

**From:** [Nancy](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** South Park Blocks Plan  
**Date:** Sunday, June 27, 2021 10:42:42 AM

---

Dear Mayor and Commissioners,

I urge you not to vote for the South Park Blocks master plan, which is ill considered and unnecessary. The deciduous elm trees do need proper maintenance, but only a very few (according to an arborist report) need to be taken out. When the number proposed are removed, the adjoining trees are at risk due to the root systems involved. Deciduous trees contribute to the environment, absorbing much more carbon than non-deciduous trees like the fir trees planned to replace them. Elm trees can live for 300 years. Some of them are 150 years old but others are 50 years old. Not all of the deciduous trees are elms, and all need to be replaced with like trees, gradually over time.

A busy wide walkway down the middle of the blocks is not a good option for those of us who live nearby and enjoy the quiet privacy of sitting on benches on the two narrower paths, or strolling through the canopy covered walkways on a hot day. The rose gardens which I have helped tend, would disappear. Please don't allow more hardscape areas where homeless can gather or skateboarders intrude. More art work is a great idea and could still be accommodated within the existing park.

Thank you for your consideration,

Nancy Catlin  
1221 SW 10th Ave