

From: [eve.kornhauser](#)
To: [Rick Taintor](#); [Karen Edwards](#)
Cc: [Todd Selig](#)
Subject: Mill Plaza Development feedback
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 4:41:48 PM

April 23, 2021

To the Planning Board,

I have considered voicing my opinion about the Mill Plaza Development for some time. What disturbs me the most is the plan to destroy a plot of trees to create yet another parking lot. As I'm sure you are aware of, every tree matters in regards to Climate Change, even if on a small scale. I was finally prompted to write this morning after hearing an NPR report about how the destruction of trees and world forests are having such a devastating effect on the balance of nature (weather, extinction of life, pandemics, etc).

As expressed by Jessica Turner-Skoff, PhD in the newsletter from the Chicago RegionTrees Initiative:

By 2050, an estimated 66% of the total world's population will be urban¹. Urbanization, coupled with a changing climate, is a challenge on a global scale that greatly impacts the health and well-being of humans. In order to establish healthy and vibrant communities, trees need to be part of the global discussion. Over the past 30 years, science has demonstrated how trees in our landscapes benefit people and that well-maintained trees are an important asset to keep a community healthy and safe. **Planting and maintaining trees, as part of urban planning and engineering solutions, can serve as a nature-based solution to many challenges communities face: managing stormwater, supporting mental and physical health for people, reducing crime, addressing pollution, and providing wildlife habitat.** Despite the critical importance of urban forest, urban tree cover continues to decline nationwide each year².

I feel lucky to live in a town with so much conserved space. However, I

would hope that every plot of trees and green would matter to the town and the planning board, including this copse of trees. The last thing Durham and the world needs is more asphalt!

Thank you,

Eve Kornhauser
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