

Dear Supervisor Gauthier, Director Newman, Mr. Calderon, and County Staff,

I am writing to respectfully request San Mateo County's assistance in improving tree care along the older portion of Middlefield Road between Fifth Avenue and Ninth Avenue in North Fair Oaks.

This petition is an update to a community petition first submitted in August 2024 and sent to the former Director of Public Works, the former District 4 Supervisor, and other County staff. Between August and November 2024, over forty community members signed the petition requesting action on this issue. Unfortunately, these concerns remain unresolved.

The trees along this section of Middlefield Road were planted approximately 24 years ago, but many have died or failed to thrive and have never been replaced. In addition, the existing trees do not have irrigation, making it difficult for them to survive and grow. As a result, this part of our community lacks the shade and environmental benefits that were originally intended.

Trees provide many important benefits, including shade during extreme heat, improved air quality, and a more attractive and welcoming neighborhood. These benefits are especially important in North Fair Oaks, a densely populated, working-class community with limited green space.

We respectfully ask San Mateo County to:

- **Plant new trees** in all designated spaces where trees are missing or dying on Middlefield Road between Fifth Avenue and Ninth Avenue;
- **Install irrigation** for existing and newly planted trees so they can survive, grow, and provide much-needed shade; and
- **Increase outreach** and education for business owners regarding the importance of tree care, the need to leave pruning and maintenance to qualified professionals hired by the County, and potential fines for damaging trees on the public way.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. We hope the County will work together with the community to create a greener, healthier, and more beautiful North Fair Oaks.

Sincerely,

{Name}

{Role}

{Phone Number}

{Email}