

A Duffy @ times colonist reported on this issue. I emailed the following to reporter:

Why not get out there and knock on some doors at the low income rental units in James Bay you just reported on. Do a real in-depth study on where these people plan to go.....is the conglomerate really relocating these people??? Don't believe everything These people say....I don't believe them....please show some compassion in your reporting because these are people who need low income housing and apparently there is not much to go around....city council needs to stop the madness of kicking these people to the curb where they will undoubtedly be left to live....shame on the city of Victoria.

Tina Brant

Here we go again a rental housing conglomerate is planning to oust 45 low income rental units - unless they house these people on this site Victoria Council should JUST SAY NO - and to not provide parking for the new units is totally insane as we all know what it's like to try and park near Thrifty Groceries is insane already in James Bay

Tina Brant

Dear Madams and Sirs,

I beg you, please do not cut down the cherry trees on Menzies St. near Niagara, in James Bay

I have lived in James Bay for eighteen years. Every spring, I look forward to the inspiring beauty and fragrance of these gorgeous cherry trees. They are some of the first trees to blossom and herald the beginning of the majestic spring season in Victoria. Their blossoms come at a time when people are worn out from winter and need some encouragement.

These beautiful trees have been denizens of James Bay since the 1930s. Please reconsider your plan and find an alternative to chopping them down. There is plenty of room to expand the sidewalk, without having to cut down these precious trees. Losing these trees would be an impoverishment of life in James Bay.

Please let me know that you have received this email.

Thank you for your kindhearted consideration,

Renn

Dear members of the Victoria City Council,

I beg you, please do not cut down the cherry trees on Menzies St. near Niagara, in James Bay.

I have lived in James Bay for twenty-seven years. Every spring, I look forward to the sweet beauty and fragrance of these gorgeous cherry trees. They are some of the first to blossom in Victoria – for over six weeks - and herald the beginning of the inspiring spring season in our beautiful city. Their blossoms come at a time when people are worn out from winter and need some encouragement.

These magnificent cherry trees have lived with us in James Bay since the 1930s, when I believe they were a gift from Japan. Please reconsider your plan and find an alternative to chopping them down. There is plenty of room to expand the sidewalk several feet without having to cut down these precious trees, which have given so much beauty and inspiration to James Bay. To lose them would be an impoverishment of life in our community.

Sincerely,

David Bagshaw  
415 Michigan Street

Hello,

There are signs on the cherry trees on Menzies street near Niagara that the developer is going to cut them down. I'm writing to make it known that, as a resident of the area, I oppose the unnecessary destruction of the trees and would very much prefer them to stay right where they are. The area's cherry trees are one of my favourite parts of living here. Please urge the developer to make alternate plans to preserve them.

Thank you for your time, and thank you for the new noise bylaw as well.

Kirstie Gordon



Our community is terrified.

These magnificent cherry trees have lived with us in James Bay since the 1930s, when I believe they were a gift from Japan. Please reconsider your plan and find an alternative to chopping them down. There is plenty of room to expand the sidewalk several feet without having to cut down these precious trees, which have given so much beauty and inspiration to James Bay. To lose them would be an impoverishment of life in our community.

Thank you for your kindhearted consideration.

Olena Provencher, Ph.D.

Dear Mayor and Council,

It is absolutely heart wrenching to hear of the plans (and your agreement) to disregard the beauty and importance of the cherry trees lining Menzies Street.

Please...we implore you...do NOT put development ahead of our diminishing natural environment. We ALL benefit from this beauty. Especially after some very difficult years.

In hope,  
Sally Purdy

Dear members of the Victoria City Council,

I beg you, please do not cut down the cherry trees on Menzies St. near Niagara, in James Bay!!! The kind of foresight someone had decades ago to beautify the streets is what the world needs more of! It's the last thing that should be destroyed just to extend a sidewalk! There's got to be a better way! How about incorporating the trees into the extended sidewalk. We need both the beauty and the carbon reducing footprint these trees give us!

Every spring, people look forward to the sweet beauty and fragrance of these gorgeous cherry trees. They are some of the first to blossom in Victoria – for over six weeks - and herald the beginning of the inspiring spring season in our beautiful city. Their blossoms come at a time when people are worn out from winter and need some encouragement.

These magnificent cherry trees have lived in James Bay since the 1930s, when I believe they were a gift from Japan. Please reconsider your plan and find an alternative to chopping them down. There is plenty of room to expand the sidewalk several feet without having to cut down these precious trees, which have given so much beauty and inspiration to James Bay. To lose them would be an impoverishment of life in our community.

Thank you for your kindhearted consideration.

Shannon

Be The Change

Dear Members of the Victoria City Council,

Please reconsider and do not cut down these beautiful trees.

They are a gorgeous addition to the charm and character of this neighborhood.

It would be heartbreaking to see them destroyed. I can imagine there are other options and creative ways to get what you need without the removal of these precious trees that catch the eye of those who live here and those who visit.

Thank you for your consideration,

Tarini Bresgi

Dear members of Victoria City Council,

I beg you, please do not cut down the cherry trees on Menzies St. near Niagara, in James Bay.

I have was born and raised James Bay .Every spring, I look forward to the sweet beauty and fragrance of these gorgeous cherry trees. They are some of the first to blossom in Victoria – for over six weeks - and herald the beginning of the inspiring spring season in our beautiful city. Their blossoms come at a time when people are worn out from winter and need some encouragement.

These magnificent cherry trees have lived with us in James Bay since the 1930s, when I believe they were a gift from Japan. Please reconsider your plan and find an alternative to chopping them down. There is plenty of room to expand the sidewalk several feet without having to cut down these precious trees, which have given so much beauty and inspiration to James Bay. To lose them would be an impoverishment of life in our community.

Thank you for your kindhearted consideration.

Please please save these trees , they are a blessing to us all .

Sincerely ,  
Vicky Ball

Dear Lisa & Council,

I have learned that the beautiful cherry trees along Menzies in front of Village Green are scheduled to be cut down because the developers of the new building want to expand their property and move the sidewalk.

One of the things that makes Victoria "the city of gardens" are the beautiful flowering trees. Those heritage cherry trees transform Menzies from a boring city street into a lovely parkade walkway. They are what makes the city such a beautiful desirable place to be.

It is tragic that such lovely trees are to be cut down so that a developer can move their profit margin a bit. Little by little we are losing the Victoria that once earned the name "City of Gardens."

Please do not allow this to happen.

