

From: [Boni Biery](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: City Light Franchise - Language Concerns
Date: Monday, May 19, 2014 2:33:58 PM
Attachments: [14 May 19 to City Council.pdf](#)

Please see attached -

May 19, 2014

Dear City Council

I am unable to attend this evening's meeting but would request that before adopting the City Light Franchise some small, but significant changes be made in the language. The citizens are very unhappy with continually seeing large trees disfigured and/or killed by topping done to maintain power line clearances. It is reasonable to think that working to avoid this practice in the future is to everyone advantage: 1) citizens will not have witness the continued mauling of their canopy assets; 2) City Light could reduce the frequency and expense of pruning as inappropriate trees are replaced; 3) the city staff will spend less time addressing citizen complaints. It seems obvious that a few revisions would be worth the effort.

To assure that trees are pruned or replaced necessitates that these goals be clarified along with the means of achieving them. These trees belong to the citizens, and as it stands the franchise language fails to address this primary concern. Please revise the proposed franchise language to clearly spell out the goal of selecting replacement trees based on Right Place – Right Tree principles and using only trees that will not interfere with power lines, even at maturity, where they are planted under the wires that require clearances be maintained.

I believe the language was in the proposal at one time. I see no good reason for it to have been removed. I hope this was simply an oversight that will be corrected before signing a fifteen year contract that is inadequate at the most fundamental level as it currently stands.

always,
Boni Biery