

Save Bessie Avenue's Legacy Trees for a Healthier and Greener Tracy!



Started
September 7, 2023

Why this petition matters



Started by [Jenny Wood](#)

I, a resident of Tracy, California, urge the City of Tracy to prioritize the preservation of as many legacy trees along Bessie Avenue as possible during the Bessie Reconstruction Project. These magnificent trees have been an integral part of our community for years, providing numerous health benefits and enhancing the beauty of our neighborhood.

As someone who resides right off Bessie in this working-class neighborhood, these trees hold great personal significance to me. They offer vital shade on scorching hot days and contribute to air purification by filtering out pollutants from traffic.

The loss of these majestic trees would not only deprive us of their immediate benefits but also hinder our overall well-being.

Studies have shown that urban areas with ample tree cover experience lower temperatures than those without. By providing shade and reducing heat absorption from paved surfaces, mature trees significantly mitigate the urban heat island effect. Removing these legacy trees would leave our section of Bessie vulnerable to soaring temperatures during summer months when temperatures can reach a scorching 110 degrees Fahrenheit.

Furthermore, mature trees play a crucial role in purifying the air we breathe by absorbing harmful pollutants such as carbon dioxide and releasing oxygen. Their extensive canopies act as natural filters that trap dust particles and reduce pollution levels caused by nearby traffic emissions. While young replacement trees may eventually grow into similar sizes, it will take many years before they can provide comparable levels of shade and air purification.

Preserving these legacy trees is not just about maintaining aesthetics; it is about safeguarding public health in our community. Lower-income neighborhoods like ours are often disproportionately affected by environmental challenges due to limited resources for mitigation efforts. We must advocate for ourselves and ensure that decisions made regarding our environment prioritize equity and well-being.

By saving as many legacy trees along Bessie Avenue as possible through the reconstruction project, the City of Tracy can demonstrate its commitment to environmental sustainability and public health. Let us preserve the beauty, shade, and air quality that these trees provide for ourselves and future generations.

Sign this petition today to show your support for saving Bessie Avenue's legacy trees! Together, we can create a healthier and greener Tracy.

Note: The facts presented in this petition are based on scientific research conducted by reputable sources such as urban forestry studies and environmental impact assessments.

Save the Bessie Avenue Trees Petition

Name	Commented Date	Comment
Jenny Wood	9/7/2023	"I'm signing because we need to save these trees! If a tree isn't dead, it's still providing shade and clean air so we shouldn't remove any unless they are dying or diseased!"
Kelly Moran	9/8/2023	"We are the City of Trees! Please stop removing the trees ! If anything, Tracy needs more trees to replace the ones the City and private owners removed around town"
Sripurna Pisharody	9/9/2023	"the old trees are irreplaceable"
Renu Pathak-Miles	9/9/2023	"More than ever we need mature trees to keep the environment cool and sequester carbon. These trees green this strip of concrete oven."
Lizbeth Orihuela	9/9/2023	"We need the trees"
Silvia Rodarte	9/10/2023	"The trees should stay, they are a part of Tracy's history."
Vienna Wood	9/12/2023	"I live near here and enjoy the greenery!"
Melissa Sucrese	9/16/2023	"Leave the Trees!!"

Name	Signed On
Jenny Wood	9/7/2023
Dotty Nygard	9/7/2023
Andrew Wood	9/7/2023
June Yasemsky	9/8/2023
Kelly Moran	9/8/2023
Jessica Morrison	9/8/2023
G. Diane Matthews-Marcelin	9/8/2023
Scorpion Warrior	9/8/2023
Emily Mendoza	9/8/2023
Karen Moore	9/8/2023
Miguel Torrecillas	9/8/2023
Joshua Haffer	9/8/2023
Kathy Breeden	9/8/2023
Mickey Barreras	9/9/2023
Debra Angelo	9/9/2023
Eusebia Sainz	9/9/2023
Maricruz Vilchis Estrada	9/9/2023
Angela Saenz	9/9/2023
albert sams	9/9/2023
Sripurna Pisharody	9/9/2023
Nicholas Langarica	9/9/2023
Daisy Espinoza	9/9/2023
Sylvia Peterson	9/9/2023
Lila Powell	9/9/2023
Catherine Espitia	9/9/2023
Moon Knight	9/9/2023
Montia Colbert	9/9/2023

