

**Dawn Ross**

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**From:** steve sunseri [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 15, 2025 8:02 AM  
**To:** Cari Dillman  
**Cc:** Laura Sunseri  
**Subject:** 2475 Michigan Drive City pine tree formal removal request

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Hello,

My name is Steve Sunseri. I am the owner of the home located at 2475 Michigan Drive in Claremont. I am writing this letter in regards to the (2) 70 foot tall pine trees in front of my home that belong to the city. I am formally requesting the City of Claremont remove these trees and replace with trees that are appropriate for the location based on safety concerns, fire concerns and also the destruction of property that they have already caused and have the potential to cause.

The two excessively large pine trees that are in the city easement in front of my home have caused numerous problems in the 14 years that we have lived at our home. I will list the problems below:

1. Multiple sprinkler and irrigation pipe breakages and repairs from city tree roots
2. Driveway cracking and damage from city tree roots causing safety concerns.
3. Multiple sidewalks repairs due to cracking and lifting from city tree roots.
4. Broken vehicle windows in driveway from hard green pinecones falling from trees.
5. Concerns for water main safety. My water main is approximately 7-8 feet from the base of one tree that is approximately 70 feet tall. The root system will eventually cause problems with my water main.
6. The excessive daily and weekly debris that accumulates from these trees and the sap that damages every vehicle that is parked in the driveway below the tree canopy.

The windstorms over the past few seasons have shown that these trees are not appropriate for the neighborhood that they are in. Myself and the City of Claremont have witnessed the destruction and safety concerns that have been evidenced by the high winds in winter. We saw multiple of these same species of trees fall over and crush roofs and vehicles. I am concerned of the safety of my family in these windstorms with these trees around my home. The winds have also shown that with drought conditions and fires and their potential, that these trees are very concerning for catching embers and igniting a fire in the neighborhood. There are tons of dry pine needles and dry pinecones that each one of these trees possess that are fuel for fire.

I am formally requesting that 2 excessively large pine trees in front of 2475 Michigan drive be removed by the city of Claremont based on the numerous above concerns. I would like to see them replace with a tree or 2 that are appropriate for the location and the small easement between my home and the street.

These are not the right trees for the right space as noted on the Claremont city website under "trees". I understand Claremont is the "City of Trees". Please address this serious issue and remove and replace with something more appropriate.

I look forward to a timely response to my serious concerns.

Thank you,  
Steve Sunseri  
[REDACTED]