



March 22, 2022

Design Commission

100 North Garfield Ave.
Pasadena, CA 91101

Re: 350 Cordova Street

Dear members of the Design Commission:

Livable Pasadena supports the city recommendation to disapprove the project located at 350 Cordova Street. The project site is home to a large inventory of protected native and specimen trees, as well as many other mature trees. Only 6 of the protected specimen trees and two non-protected trees are to remain. Pasadena is rapidly losing our green canopy. Trees are being removed all over town for development, and most times they are not being replaced. Often, developers seek to “replace” mature in-ground trees with small trees in planter boxes. These trees will not grow to provide critical shade and community gathering spaces and are not a substitute for the loss of mature trees. We have been working with the city to build back our green canopy of mature, shade providing trees throughout the city. It is important that development projects retain the protected trees on their properties, and that any trees removed are replaced with in-ground trees in the environment that they will need to flourish.

It is imperative that we preserve and protect our green canopy. Protected trees should be preserved and cared for, and when trees must be removed, they should be replaced with in ground trees with enough space for their roots so that the trees can grow and thrive. We would like to note that it is alarming that 10 protected trees on this project site must be removed because they are in poor health. We need to do a better job stewarding our green spaces for future generations.

Thank you,

Megan Foker
On behalf of Livable Pasadena