From: <u>Janice Bohman</u>

To: <u>Public Comment</u>; <u>City Council</u>

Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM #14 9/20/22

Date: Sunday, September 18, 2022 2:10:12 PM

## Dear Council Members:

Please do not rubber stamp the SFPUC agreement. Those of us who use the path and also appreciate the established tree canopy of Los Altos would like to find a way to help SFPUC reduce the damage from their proposed actions.

Let us work together on this.

Thank you, Janice Bohman Dixon Way From: Stanford Alumni
To: Public Comment

Subject: Hetch Hetchy Trail license agreement

Date: Sunday, September 18, 2022 10:35:51 PM

Attachments: <u>Tom Evatt Park.png</u>

John W. Christian Greenbelt.pnq John Christian Greenbelt Sunnyvale .png B9F8E1D4-2F6A-4E73-87B3-C82AE82CE6B4.png

To the honorable Los Altos City Council,

I am writing in regards to the updated license agreement with SFPUC for the Hetch Hetchy Trail (item 14 on the Agenda for the Tuesday, Sept. 20, 2022 meeting). As you know, interest in this item is quite high based on the large turnout at the meeting held about the Hetch Hetchy property in the community center (see photo).

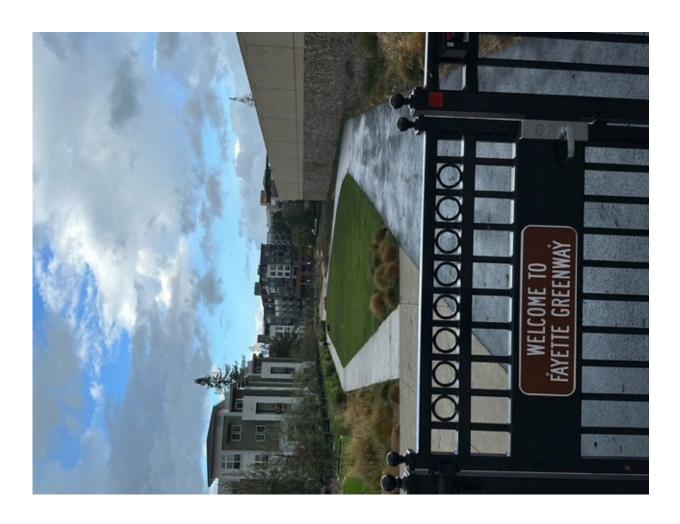
I would like to propose that as part of the negotiations, the city of Los Altos develop a plan and form a committee for improving the existing trail and make it into a better maintained greenbelt. This can be presented as part of the discussions with the Hetch Hetchy board. It could also be included in the agreement such that they cannot later change it.

If you follow the Hetch Hetchy pipeline through other cities, you will see many parks and greenbelts that are built over the pipeline including right across the street from Los Altos at 2640 W. El Camino Real in Mountain View. Other locations similar in shape to the Los Altos trail are the long multiple greenbelts called "John W. Christian Greenbelt" in Sunnyvale and the Tom Evatt Park in Milpitas. Photos of these three areas are attached below.

The concern that people have is the threat of cutting down the trees on the property. There are many tall older trees that are largely along the perimeter of the property. Some of these trees are old oak trees likely planted over 100 years ago when the Hetch Hetch Aqueduct was built in the years from 1914 to 1934. Many of these trees appear to be over 25 feet away from the underground pipeline and most of them are over 15 feet away, however the Hetch Hetchy property is wider than this at 80 feet wide. This means that per the Hetch Hetchy diagram, any tree that is over 20 feet high or has a canopy over 15 feet wide can be removed (see the green zone in the document attached).