Pilar Zimmermann	9/9/2023
Ingrid Rancatore	9/9/2023
Jessica Moore	9/9/2023
Faris Peterson	9/9/2023
Denise Johnson	9/9/2023
Tia Jepsen	9/9/2023
Gerald Johnson	9/9/2023
Steven Cardinali	9/9/2023
Dorita Mendoza	9/9/2023
Maria Theobald	9/9/2023
Nikki McPherson	9/9/2023
Dawn Tipton	9/9/2023
Sofia Ramirez	9/9/2023
Aolani Suarez	9/9/2023
Susan Rosenquist	9/9/2023
Gabriela Robles	9/9/2023
renu miles	9/9/2023
Phillip OMara	9/9/2023
WILLONN BENNETT	9/9/2023
Sunil Cherian	9/9/2023
Eleanor Fiege	9/9/2023
Lizbeth Orihuela	9/9/2023
Olga adelantado	9/9/2023
Sean Staley	9/9/2023
Krystal Fernandez	9/9/2023
Michaela Salas	9/9/2023
Felicia Villarreal	9/9/2023
Marsha Hammond	9/9/2023
Laura Resburg	9/9/2023
Jami Faulk	9/9/2023
Magali Sandoval	9/9/2023
Mario Lopez	9/9/2023
Henry Koertzen	9/9/2023
Lorena Rivera	9/9/2023
N K	9/9/2023
Robert Langefels	9/9/2023
Amelia Kesee	9/9/2023
Andrej Coleman	9/9/2023
Tirhas Hagos	9/9/2023
K C Sunbeam	9/9/2023
Jackie S	9/9/2023
Danny Smith	9/9/2023
Gail Rieger	9/9/2023
Debbie Bater	9/9/2023
Lori Hunter	9/9/2023
Michelle Beardsley	9/10/2023
Ana Lama	9/10/2023
Carolyn Krysiak	9/10/2023
Deborah Novakovich	9/10/2023

Karin Rancatore	9/10/2023
Edward Derge	9/10/2023
Philip Powell	9/10/2023
Jon Inwood	9/10/2023
Vicki Otterstetter	9/10/2023
Denise Vincent	9/10/2023
Bruce Hotchkiss	9/10/2023
Maria Guzman	9/10/2023
Katherine Rink	9/10/2023
Silvia Rodarte	9/10/2023
Maricruz Pajarito	9/10/2023
Peri Sert	9/10/2023
Adam Kaluba	9/10/2023
Pace Stokes	9/10/2023
Jesus Prado	9/10/2023
kathleen bergthold	9/10/2023
Natasha Calista-Mann	9/11/2023
Karen CalistaMann	9/11/2023
Patricia Kelley-cole	9/11/2023
Tabatha Jacklich	9/12/2023
sandra_bayhi	9/12/2023
Saida Alvarado	9/12/2023
Vienna Wood	9/12/2023
Veronica Vargas	9/14/2023
Melissa Sucrese	9/16/2023
Megan East	9/17/2023
Gustavo Topete	9/17/2023
Tiana S	9/17/2023
Jennifer Soto	9/17/2023
Ruby Velazquez	9/17/2023
Mark Stich	9/17/2023
Leslie Swift	9/17/2023
Sudesh Gopalan	9/18/2023
Shofia Razib	9/18/2023
Abhijeet Kahale	9/18/2023
Madhukara Sringeri	9/18/2023
Dianna Sucrese	9/18/2023
Danita Lewis	9/18/2023
Julie Selner	9/19/2023
Wade Fasshauer	9/19/2023
Michael Snider	9/20/2023
Alan Brown	9/21/2023
lex sommers	9/28/2023

Council Reports/Items

September 18, 2023 to October 3, 2023

Submitted by: **Mayor Nancy Young**, (October 3, 2023)

This is a summary report from meetings and events attended. Any additional asks will be made on the dais.