Amy Mraze

Dear who it may concern,

I was walking along Menzies street on a beautiful sunny day. I had just gotten some coffee and then I saw these beautiful cherry blossom trees on the opposite side of the road. I crossed the street so I could walk underneath the beautiful trees. Then I saw a sign saying they will be cut down! These trees are a staple to our city, and cutting them down would just be wrong.

In addition it was indicated that they are being cut down to extend the sidewalk. Which seems to be a poor reason, when the side walk will only be extended in the small section where the trees were not on either end. Please save these trees !!

Thank you for your time,

Jordan Penny

To a kind and compassionate representative of the beautiful city of Victoria,

I am a kind and concerned Menzies Street resident, writing you in favour of saving the 6 gloriously blooming cherry trees lining the block between Simcoe and Niagara and across the street from my house. I hear they are almost 100 years old and a gift from Japan.

Personally, on my spring morning stroll to the ocean, I deliberately go out of my way and cross the street, just so I can walk under and look up at these magnificent living flora. Their smell is blissfully intoxicating with a promise of a warm sunny season to come.

Please leave logic and business at the door and step into your heart. Then, take a stroll under these cherry blossom trees. But, do it soon because they don't promise to stay long. Soon they need to be homes and resting places for our pollinating bird friends. However, they do promise to come back this time next year to bless us with their grace after a cold and dark winter.

I'm sure there are a multitude of brilliant, creative minds that can find a solution to this silly sidewalk situation. I ask you to at least be open to the possibility of a win win situation. Nobody needs to lose, even the trees.

Love, praise and gratitude,  
Natalie Toby

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Peace and Light,  
Nat Toby



To whom it may concern,

It has been brought to my attention that to allow for yet more development, the beautiful, blossoming cherry trees on Menzies at Niagara are to be removed. This is craziness. Please stop destroying our urban canopy; a few trees here, another few here; it's adding up and it's not OK. Please leave the healthy trees alone!!

Born-and-raised Victorian,

Katherine Beckett

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Victoria Mayor and Council  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:28 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** FW: Folder Number REZ00742

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**From:** Edyth Bradley [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** March 11, 2022 7:57 AM  
**To:** Victoria Mayor and Council <mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca>  
**Cc:** Michael Angrove <mangrove@victoria.ca>; JBNA [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Folder Number REZ00742

Victoria Mayor and Council,

Please do not have the well-established flowering trees removed and replaced on Menzies to accommodate this development project. James Bay needs all the mature trees it has to mitigate the pollution from the cruise ships. Please refer to the excellent reporting (See JBNA presentation of February 9 , 2022, ***JBNA Air Quality Initiative (PM2.5) Update***).

**Folder Number**  
REZ00742

**Addresses:**  
111 CROFT ST  
110 MENZIES ST  
450 NIAGARA ST  
456 NIAGARA ST  
458 NIAGARA ST



Edy Bradley  
 #3-508 Pendray Street  
 Victoria, BC V8V 0A9

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Victoria Mayor and Council  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:27 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** FW: Flowering trees on Menzies near Niagara

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**From:** Else Jones [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** March 12, 2022 9:44 PM  
**To:** Victoria Mayor and Council <mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca>  
**Subject:** Flowering trees on Menzies near Niagara

Mayor and council,

Through a posted message, I've learned that there are those who would like to cut down the seven lovely, mature, blossoming trees that line the west side of Menzies St. between Niagara St. and Thrifty's grocery store. Please, *please* see this intention is thwarted and the trees spared! I *love* them, and so does everyone else in James Bay! I understand you are in a position to stop this, and it's so important to all of us that you do so.

Those trees are a strong statement of the arrival of the early part of spring. They're exquisite right now, when the blossoms are so beautiful people take photos of them. They're lovely later, as well, when the seasons change and the leaves become wonderful.

With the other flowering cherry and plum trees, those further down Menzies near the harbour, and those on South Turner, Clarence, Montreal, Croft, Niagara, Kingston, Ontario, Government, etc., those seven trees are part of a network all over James Bay and Victoria. Far from letting them be destroyed, all these cherries and plums should be honoured, given something comparable to heritage status, and carefully preserved—and more should be planted! They are something we should encourage travellers and tourists to see in this city, and they are a joy to residents! They don't all blossom at once, so trees are blossoming over quite a number of weeks. People make blossom tours in Japan. Why not here?

I once made a long, difficult journey to far less fortunate parts of the world. By no means are streets there lined in blossoming trees. On my return, it was the sight of them that made me feel I'd made it back home. Please do protect them, these seven and all the others.

Sincerely,  
Else Jones

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Victoria Mayor and Council  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:27 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** FW: Tree Preservation

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

From: Norm Bolen [REDACTED]  
Sent: March 12, 2022 4:48 PM  
To: Victoria Mayor and Council <mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca>  
Subject: Tree Preservation

Hi,

My wife and I are proud residents of James Bay.

We wish to register our dismay at the proposal to allow a developer to remove seven mature flowering plum trees on Menzies between Niagara and Simcoe.

These trees are on a major pedestrian route in the neighbourhood. We walk by them several times a day. They are precious.

Surely, a way can be found to allow the proposed development without resorting to the destruction of these local treasures.

Regards,

Norm and Catherine Bolen  
1-408 Dallas Road  
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Victoria Mayor and Council  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:27 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** FW: Flowering Trees on Menzies

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**From:** Raquel Wilson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** March 12, 2022 9:28 PM  
**To:** Victoria Mayor and Council <mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca>  
**Subject:** Flowering Trees on Menzies

Hello,

My name is Raquel Wilson. I am a resident of Greater Victoria and recently moved to Saanich. However I called the municipality of Victoria home for the past 4 years and spend much of my free time in the James Bay Area.

I am so sad to hear of proposed plans to cut down the flowering plums on Menzies. Any flowering tree is a gift from those before us who planted them knowing one day we would see the beautiful mature trees that blossom in our early spring. Blossoms so grand that they were left for future generations to enjoy.

Each year the blossoming trees bring residents and passerby's the hope of the new warm season and it would be a loss of moral to lose any of them.

On top of that, it is a foolish choice to remove any mature tree in an urban space. As we continue to grow as a city, it will be ever so important to have mature plants cycling our air and maintaining the structure of the underground.

For these reasons I think the cutting down of any flowering tree in Victoria is a loss, specifically those proposed to be lost on Menzies in James Bay.

