From: [redacted]
[redacted] Sttammanyfs
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] St Tammany
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 11:25:04 AM
Attachments: Screenshot_20230809_110520_Yahoo Mail.jpg

I'm a lifelong resident of St Tammany and in my 50yrs we have never flooded UNTIL y'all remove EVERY tree to put up a building to sit empty. Our infastructure simply can not handle what has already been done! The tree removal has not caused major flooding it's affected wildlife, some of which is protected. Please see my letter below that I've sent to our parish president and council members.
Thank you,
RRuffino

_____

I request regulations established in the zoning ordinance are intended to preserve and protect the historical architecturally worthy buildings, structure, sights, monuments, streetscapes, squares, and neighborhoods of our historic area. Trees, because of the beneficial services they provide and the character they add to the community, shall be retained and preserved to the maximum extent feasible on all property within the town limits.

Planting trees helps make cities clean and green, but protecting the trees we already have may be even more important: large mature trees provide many more benefits than smaller young trees. Research shows that mature trees capture more carbon, filter more particulate matter to reduce air pollution, capture more storm water, create shade and reduce energy use, and many other environmental and health benefits. Some benefits trees provide:

- Prevent flooding. Rain flows down the trunk into the earth;
- Prevents soil erosion;
- Shield children from ultra-violet rays;
- Increase property value;
- Provides oxygen;
- Cleans the air as they absorb pollutant gases.
- Most importantly PREVENT FLOODING

The unfortunate reality is that the vast majority of trees are not being preserved and cut down. In many cases, trees could have been preserved but were cut down. This causes a massive negative environmental impact. Also, deforestation also destroys much needed habitat for animals, plants and other species. Deforestation has been a tragic disaster for the earth and everyone living on it.

Scores of office buildings sit empty across the parish. Please encourage property owners to renovate vacant buildings or sell them for other uses. I simply ask that you all review buildings on a case-by-case basis and discuss where zoning changes make sense and which new uses might work best in a given location.

True leaders are those that do something different and better. They learn from others mistakes and improve upon it rather than repeating the same mistakes. It takes more years to re-grow trees than it does to build around the tree. In addition to hurting this

generation by cutting trees down, you're hurting your children, grandchildren — those you love dearly. Use your power to make a difference and show other cities, states, countries how to do things better.
Thank you,
Rebecca Ruffino

Sent from AT&T Yahoo Mail on Android