- 9/18/23- Attended the Gospel Center Rescue Mission 2023 graduating class. The struggles and challenges shared were emotional and impactful because they overcame and are victorious. I'm so blessed to be able to share this commemoration of a new day with them; along with staff, family, and friends. "The Gospel" is truly making an impact from the inside out for our citizens in San Joaquin County.
- 9/19/23- Attended the Tracy Golden Agers annual Birthday Luncheon.
- 9/20/23- Day 1 of the Annual League of California Cities in Sacramento. The sessions today started with an update of legislation and progress made this past year. Besides hearing from various leaders and acknowledging community and lifetime award winners; we had an interactive session on courageous conversations and dealing with conflict. Numerous sessions in cannabis, homelessness, safety, minorities in leadership, and others were offered in addition to an Exhibition Hall with numerous businesses for municipal government. It's always great for the many connections and opportunities to learn how to govern our local communities better.
- 9/21/23-Day 2 of League of California Cities Annual Conference 9/21. Today was bittersweet with my last day on the State Board for Cal Cities since I only have a little over one year left to my term as mayor. Today, we discussed a lot about ACA 13 and the misinformation being told that need to be undone so the voters can vote for it at the ballot next year. Thanks to the advocacy of Cal Cities that have made inroads to correcting the information and blocking as much as we have. "Under CA ACA13, any ballot measure that changes voter thresholds — such as the business group's initiative — would need to pass by that same margin, which in this case would be a two-thirds vote." Opening Session Keynote Brandon Fleming spoke of how stories change people more than data... because it allows you to feel. He further insisted that, "we don't have a content issue, we have a connection issue. We need to reach not only the minds but the heart of individuals." He revealed how important it is to have Equitable Leaders with empathy and compassion. I was also awarded the Torch Award for more than 5 years of service and numerous involvements I've had with the League of California Cities. Lastly, I attended numerous events, including Central Valley Division Dinner and the honoring of the new Board and President of the African American Caucus. Today was a continued day of connections not only with potential vendors, but with fellow leaders from around the state as we come together to learn, share, and gather info, new ideas and perspectives, to take back to our respective cities to make our communities better!
- 9/22/23 - Day 3 and closing day for League of California Cities Annual Conference: swearing in of new officers... new President Dan Parra, spoke of his desire to serve his community since 2008 and the challenges he witnessed as a kid for the Hispanic community, having fought for DOCA and got Measure N passed 60.9% to build new police station and senior center in his city. Celebrated award winners. Plus Keynote Speaker - Val Vigoda spoke of courage and how her musical journey connected with achievement. Notable quote, "Optimism is a form of moral courage!" Grateful for the outlets, the connections, the valuable information I'll share and implement with my Tracy Community.