Thank you for your time and service  
Raquel Wilson

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Victoria Mayor and Council  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:28 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** FW: Menzies street 7  
**Attachments:** IMG\_20220312\_120429871\_HDR.jpg

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**From:** shirlee sharp [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** March 12, 2022 1:30 PM  
**To:** Victoria Mayor and Council <mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca>  
**Subject:** Menzies street 7

Really!! I cannot believe this would even be up for consideration. Why on earth would the city remove 7 beautiful flowering trees? Please tell me this is not to accommodate another "improvement". I certainly hope it isn't for another bike lane.

Shirley Sharp  
539 Niagara St, Victoria, BC V8V 1H2, Canada

## Save Our Blooming Trees!

City Council is planning to cut down 7  
mature flowering purple plum trees  
along Menzies from Niagara to Thrifty's.\*

A public hearing is scheduled March 24,  
2022. What you can do to help!

- Send a letter to [mayerandcouncil@victoria.ca](mailto:mayerandcouncil@victoria.ca)
- Write to or speak at the public hearing.  
See how at [victoria.ca/EN/meta/news/  
public-notices/virtual-public-hearings](https://victoria.ca/EN/meta/news/public-notices/virtual-public-hearings)

Time is of the essence. Act now!

Concerned Residents of James Bay

\* Proposed replacement saplings will likely be added to the list of trees to be removed as the project progresses.



[REDACTED]

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**From:** shirlee sharp [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 12, 2022 1:40 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** 110 Menzies St

I do not support the removal of 7 flowering plum trees from Menzies St between Niagara and Simcoe St's. These are beautiful flowering trees which support the unique village feel of the overall neighborhood. These are mature trees which cannot be replaced. Their removal will be real loss to the community.

I urge you to seriously consider the overall impact of any project which would require the destruction of these trees.

Shirley Sharp  
539 Niagara St, Victoria, BC V8V 1H2, Canada

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Victoria Mayor and Council  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:24 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Tree Removal Menzies Street

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

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**From:** Jan Gottfred [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** March 15, 2022 11:57 AM  
**To:** Victoria Mayor and Council <mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca>  
**Subject:** Proposed Tree Removal Menzies Street

Hello Madam Mayor and Council Members,

The following issue(s) have been brought to our attention. We agree that the proposed loss of the ornamental plums on Menzies Street (or anywhere in our fair city) requires serious consideration. I look forward to hearing how you may be able to preserve these trees and address the following during the upcoming public hearing.

"These trees are essential to the character of James Bay and to the City of Victoria. They have contributed to the urban canopy of our neighbourhood, its air quality and temperature regulation as well as enhanced the mental health and overall well-being of our residents and visitors. Despite the City's rhetoric as to the importance of trees and despite its own tree preservation bylaws, the intent is to cut them down as part of a new development. It is not enough that we are losing affordable housing and long time residents and friends who will be unable to afford the new rents. Now, in these dark times, we are also facing the loss of the comfort and solace of natural beauty in our community.

Neither the City nor the developers have demonstrated a compelling case for the necessity of removing these trees. **Cutting down mature trees should always be a last resort. However, no serious attempts have been made to explore alternatives that would protect them.** Development and the protection of trees do not have to be mutually exclusive."

Sincerely, Jan Gottfred and Peter Todesco

March 13, 2022

*Via email*

**Subject: Rezoning Application No. 00742 and Development Permit with Variances Application No. 00153**

Dear Victoria City Council:

I understand that numerous flowering fruit trees are to be destroyed as a part of this project and proposed property set backs are to be greatly diminished.

Mature flowering fruit trees are as emblematic to James Bay as the Dogwood is to British Columbia. Greater Victoria is world famous for its gardens. Our quest for housing should incorporate what makes our city so desirable.

I am requesting:

- The mature trees be preserved. The project can be varied to work around them rather than varying the by-laws to eliminate them.
- There be no set back variance granted. Preserve green space.
- The elimination of parking spaces should be reviewed to ensure parking for local businesses will not be adversely effected. I live on the far side of James Bay and carting groceries by foot is not practical and the parking is hazardous as is.
- Consider adding common gardening space for the residents to grow food or flowers.
- Ensure that the project addresses the rodent/raccoon problem in Victoria with secure garbage, stormwater, and composting facilities and that the design overall passively manages the problem rather than resorting to poison and traps later. James Bay Square has wildlife challenges.

Sincerely,

Brenda Donald  
55 Ontario St  
Victoria BC V8V 1M7



**From:** Victoria Mayor and Council  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:27 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** FW: cherry trees

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**From:** Ella Brown [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** March 13, 2022 12:04 PM  
**To:** Victoria Mayor and Council <mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca>  
**Subject:** cherry trees

Please do not remove the cherry trees to make the sidewalk wider.

Elizabeth Brown

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Victoria Mayor and Council  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:26 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** FW: flowing trees

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**From:** Jean E [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** March 13, 2022 4:06 PM  
**To:** Victoria Mayor and Council <mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca>  
**Subject:** flowing trees

What is wrong with you ?can you not leave one iconic part of Victoria alone?threre has been nothing but the destruction of this charming wonderful city .during your tenure here it has been destroyed in every single way. Cars are banned from taking non mobile people to beacon hill park. Historic buildings destroyed and many many trees already gone enough already we all love the beauty of these trees and at this time in history we should be planting more trees not taking them down climate change apom us and you like to post about planting 5000 trees but all I see is trees being destroyed as well ads the charm of Victoria and every fun event like Canada day being turned into a very limited celebration this used to be a great fun place to live now it is expensive dangerous and being run by people who only care about protecting drug attics and even then no real help for them. If you would stop putting every cent into your own agendas then ay=be you could save the city/taxes have gone up so much and for that we have bike lanes great unless you happen to be disabled as many of us are. Leave the trees at least let us have one thing remain of the city we all used to love.touriism is now dead due to the city constantly going out of its way to make this just another ugly city shame on you

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Victoria Mayor and Council  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:26 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** FW: Trees Alon Menzies and Niagara Street

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

From: Washington, Jaci [REDACTED]  
Sent: March 13, 2022 11:04 PM  
To: Victoria Mayor and Council <mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca>  
Subject: Trees Alon Menzies and Niagara Street

Dear Mayor and City Council,  
Re: Your plan to cut down 7 mature flowering purple plum trees along Menzies and Niagara Streets in James Bay.

