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**To:** [Public Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support Ordinance 220961  
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Hello,

We need to do everything we can to support existing trees in our city, to plant new trees, and to support young trees. It's important that developers are held accountable for this vital community responsibility.

A new study was just released last week that found that "increasing the tree cover to 30% in European cities could have prevented 2,644 heat-related deaths over a summer period."

The study is the largest of its kind, and the first to specifically look at premature mortality caused by higher temperatures in cities and the number of deaths that could be prevented by increasing tree cover. It modeled 93 European cities with increasing tree coverage.

<https://www.eurekalert.org/news-releases/978104>

In the context of the climate crisis, urban heat islands and the associated health risks are only going to get worse. New development with reduced vegetation and heat-absorbing materials like asphalt, steel, and concrete exacerbate the effects.

If the tree canopy is not maintained in conjunction with development, where will we end up?

Thank you for supporting our trees!  
Tina Moessner