

Queens Civic Congress Tree Protection subcommittee (of both the Parks and Zoning and Code Enforcement Committees) chair Carsten Glaeser sent this email to Brianna Wolf who works for the Mayor's Office of Long Term Planning and Sustainability, under Director Rohit Aggarwala:

Sent: Sat, 17 May 2008 1:23 pm

Subject: Continue Loss and Damage to Vital Public Trees

RE: REMOVAL AND DAMAGES TO PUBLIC TREES CONTINUES

Brianna-

<http://afinecompany.blogspot.com/2008/05/union-square-tree-carnageand-offer-to.html>

<http://washingtonsquarepark.wordpress.com/2008/05/11/week-in-review-union-square-court-decision-danny-meyer-washington-sq-park-photo-ops-more/>

Thought you might be interested in these blogs.

I am hopeful that you have been in receipt of my past emails with photo documentation of equivalent damage to trees on other public lands by mayoral agencies, their engineers and contractors. That such indifference exists within those agencies, from the Commissioners on down who set the pace for timely project completions, under budget yet with full disregard to large invaluable shade trees is appalling and unacceptable.



I cite one example currently taking place along the East River Park Promenade where trees have been left unprotected from impacts by construction activity and excavation. And to think that there exists a detailed published Tree and Landscape Protection Plan for this very project, paid for by the tax-payer but clearly ignored by the engineers hired by NYC DPR Capital to provide construction management. Yes, business as usual of the treatment of a vital public resource.

I opine that one can not speak of a more Green & Sustainable city if the blatant removal of trees and egregious damage to vital tree roots wherever they may be found continues with business as usual. This then makes the Mayor's green campaign, as it applies to our irreplaceable trees and the DPR tree planting initiative, clearly a farce.

Perhaps your efforts within the Office of Sustainable Planning requires more attention to the fate of these organisms. Yes, organisms that the Mayor and Commissioner Benepe speak of so regularly yet fail to really consider.

I look forward to receiving your comments.

Carsten W. Glaeser Ph.D, ASCA
Executive Director
Kissena Park Civic Association
Flushing, NY

Note from Queens Civic Congress:

Recognizing the magnitude of the problem and the impacts if City Hall fails to act, Queens Civic Congress seeks to catalogue and post on this site any known examples of public and private trees placed at risk or worse. Please email Carsten at Corktree03@aol.com. Thank you.