I'd like to open this letter with a quote that seems fitting to the situation we are in today:  
"Sooner or later, everyone sits down to a banquet of consequences."  
~ Robert Louis Stevenson

I am writing to voice my disbelief that anyone claiming any amount of intelligence could even consider cutting down more trees in a city that has claimed to be so terribly environmentally 'green'. I hear so many speeches and presentations opening with the acknowledgment of the first peoples who have been displaced and the culture that protected this land. Acknowledging the people and their land does NOT make it okay to continue to rape it. It is time to stop. It is time to reverse the damage and if that's not the path taken, it is time to sit down to a banquet of well-deserved consequences.

Cutting down the trees in our once-beautiful city has negatively affected and will further affect the health and well-being of the ecosystem, the plant and wildlife and lastly the people who inhabit this space. I have watched this city deteriorate from a pulsating center filled with energetic diversity into a concrete jungle with more noise and air pollution than our bodies can handle.

In place of old, and beautiful trees and a variety of balanced wildlife, I now see masses of concrete, metal, glass, vehicles and a lot of angry people. Not only do trees shelter from the sun, hold back landslides and filter our air and water, they affect our mental health as well. The presence of green foliage increases attention spans and decreases stress levels.

This destructive conduct can only keep up for less than a decade before the plight of places like Litton becomes the norm for all of us. Last year we got a taste of what I call the "ghost of all the trees". Our temperatures were completely unbearable in the Summer months and our mountain-sides, roadways and rivers became dangerous, death-traps with nothing to hold them back in the Winter.

I realize that this country has been built on an outright disdain for indigenous culture and people, but it has now been shown, painfully clearly that this was the wrong route for us to take. Now that we are aware of the facts, I thought that intelligence would lead us away from that destructive road we've been heading down with dynamism and absolute sightlessness.

But here we are, cutting down more and more trees and pretending that we're not aware that planting baby trees in their place will not suffice. Should we, perhaps look at the level of intelligence of the people who are supposed to be leaders. Should we perhaps ask where, exactly are you leading us?

By 2050, it's estimated that over 65% of the world will be living in cities. We may think of Nature as being disunited from our urban spaces, but trees have always been an essential part of successful cities. Humanity has been uncovering arboreal benefits since the creation of our first cities thousands of years ago. So, why are trees so important to a city's survival?

Just to skim the top of the iceberg, trees act like a natural sponge, absorbing stormwater runoff before releasing it back into the atmosphere. Their collective root systems protect against mudslides (as seen clearly on the Coquihalla this

Winter where lives were lost as a result of heavy rain and lack of tree roots to hold the land in place), while allowing soil to retain water and filter out toxins. Cutting down old trees and planting new baby trees to take their place is akin to harnessing an elephant with a spider's web. A little tidbit of info for you to ponder; the young trees need the root systems and protection of the older trees to survive.

The roots of trees help prevent floods while reducing the need for storm drains and water treatment plants. And the more trees there are, the stronger and more resilient the root systems. Their porous leaves purify the air by trapping carbon and other pollutants, making them essential in the fight against climate change. Before you just storm in and slaughter another living thing, I would suggest reading the book *The Hidden Life of Trees* by Peter Wohlleben. Educate yourselves as to what role these trees that you are butchering have in sustaining life.

As I watch the city of Victoria expand and build more and more concrete and metal buildings and remove trees at an alarming rate, I sit patiently awaiting the great "slide-into-the water" that city planners are paving the way for.

But trees aren't just crucial to the health of a city's infrastructure; they play a vital role in the health of its citizens as well.

As shown in Manhattan's deadly Summer heat waves of the late 1800's, without trees to provide shade, buildings absorb up to nine times more solar radiation during deadly Summer heat waves. You may be thinking "well, I'll just turn on my air conditioning." But we all know that when the heat waves hit, our electricity and many other amenities will crash. Combined with the period's poor sanitation standards (similar to today's blatant disregard for Nature practiced in the city of Victoria), the oppressive heat made the city a breeding ground for bacteria like cholera.

In modern-day Hong Kong, tall skyscrapers and underground infrastructure make it difficult for trees to grow. This contributes to dangerously poor air quality, which can cause bronchitis and diminished lung function.

As early as the 18th century, quick-witted city planners around the globe began to embrace the importance of urban trees. In 1733, Colonel James Oglethorpe planned the city of Savannah, Georgia to ensure that no neighborhood was more than a 2-minute walk from a park.

After World War II, Copenhagen directed all new development to include copious greenery. This layout increased the city's resilience to pollution and natural disasters. And urban trees don't just benefit people. Portland's Forest Park preserves the region's natural biodiversity, making the city home to various local plants, 112 bird species, and 62 species of mammals. (Unlike Victoria's crow, seagull and pigeon infestations. This is a direct result of eliminating the trees on a wide scale.)

No city is more committed to trees than Singapore. Since 1967, Singapore's government has planted over 1.2 million trees. Trees and vegetation currently cover over 50% of Singapore's landmass, reducing the need for air conditioning and encouraging low-pollution transportation.

Although it has been made clear that our politicians do not prioritize, nor understand the importance of the natural world, I know that city planners would benefit from laying eco-friendly foundations. I know that if we want to continue to survive in these urban forests that we have created, we must make them homes for more than just humans.

Jaci Washington  
Receptionist  
Victoria Mental Health Centre  
117-2328 Trent Street  
Victoria, British Columbia  
V8R 4Z3  
Phone: [REDACTED]  
Fax: [REDACTED]

The information contained in this communication is intended solely for the recipient named.

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Victoria Mayor and Council  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:26 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** FW: Cutting Down Village Green Trees - Dev Tracker Plan No DPV00153

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**From:** Val French [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** March 13, 2022 3:45 PM  
**To:** Michael Angrove <mangrove@victoria.ca>; Victoria Mayor and Council <mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca>  
**Subject:** Cutting Down Village Green Trees - Dev Tracker Plan No DPV00153

Hello,

Regarding the proposed redevelopment of Village Green in James Bay, I feel very strongly that mature trees should not be cut down unless there is absolutely no other solution.

Trees are crucial to the wellbeing of our neighbourhood/environment for many reasons:

1. **Trees make oxygen:** Through a process called photosynthesis, leaves pull in carbon dioxide and water and use the energy of the sun to convert this into chemical compounds such as sugars that feed the tree. But as a by-product of that chemical reaction oxygen is produced and released by the tree.
2. **Trees clean pollutants from the air:** Trees absorb odors and pollutant gases (nitrogen oxides, ammonia, sulfur dioxide and ozone) and filter particulates out of the air by trapping them on their leaves and bark.
3. **Trees create shade, preventing overheating:** neighbourhoods with dense tree cover, modelling suggests that a pedestrian standing directly under a tree canopy would experience temperature reductions upwards of 17 C. Direct shading matters, but so does the cooling effect of water passing through a tree's limbs and leaves and evaporating into the air. Increase the canopy, and trees can drive temperatures down across an entire neighbourhood.
1. **Trees provide food and shelter** for a huge variety of insects, birds, and animals.
2. Trees provide human beings with fresh air, relief from heat waves, beauty, and a more natural environment that relieves stress.

