

From: [Tommye Whittaker](#)
To: [Linda](#)
Cc: [City Council](#); [John](#); [Board and Council Messages](#)
Subject: Re: Canopy Road Designation comment
Date: Saturday, October 5, 2024 2:25:44 PM

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Excellent letter, Linda. Tommye
Sent from my iPhone

> On Oct 4, 2024, at 11:50 a.m., Linda <lnbooth@att.net> wrote:
>
>
> As homeowners on West Venice Avenue and full time residents of Venice, we support protections for the stately live oaks on the avenue and the canopy road designation.
>
> However, we are concerned that requiring a permit and supervision by a certified arborist to prune a tree overhanging our property can add a significant burden on us as homeowners. Florida tree laws indicate that homeowners have a right to trim trees overhanging their property.
>
> First, these trees are on city property but can come very close to our house, potentially creating a hazard to our house, especially during strong winds and hurricanes.
>
> Damage to our home from branches from a tree could occur from a hurricane or strong winds. City hall may be closed and unavailable for a permit. How could we get tree branches cut off our house in this scenerio?
>
> We recommend that the city consider trimming the trees on private property in consultation with homeowners to both remove hazards and maintain a balanced canopy for the trees. If that is not feasible, the city arborist should be available to consult with homeowners and there should be no cost to the homeowner for the permit.
>
> Under the Code of Ordinances for the City of Venice, 3.6, Tree Mitigation Fund, these funds should be used to cover the cost of an arborist, permit, if necessary, and cost of pruning.
>
> Linda and John Booth
> 616 West Venice Avenue
>
>
> Sent from my iPad