Pg 2. Mayor Young

- 9/23/23- Attended the Tracy Chamber Ribbon Cutting today for Stars Casino- Congratulations to Joe and the entire team of Stars Casino on their brand new location opening and, near the West Valley Mall! It was a great turnout with excellent food, offering Tracy adults the opportunity for responsible play time.
- 9/23/23- Thank you to The Queens Court for inviting me to be a part of the panel on mental health! We were blessed by every speaker and each ministry and vendor that made this event special. We must demystify and find help for this important issue affecting our communities, whether it's spiritual or natural. Great MC by Steven Parker!
- 9/23/23- Attended the San Joaquin Delta College Black and Gold Gala event. What a great opportunity to learn of the wonderful accomplishments and current offerings of the multi campuses while meeting new people. The speeches by alumni were heart felt, and the performances were outstanding! Congratulations to Pablo Ortega, fellow Tracy Kiwanian on officially being elevated as Dean of the Mountain House campus.
- 9/25/23- Attended the annual 67th installation of officers for the Tracy Kiwanis- Congratulations to Olinga Yarber-Alexander on her installation as the 3rd female president of the Kiwanis Club of Tracy 2023-2024! I'm so honored to be a past president, Key Club Advisor, Student Discovery Program Lead, Board Member and member (since 2010) of this wonderful club who advocates and mentors the youth of our community!
- 9/28/23- Attended iHubSJ Innovation Summit & Annual Meeting - I was fortunate to attend this very informative and collaborative event as a part of the San Joaquin Partnership, to which Tracy is a member. So much was shared and contacts made that I look forward to utilizing to strengthening our small businesses and workforce development!
- 9/28/23 - Attended the SJCOG meeting-

1. Presentation on Valley Link

Conversations are beginning now regarding future location of Tracy Stop.

2. Info...SJCOG One Voice Kick off... maybe reach out to the cities and the community to get more input as to what we should take back to DC to advocate.... expand topics to mental health maybe wrapped in Quality of Life.

My suggestion was to have either SJCOG staff come to our meetings or send info so that each city can take responsibility for getting input from our cities to take back to SJCOG. Plus get input from CJ Lake as to what the focused topics are for the administration for next year. Target dates to goto DC is May 5-9,2024

3. Update on Regional Housing Trust Fund Feasibility Study- commitment requested from all jurisdictions, ask \$4M Total... Grant info should be April 2024.

4. 2024 Regional Transportation Improvement Program Development - SJCOG is teaching out to all cities and is meeting with Tracy next week to get their input for the \$17.1 M for RTIP

Pg 3. Mayor Young

5. Update on Alternative Fuels Vision Plan

- Electrification Committee

- cooperative engagement....

- streamlining EV Charging permitting... creating policy with a check off list (per legislation AB1236)

Webinar and Draft Plan

Final plan on website: <https://www.sjcog.org/615/alternative-fuels-vision-plan>

- 9/29/23- Attended the Celebration of Life services for Carla Carroll. It was uplifting even in the hardness of saying goodbye. She was always positive and encouraging from the time I met her in 2010 on the Boys and Girls Club Board to the times in the stands when our sons played basketball on the same team, to the chance meetings at events or at restaurants. I'm going to miss her and Tracy is one bright star less since her departure. But as Pastor James encouraged, death is not the end!
- 9/29/23- Attended and supported the Sow a Seed Community Foundation (ED Carol Rogers) outstanding Casino Night event to raise funds to continue to mentor the youth of Tracy at no cost to them or their families.
- 9/30/23- Attended and supported the Tracy African American Association Breakfast at Applebee's fundraiser. What a great way to begin my day while helping raise funds for scholarships for our Tracy Youth?!
- 9/30/23- Spoke at and supported the Planting Trees efforts for the future health of Tracy. Thanks to Dotty, The Tracy Tree Foundation, and all the many volunteers who planted trees around several locations in Tracy.
- 9/30/23- Attended the Tracy Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting for Kids Place 2 Explore and Learn - Congratulations on establishing your new and expanded location!
- 9/30/23- Attended Season of Harvest - Pastors and wives Appreciation Luncheon and Song & Prayer Fest - No better way to conclude this busy day than with praising God! Thank you to Pastor Tim and Crossroads for hosting a beautiful luncheon and then to Pastor Al and Valley Christian Church for hosting the praise and worship as ministered by several Tracy churches.
- 10/1/23- Attended and spoke at the "Not Afraid to Lose" Documentary showing in Stockton on the story of Treyvon Brekenridge who tragically lost his life in a car accident in Tracy on 9/18/20. His legacy lives on as he was willing to "Take the risk or lose the chance".