Please ask developers to avoid cutting down trees as much as possible.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Valerie French  
465 Niagara Street

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows



[REDACTED]

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**From:** Victoria Mayor and Council  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:26 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** FW: Tree removal Menzies St, Niagara to Thrifty Foods

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**From:** Ann Stahl [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** March 14, 2022 2:50 PM  
**To:** Victoria Mayor and Council <mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca>  
**Subject:** Tree removal Menzies St, Niagara to Thrifty Foods

I am unable to attend the public hearing that neighbours indicate will take place on March 24, but I am writing to express my concern about the plan to remove flowering plums along Menzies St, James Bay. I live on a section of Niagara St where the close placement of sidewalks and houses makes tree-planting a challenge and it will be a shame to remove a row of trees that enlivens our neighborhood.

Ann Stahl  
327 Niagara St.  
Victoria

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Victoria Mayor and Council  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:26 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** FW: Cherry tree removal plan

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**From:** Cynthia Campbell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** March 14, 2022 1:50 PM  
**To:** Victoria Mayor and Council <mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca>  
**Subject:** Cherry tree removal plan

Dear Mayor and Council,

I was very upset to learn of the plan to remove the flowering cherry trees on Menzies St, from Niagara St to Thriftys, as part of the redevelopment plan for the Village Green.

As I understand, originally the developer had plans to keep the trees in place. We are now told that the trees are to be removed as requested by the city, in order to pull the sidewalk in. So basically the trees are in the way of a wider sidewalk.

I think back to a similar situation on Vining St when the city wanted to remove all the cherry trees to make it easier to install sewer lines. People are passionate about those trees, and the neighbourhood launched quite the campaign and eventually the city worked around the trees and they were saved.

I know that the city rationalizes removal of cherry trees by saying that they won't live forever, they aren't drought tolerant and that they are not native to BC.

I think this is a very narrow view. We are the garden city. Many of our beautiful plants and flowers are not native to BC. As long as they are not invasive, there should be no issue. As far as not being drought tolerant, I have not noticed any special care being given the trees on Menzies, and they continue to be a sign of spring that we all look so forward to. They also provide much needed shade in summer and are home to many birds. Remove a tree if it is sick or dangerous. Not because it is inconvenient.

An artistic sidewalk could be designed that weaves in and out around the trees, giving nice "pull outs" without sacrificing the beauty. It could make the street a real show stopper instead of turning it into another bland stretch with saplings thrown in as an afterthought.

Please give this some more thought. With so much development happening we need to hang onto some of the features that make our city so unique, and our cherry trees are part of that, native or not.

Thank you for your consideration.



Cynthia Campbell  
525 Rithet St

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Victoria Mayor and Council  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:25 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** FW: Cutting down of trees in James Bay

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

From: Veronica Osborn [REDACTED]  
Sent: March 14, 2022 4:01 PM  
To: Victoria Mayor and Council <mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca>  
Subject: Cutting down of trees in James Bay

I am writing to appeal to Mayor and Council to re-consider the removal of 7 mature flowing purple plum trees along Menzies Street, in order to ease access to a new development. Too many trees have been destroyed in recent years to make way for more and larger developments. We all know that summers are likely to be increasingly hotter and sunnier and given the aging demographic in James Way, these mature trees provide much-needed shade during the summer months.

Please re-consider any decisions to remove these trees, and ask the developer(s) to submit new ways to access the construction site.

Thank you.

Veronica Osborn

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Victoria Mayor and Council  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:25 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** FW: Flowering plum trees on Menzies from Niagara to Thrifty's

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**From:** Linda Malcolmson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** March 14, 2022 5:08 PM  
**To:** Victoria Mayor and Council <mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca>  
**Subject:** Flowering plum trees on Menzies from Niagara to Thrifty's

We just saw this sign posted to 1 of the affected trees. We come to Victoria every year in the winter (except the year we couldn't travel due to Covid restrictions). We rent a place on Menzies & I look forward every year to seeing the flowering plum trees!

I think it would be a terrible thing to cut them down & plant new trees that won't flower for several years. Please reconsider.

Linda & Murray Malcolmson

Victoria visitors every winter from Winnipeg.

# Save Our Blooming Trees!

City Council is planning to cut down 7 mature flowering purple plum trees along Menzies from Niagara to Thrifty's.\*

A public hearing is scheduled March 24, 2022. What you can do to help:

- **Send a letter to**  
[mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca](mailto:mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca)
- Write to or speak at the public hearing.  
See how at [victoria.ca/EN/meta/news/public-notice/virtual-public-hearings](https://victoria.ca/EN/meta/news/public-notice/virtual-public-hearings)

**Time is of the essence. Act now!**

**Concerned Residents of James Bay**

\* Proposed replacement saplings will take decades to have similar impact in appearance and on the environment.

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Victoria Mayor and Council  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:24 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** FW: Save the trees on Menzies

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

From: Paul Hesse [REDACTED]  
Sent: March 12, 2022 7:34 AM  
To: Victoria Mayor and Council <mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca>  
Subject: Save the trees on Menzies

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

As a resident of James Bay, I urge you to preserve as many trees as possible in the Village Green redevelopment.

Paul Hesse

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Victoria Mayor and Council  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:24 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** FW: Concern re removal of Menzie's trees.

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

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**From:** Shyrl Kennedy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** March 15, 2022 9:17 AM  
**To:** Victoria Mayor and Council <mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca>  
**Subject:** Concern re removal of Menzie's trees.

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

Please act quickly to stop the current plan to sacrifice the beautiful trees on Menzies in James Bay. In this time of climate crisis, there must be an alternative to removing mature, healthy trees.

I understand the City is planning to cut down 7 beautiful flowering purple plum trees on Menzies from Niagara to Thrifty's. You may know them well. They are currently in full bloom and residents and visitors alike pass by every day to enjoy their beauty and fragrance. They have done so for more than 3 decades.