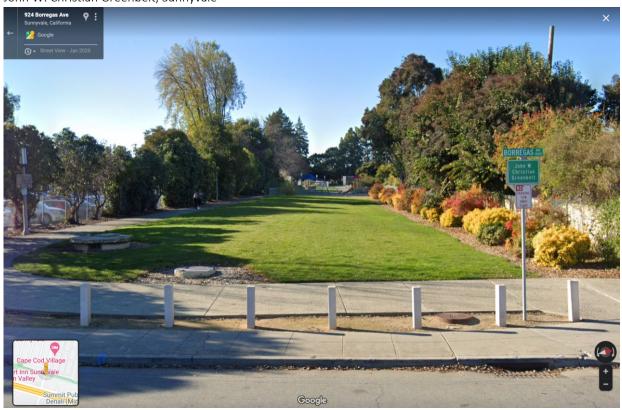
With best regards, Donald Gardner, Ph.D. 180 Larsens Landing Los Altos, CA

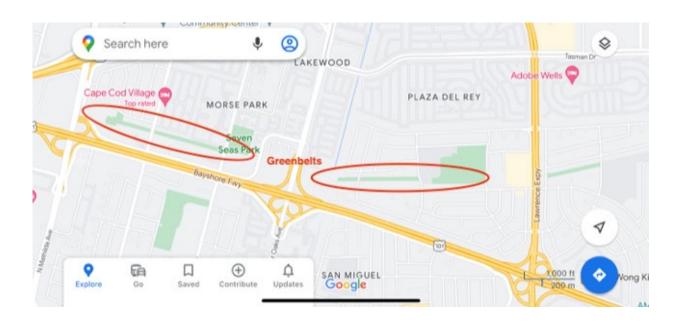
Fayette Greenway, 2640 W. El Camino Real, Mountain View





John W. Christian Greenbelt, Sunnyvale





## Partial list of parks and greenbelts over the Hetch Hetchy pipeline

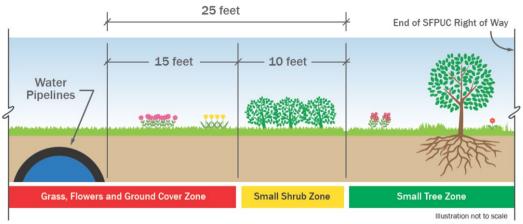
Fayette Greenway Park, Mountain View Klein Park, Mountain View Rengstorff Park, Mountain View Rex Manor Park, Mountain View Whisman Park, Mountain View Sunnyvale Golf Course John W. Christian Greenbelt, Sunnyvale Seven Seas Park, Sunnyvale Lakewood Park, Sunnyvale Ulistac Natural Area, Santa Clara Tom Evatt Park, Milpitas

Meeting held to discuss the Hetch Hetchy trail in Los Altos



San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC)

## Right Of Way (ROW) Landscape Vegetation Guidelines



The following vegetation types are permitted on the ROW within the appropriate zones.

Plantings that may be permitted directly above existing and future pipelines:

Ground cover, grasses, flowers, and very low growing plants that reach no more than one foot in height at maturity.

Plantings that may be permitted 15–25 feet from the edge of existing and future pipelines:

Shrubs and plants that grow no more than five feet tall in height at maturity.

Plantings that may be permitted 25 feet or more from the edge of existing and future pipelines:

Small trees or shrubs that grow to a maximum of twenty feet in height and fifteen feet in canopy width or less.



From: Chris Tucker
To: Public Comment

**Subject:** [Suspicious Impersonation] SFPUC agreement and trees on Hetch Hetchy trail.

**Date:** Monday, September 19, 2022 12:19:44 PM

## Dear Members of the Los Altos City Council,

I am requesting that you do NOT sign the SFPUC agreement yet. I understand you are obligated to consider the agreement but we residents of Los Altos were only just recently made aware of the intentions of the SFPUC tree removal along the Hetch Hetchy path that lies within Los Altos.

We think signing the agreement now may result in trees being removed that are not actually impeding maintenance of the SFPUC pipe. We would like the city arborist, a representative from SFPUC and any other pertinent city officials and residents to walk the train together to mark the actual location of the pipe and so as to protect trees that are not a threat or actually lie on private property.

Please do not sign the SFPUC agreement until more information can be gathered.

respectfully, Chris Tucker 280 Margarita Crt. Los Altos