

Exhibit A

To the Ashland Tree Commission:

We all know the Plaza redo was created in record time, and with a considerable sense of urgency on the part of several commissions in 2012. Perhaps it was these time constraints, or budgetary limitations, which led the city administrator to cap the amount spent on replacement trees for the Plaza. Whatever the reasons for the smaller replacement trees, there have been thousands of comments from the public since 2013, asking for more mature trees to be planted on the Plaza. Larger trees provide much more immediate shade, and create ambience, something the Plaza sadly lacked until just recently when more greenery and planters were added this spring. Still much work remains to bring the Plaza back to life.

With this thought in mind, several people have pooled their resources, and wish to make the following proposal to the ATC:

Approx. \$2,000 is immediately available from private funding, for donation of a more mature shade tree, of the Ashland Tree Commission's choosing, to be planted as a new or replacement tree, on the Ashland Plaza. If possible, the tree could be planted this fall, and that is our hope.

The commission may even wish to expand its recommendations to the council for additional mature shade trees for our Plaza. It is likely that a recommendation by the Ashland Tree Commission for one or more mature trees on the Plaza, with a positive response from the council, will encourage more citizens to donate additional funds for mature trees on our Plaza.

Yours sincerely,

David Sherr
Ashland resident since 1995

Editor
The Ashland Plaza Restoration Project on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/TheAshlandPlazaRestorationProject/>

10-6-2016 Tree Commission