These trees are essential to the character of James Bay and to the City of Victoria. They have contributed to the urban canopy of our neighbourhood, its air quality and temperature regulation as well as enhanced the mental health and overall well-being of our residents and visitors. Despite the City's rhetoric as to the importance of trees and despite its own tree preservation bylaws, the intent is to cut them down as part of a new development. It is not enough that we are losing affordable housing and long time residents and friends who will be unable to afford the new rents. Now, in these dark times, we are also facing the loss of the comfort and solace of natural beauty in our community.

Neither the City nor the developers have demonstrated a compelling case for the necessity of removing these trees. Cutting down mature trees should always be a last resort. However, no serious attempts have been made to explore alternatives that would protect them. Development and the protection of trees do not have to be mutually exclusive.

Our attitude that trees are "in the way" needs to change. We need to be more creative, work smarter, keep what we have and safeguard, not destroy it.



Mature trees do exponentially more for us than the saplings you would replace them with. They store perhaps 200 to 300 times more carbon; they create much more oxygen; they have a far greater ability to cool the air and create much more shade. They buffer more noise. They filter and divert more stormwater. They do all this for free. Our street trees alone save the city nearly \$3 million a year, performing these services. **Mature trees are truly priceless. They are not replaceable in our lifetime. They take decades to grow. Let's stop throwing away these valuable assets, this rich legacy from our forebears. Trees are the most cost-effective way to reduce carbon dioxide and do so much more for us besides.**

Study after study shows trees benefit us in many ways, both physically and mentally. Just being able to see trees from a hospital window reduced hospital stays. Workers who can see trees have reduced stress and fewer sick days. One researcher said the greatest benefits would come from "a tree by every doorstep"... Instead, we are fast heading in the opposite direction: no trees in sight.

Victoria must plan ways to retain our precious mature trees. If they are in the way, we're on the wrong path.

Please reconsider.

Best regards,

Shyrl Kennedy

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Victoria Mayor and Council  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:25 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** FW: Cutting down the plum trees on Menzies

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

From: Sandra Kriese [REDACTED]  
Sent: March 14, 2022 9:09 PM  
To: Victoria Mayor and Council <mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca>  
Subject: Cutting down the plum trees on Menzies

dear Mayor and Council,

THE most lovely thing about Victoria, and especially James Bay and Fairfield, are the trees.. and most especially the flowering cherry and plum trees. They excite all of us with their first blooms and then their canopy of dappled shade in the summer.

I am dismayed at all the concrete development I am seeing in James Bay. The new Capital development across from the Legislature on Southgate is a prime example. There is NOTHING about that giant cement courtyard (that is some bizarre was honours the First Nations heritage with blocks of rock and carved sentences in the cement pavers!!!). It is presented as a "public" space but it is anything but. If you want a much better example, head over to the magical space in the centre of Royal Jubilee Hospital. Enjoyed by birds and patients and staff, with nooks and shape for quiet reflection.. THIS is the kind of space we need. THIS is the kind of space that ought to have been across from the Legislature at "The Capital"

All around the Legislature is lawn and flowers and trees, and then, right across the street is a huge block of unforgiving grey, grey, grey. No decent place to enjoy a tree or hear birds. Just a loud fountain.

Please consider the effect of gutting James Bay of it's nature charm.  
The birds and us, the people, need trees.  
These beautiful blooming trees on Menzies need not go for any reason.

And, please, as you seem to love passing all kinds of development (my GOD.. the downtown core is becoming a horrible wall of high storied condos.... more cement, less sun and way more wind, .... please begin to include a requirement for less concrete, less high condos... and a LOT more trees, grass... and TRUE public spaces.

sincerely,  
Sandra Kriese  
James Bay

Sent from my iPad

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Victoria Mayor and Council  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:25 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** FW: Village Green Redevelopment

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**From:** Susan C. Mills [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** March 14, 2022 4:26 PM  
**To:** Victoria Mayor and Council <mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca>  
**Subject:** Village Green Redevelopment

Dear Mayor Helps and Councillors:

Re: Village Green Redevelopment  
Flowering plum trees on Menzies St.

I'm writing to express my concern about the rumoured plan to destroy the seven mature flowering trees that edge the Village Green on the Menzies St. side of the planned development. These trees that are among the very first to bloom in the James Bay neighbourhood provide a sense of pride and delight in our community.

Full-grown trees cannot be given a new home where they can continue to thrive; nor will the promise of new saplings bring any consolation to the people who live here.

I hope that if there is indeed a plan to cut them down that you will change this part of the project and will agree they must be protected.

Many thanks for your kind attention.

Sincerely,  
Susan C. Mills

402-260 Michigan St.  
Victoria BC V8V 1R3

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Charlie And Katie Christie [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** March 16, 2022 2:08 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** Tree Removal

I am writing to protest the proposed tree removal along the 100 block of Menzies Street. Beautiful mature flowering plum trees should not be removed to satisfy the desires of developers and other short sighted individuals.

Charles Christie  
139 Clarence St.  
Victoria

Sent from my iPad.

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Victoria Mayor and Council  
**Sent:** March 16, 2022 2:00 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** Fw: Tree removal

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**From:** Charlie And Katie Christie [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** March 16, 2022 1:58 PM  
**To:** Victoria Mayor and Council <mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca>  
**Subject:** Tree removal

Dear Mayor Helps and Council Members:

It has come to my attention that the City of Victoria is planning to allow to be cut down seven mature flowering plum trees along Menzies Street between Simcoe St. and Niagara St. I am writing to protest this absolutely unnecessary desecration of the beautiful trees of Victoria. Development should not be allowed to destroy our city in this way. I urge Council to insist that the trees be protected.

This is not the first time that I have brought the tree issue to the City's attention. Two beautiful plum trees along Clarence Street have been replaced by ugly, dirty maple trees. I have heard that the iconic horse chestnut trees along Cook Street are also under threat.

Cutting down older trees, even if replacing them with saplings only increases the carbon footprint. That is not be the direction we should be going. Please save all the beautiful trees of Victoria from wanton destruction.

Yours sincerely,

Charles Christie  
139 Clarence St.  
Victoria

Sent from my iPad.

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Victoria Mayor and Council  
**Sent:** March 16, 2022 3:29 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** Fw: Mature Flowering Purple Plum Trees - located on Menzies St., Victoria, BC

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**From:** D [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** March 16, 2022 3:22 PM  
**To:** Victoria Mayor and Council <mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca>  
**Subject:** Mature Flowering Purple Plum Trees - located on Menzies St., Victoria, BC

Dear Mayor Lisa Helps and City Council members:

This is to advise that I David M. McAuley am against the planned cutting down of seven (7) mature flowering purple plum trees that are located on Menzies Street from/between Simcoe Street and Niagara Street.

