

**From:** [Severino, Lori](#)  
**To:** [Downtown West Project](#)  
**Subject:** FW: San Jose Parks Advocates Comments to Google  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 2:18:30 PM

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**From:** Ricardo Benavidez <benavidez@google.com>

**Sent:** Monday, September 16, 2019 10:47 PM

**To:** jeanann2@aol.com

**Cc:** Sykes, Dave <Dave.Sykes@sanjoseca.gov>; Walesh, Kim <Kim.Walesh@sanjoseca.gov>; Klein, Nanci <Nanci.Klein@sanjoseca.gov>; Cicirelli, Jon <Jon.Cicirelli@sanjoseca.gov>; Burnham, Nicolle <nicolle.burnham@sanjoseca.gov>; Hughey, Rosalynn <Rosalynn.Hughey@sanjoseca.gov>; Severino, Lori <Lori.Severino@sanjoseca.gov>; Hurley, Melrose <Melrose.Hurley@sanjoseca.gov>; Teresa Alvarado <talvarado@spur.org>; Knies, Scott <sknies@sjdowntown.com>; Jason Su <jason@grpg.org>

**Subject:** Re: San Jose Parks Advocates Comments to Google

Hi Jean,

Thank you for your message. I have enjoyed our getting to know each other over the last few months. Our two walks were very informative. Because of you I have an appreciation for the Arena Green breeze that comes from the Bay and down the river. Regarding oaks trees, at Google we believe in a healthy canopy for environmental and personal health reasons. We have been supportive of SFEI's [re-oaking](#) initiative for years. As for your letter, I shared it with the Google project team. Let's find time in the coming weeks to discuss. Also, there are some components of your letter that the City is better suited to address. Have a great week,  
Ricardo

On Wed, Sep 11, 2019 at 1:24 PM Jean Dresden <[jeanAnn2@aol.com](mailto:jeanAnn2@aol.com)> wrote:

Dear Ricardo:

Thank-you for the opportunities to visit with you and the designers in July, and with the early August group presentation to environmentalists, as well as the subsequent public presentation to the community. Now you have a better understanding of why I think Arena Green West is such a great place on a hot summer day. I think it served you well as an event location. I hope many others noticed and will recommend the location in the future for other events. The oak trees provided spectacular shade and the river provided a good breeze.

It's hard to imagine that less than three years ago there was a campaign by a group to thin or cut down all the trees. It is also quite distressing to know there are some who are still proposing projects that will eliminate the trees. Arena Green West and all of its trees were part of a court settlement about riparian mitigation back in 1993, so it is particularly surprising that the proposals are being entertained. I guess we'll have to see how that plays out.

I have attached a letter from San Jose Parks Advocates providing feedback

and questions for your consideration as Google moves towards refining the concept.

--Jean Dresden

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