, VA	2017-10-02	We NEED the older trees. Why when they are healthy.
Elizabeth Andrews	Henrico, VA	2017-10-02	I love Monroe park and the bit of natural beauty it offers VCU
Elizabeth Andrews	Henrico, VA	2017-10-02	Vcull
Jill Clark Page	Mechanicsville, VA	2017-10-02	Love Monroe Park. My mother in law was engaged at the fountain.
Jill Clark Page	Mechanicsville, VA	2017-10-02	My mother-in-law was engaged at Monroe Park
Molly MacBean	Richmond, VA	2017-10-02	I live Monroe Park. We need the trees!
Mo Karnage	Richmond, VA	2017-10-03	Parks need big trees
Bruce Redford	Mechanicsville, VA	2017-10-03	Change is not always the best route to take
Deb Marques	Richmond, VA	2017-10-03	We need more trees in the City, not fewer. The trees in Monroe Park are mature, beautiful, healthy characters in our City's unique story. They are important to the mood and serenity of this small section of the city.
Lisa Perilli	Richmond, VA	2017-10-03	Monroe Park was my first front yard when I moved to Johnson Hall in 1980. Ruining and tearing up this historic park is disheartening.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
			Save the taxpayers some money and leave us some of those big beautiful old trees!
Laura Pharis	Lynchburg, VA	2017-10-03	I loved Richmond when I lived there, and I still love it as a frequent visitor. I love the big trees. STOP CUTTING THEM DOWN in Monroe Park !
Jonathan Greenberg	Richmond, VA	2017-10-03	I'm signing because I have witnessed mass destruction of trees in Richmond and surrounding areas. When it comes to Monroe Park, the city has a duty to preserve the trees that remain and add to them, according to the approved master plan. Otherwise, the city is in violation of the agreement and derelict in its duty. I trust that the urban design committee and the Richmond planning commission can figure out that it is in our best interest to have the approved trees instead of tacky planters.
Brian Siff	Hanover, VA	2017-10-03	Stop the Madness.
Caitlin Bergendahl	Richmond, VA	2017-10-03	Richmond's trees need to stay. Especially those in our few remaining urban parks.
Wendy Newton	Portland, OR	2017-10-04	As a resident of one of America's "Tree Cities" (Portland, Or), I urge the City of Richmond to protect and preserve its tree canopies. These urban treasures contribute not only to the aesthetic and health quality of the environment, but also to the health of the residents as is well-documented in the science literature.