There is no need whatsoever to remove any of the trees.

Thank you for your attention, cooperation and understanding.

Yours truly,

David M. McAuley  
503 - 425 Simcoe St.  
Victoria, BC V8V 4T3

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Victoria Mayor and Council  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 16, 2022 12:50 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** FW: Save the mature and previous flowering trees on Menzies Street

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**From:** Stephen Hayward [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** March 16, 2022 12:41 PM  
**To:** Victoria Mayor and Council <mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca>  
**Subject:** Save the mature and previous flowering trees on Menzies Street

Your plan to allow these trees to be cut down as part of the redevelopment of the adjacent property is a terrible idea, shortsighted and misguided!! We do not need road-sized sidewalks (like the giant concrete patch just installed on Simcoe). Rather, we need to treasure and preserve beautiful mature trees, especially flowering ones!!

Stephen Hayward  
589 Toronto Street







**From:** Victoria Mayor and Council  
**Sent:** March 17, 2022 12:41 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** FW: Trees

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**From:** Charlie And Katie Christie [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** March 16, 2022 5:41 PM  
**To:** Victoria Mayor and Council <mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca>  
**Subject:** Trees

These are the trees you want to cut down!!?? Idiocy.  
C. Christie  
Clarence St.



Sent from my iPad.

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Daphne [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** March 17, 2022 1:30 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** Re new zoning plan for Menzies and Niagara Streets

Dear Sir or Madam, My name is Daphne Nounesi and I am a resident of 500 Rithet St. I would like to voice my opposition to a proposed change for 111 Croft St., 110 Menzies St., and 450-458 Niagara St. It appears that the proposal includes a large scaleback of the side yard on Menzies St., which necessitates the removal of the beautiful cherry trees next to the pavement. I believe I speak on behalf of many residents in the neighborhood when I say those trees and the narrow green public space around them are vital to the character and the living appeal of the area. I have seen children look up at the trees when they are in full bloom, dogs enjoy their walk near them, and many adults like myself welcoming the coming of spring this month by taking in the beautiful view on our way to work.

One of the great appeals of Victoria, as well as British Columbia in general, is that it offers residents and visitors alike a sense of cohabitation with blooming nature. Victoria is coined the 'Garden City' not only because of its closed-off green areas, meticulously arranged and cared for, but for the omnipresent hybrid living spaces that allow a great variety of flora and humans to live harmoniously. Please consider how the gradual diminution of the natural scenery in general and the chopping down of the blush-pink cherry trees on Menzies specifically can lead to an erosion of the city's charm and its eventual transformation to a cookie-cutter, over-built shell of its former self.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,  
Daphne Nounesi

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Victoria Mayor and Council  
**Sent:** March 17, 2022 12:40 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** FW: Plum trees on Niagara St to Thriftys

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**From:** gregor campbell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** March 16, 2022 9:53 AM  
**To:** Victoria Mayor and Council <mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca>  
**Subject:** Plum trees on Niagara St to Thriftys

I object to the removal of 7 mature trees on this street. Why? No reason given. We removed the beautiful London Plain trees 20 years ago right near City Hall. Now we have grass being camped on, smoked on, goes relieving on, and zero shade. Why are these trees being removed?? I am against this action as are many James Bay members.

Gregor Campbell  
Swift St  
Victoria taxpayer

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Gary Yang [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** March 17, 2022 12:56 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** Concerns with zoning changes to 110 Menzies St.

To whom it may concern,

I am a current resident of 500 Rithet St., just around the corner from the area under review for rezoning. I want to voice my concern with the proposed changes to 111 Croft St., 110 Menzies St., and 450-458 Niagara St. I would like to express my grievances with the drastic front yard and flanking street setbacks in the proposal.

Especially concerning is the setback from the current 7.0 m to 1.37 m to the prospective building. The very beautiful cherry trees that line Menzies Street are a favorite among locals and an attraction during their blossom time. Some travel blogs have named Menzies Street one of the top 10 places in Victoria to see cherry blossoms. If not for their intrinsic value, the cherry trees promote the health of local businesses just a few steps up the street.

I cannot stress enough how vital these cherry trees are to our community and request that you take into consideration the genuine concern that not only me but many other residents of James Bay share with regard to the proposed zoning changes.

Best wishes,  
Gary Yang

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Kirk Buhne [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 3:25 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** Video Submission

**Categories:** Madison - In Progress

For Public Hearing March 24, 2022  
111 Croft St, 110 Menzies St and 450-458 Niagara St.

[REDACTED]

Video submittal - less than 5 minutes in length, attached

I am objecting to this development and while not in favour of the proposed setbacks this video discusses parking impact on neighbouring streets. If this project is to go ahead, even if it has more parking, the City NEEDS to change parking rules on Medana St such that only the people with addresses on Medana St can park here, and preferably back to the rules of 30+ years ago and earlier. Parking should only be allowed "in front of the driver's address, the two neighbouring houses and across the street from those three properties". This old rule was changed without consultation with us.

We are required to self-police parking yet people from Menzies St., Niagara St., and Simcoe St are now allowed to park on our street, contrary to promises that the city made in 1992 and earlier. As we cannot possibly keep track of the owners of cars in rental units with high turnover rates, including their overnight guests and businesses, we have become a parking lot for the greater neighbourhood, even with people living in their vehicles, as shown by the illegal parker in the first minute of my video. I made another video, that I can make available, showing the night time parking issues. If the City does not manage our parking responsibly now, even allowing vagrants to live in campers for weeks at a time, on Medana St, this development will only exacerbate the issue.

Many residents of the proposed building will have high tradesman trucks and camper vans which will not fit in the proposed low ceiling parking garage. With current laws they will make our neighbourhood into their parking lot, and also park here illegally. This is not fair. Each lot is responsible for its own parking, yet you have taken ours away and given it to residents of apartment buildings on other streets. If you cave in to allowing this development you must protect our historic street. Houses built before 1910-1915, when the Model T car came out, were not laid out to provide for off street parking. Model T sized garages and driveways do not accommodate post 1920 cars. We have had the right to park in front of our houses for over 100 years, but now this Council takes this right away, and moreover has taken away all parking on Simcoe St for a widened path which just becomes a homeless camp (see video). We have long term residents on this street with multigenerational homeowners. I have lived here for 25 years, as does my 25 year old son; my northerly neighbours for 70 years (3 generations); the next house for 40+ years, and the next house resident is now 91 years old - her 65 year old son will be here for 25 years more. We remember. The City has hoodwinked us and taken our parking away. If the City does not change the original residential parking laws back, as they sensibly were for our historic street, perhaps the developers of this building could compensate us accordingly for our lost parking, in perpetuity.

