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From: [GAYLE JANZEN](#)

Sent: Thursday, February 24, 2022 9:04:27 PM

To: [City Council](#)

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Trees and sidewalks can co-exist!

Sensitivity: Normal

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Dear Councilmembers:

Once again I'm writing to you on behalf of Shoreline's dwindling mature tree population and specifically those being cut down for the sidewalk project on 5th Ave NE. While the city leaders talk about how they want to save trees, when push come to shove, they seem to favor cutting down all the trees or saving a few trees. They justify saving a few as good enough, and that is not good enough, in my opinion.

So I urge you to remove the construction contract for Rodarte Construction from the [consent calendar on Feb 28, 2022](#) and then provide ample opportunity for public comment.

Do 17 large trees in good and fair condition really need to be removed when there are alternative sidewalk options that would save the trees? The removal of these mature trees including the 46" diameter Western Red Cedar (#114) in good condition, and the 36" diameter companion Cedar is especially frustrating since even the arborist recognized that the size of #114 was ecologically important and should be saved.

Why are these possible solutions listed below not being considered?

- * Construct a trail/bike lane on the west side and keep the 5' wide bike lane and 6' wide sidewalk on the east side;
- * Elevate the sidewalk to save the tree roots and eliminate the need to cut down the trees;
- * Wrap the sidewalk around the trees.

Since Shoreline residents are funding the sidewalks with no state or federal funding or grants, it seems like this should be given further consideration since I would bet that the majority of residents would prefer sidewalks AND large trees.

For the trees,
Gayle Janzen
N. Seattle