--  
Kirk Buhne  
140 Medana St., Victoria V8V 2H5  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Victoria Mayor and Council  
**Sent:** March 17, 2022 12:41 PM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** FW: Stop Destruction of Cherry Trees

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

From: Mary Koyl [REDACTED]  
Sent: March 16, 2022 8:38 PM  
To: Victoria Mayor and Council <mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca>  
Subject: Stop Destruction of Cherry Trees

Mayor and Council,

The potential destruction of the flowering cherry trees along Menzies from Niagara to Thrifty's would be a terrible thing. They're in full bloom right now and it is awful to think that they might not be standing this time next year. Please make sure that this doesn't happen,

Mary Koyl  
122 Clarence Street, James Bay  
Victoria BC

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Victoria Mayor and Council  
**Sent:** Friday, March 18, 2022 10:45 AM  
**To:** Public Hearings  
**Subject:** FW: Menzies Street trees

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**From:** J.E. Johnston [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** March 18, 2022 9:20 AM  
**To:** Victoria Mayor and Council <mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca>  
**Subject:** Menzies Street trees

There is no good reason to remove these beautiful trees. Shame on a council that is so short sighted. I walk by these trees on a daily basis and have never had to step aside to accommodate anyone! There is an open sidewalk on the other side of the road so if the trees were to impede a person could just cross over and walk on the tree-less side. This is a make work project that completely ignores the value of these beautiful trees. Trees are essential to the well being of a community, city councillors are not!

Here is some information from an Urban Forest specialist ...

- Just one large, mature canopy tree can sequester (i.e. store in its wood) about 22 lbs of carbon dioxide annually. That same tree will produce 6,000 pounds of oxygen and absorb 1,000 gallons of rainwater, all while improving community aesthetics and increasing residential property values by up to 10%. Trees and forests - and the benefits they provide us will be more important than ever for growing populations that need healthy communities and a livable environment.

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Fwd: The Village Green review  
**Date:** February 26, 2022 12:19:02 PM

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Hi Candice,

Please see the attached letter from VG 302.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Kind Regards  
Melissa Mullins  
The Village Green  
Pacific Cove Property Management.  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Rowan Wales [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 26, 2022, 12:17 p.m.  
**To:** Village Green  
**Subject:** The Village Green review

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the Company. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To The Pacific Cove Property Management Team,

My name is Rowan and I would like to give a quick review on my experience living at The Village Green.

Firstly, I was pleasantly surprised by the affordability of a 2 bedroom apartment located right beside the sea in Victoria. My apartment is charming and comfortable, and I have never experienced problems with any of the provided appliances.

As sad as I am to be leaving The Village Green, I would like to acknowledge that the re-development plans were made very clear before signing the lease, and reminders were sent regularly. I would also like to give thanks to the property manager and her team for providing support for the residents and help in finding new homes.

Overall, my experience living at The Village Green was great, and I would happily do it again!

Best regards,

Rowan



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Fw: Ref Letter  
**Date:** February 24, 2022 1:44:01 PM

---

Please see attached letter from VG 303.

Kind Regards  
Melissa Mullins  
The Village Green  
Pacific Cove Property Management Ltd.

[REDACTED]  
118 Menzies St  
Victoria, BC V8V 2G5  
[REDACTED]

**Office Hours**  
**Mon - Fri 9 am to 4 pm**  
**Sat 9 am to 3 pm**  
**Sundays & Holidays CLOSED**

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**From:** Charlie Macinnes [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 24, 2022 11:18 AM  
**To:** Village Green [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Ref Letter

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the Company. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

February 24, 2022

Regarding notification of Re-Development at Village Green 114 Menzies St.

To: The City of Victoria

My name is Charles MacInnes my wife Maureen and I have been tenants at Village Green since 2005. We first received a letter from Pacific Cove Properties about two years ago informing us we would have to move in approximately two years because of redevelopment. About a year after this notice we were invited to attend a James Bay Community meeting at New Horizons. The architects and community members were in attendance. An explanation of the project was presented as well as a question and answer session.

When we first received the news about having to move it was a bit upsetting because we have enjoyed

living in James Bay and the low cost of the rent due to our long time residence. But we understood when buildings become old and in disrepair they need to be replace. During this time we were told we would be compensated depending how long we had resided at Village Green as well as moving expenses.

We continued to get updates from management regarding timetable of reconstruction and a consultation with Candace Leslie regarding our move and the promise of compensation. All promises of compensation and moving expenses have been paid.

Melissa Mullins the manager at Village Green has always been helpful providing information as well as providing an excellent reference letter. We moved Jan. 1, 2022 because we did not want to wait till the last minute finding suitable rentals in Victoria is extremely difficult at this time.

We feel we were given ample time regarding the move and the Re-Development.

Charles & Maureen MacInnes

16 a.m. PST, Village Green  
wrote:

Hello Charlie.

I hope you are doing well.

I have a favor to ask you.

The City would like to hear from our tenants regarding the Re-Development process.

Could you please send me a letter or an email regarding your experience living with us here at the village green and also outlining that we made you aware of the re-development from the beginning and that we are doing our best to accommodate you in the moving process.

Anything you feel should be mentioned please do.

I would greatly appreciate it if you could.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Kind Regards  
Melissa Mullins  
The Village Green  
Pacific Cove Property Management Ltd.

[REDACTED]  
118 Menzies St  
Victoria, BC V8V 2G5  
[REDACTED]

**Office Hours**

**Mon - Fri 9 am to 4 pm**

**Sat 9 am to 3 pm**

**Sundays & Holidays CLOSED**

To : The City of Victoria

My name is Roberto Flores Tenant for 16 years at Village green unit 307

This letter is to inform you that Mellissa Mullins at Pacific Cove Properties

She has been very attentive to my needs as a tenant and has been very communicative in respect to the Re-development; throughout all the process I have been informed of the advance of it

Same manner Pacific Cove has provide us with the help of a Relocation Resident Specialist Candice Leslie

And she has been very helpful .

If there is any Further question please do not hesitate to contact me

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Roberto Flores', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Regards

Roberto Flores

A solid black rectangular redaction box covering contact information.