

## Nguyen, Julie

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**From:** Pinellas County Clerk of Court <noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 20, 2026 5:03 PM  
**To:** BCC Agenda Comments  
**Subject:** NEW BCC AGENDA COMMENT

Topic	Tree Ordinance changes
BCC Agenda Date	1-21-2026
Agenda Item Number	25-2009A and 25-2014A and 25-2023A
Citizen Name	David Harbeitner
Phone	+17272027583
Email	davidh@suncoasts Sierra.org
Address	225 9th Ave N St Petersburg, FL 33701
Comments	I understand the Board is considering changes to the current tree ordinance. I am against the elimination of the permit to remove healthy trees on residential property. Our tree canopy plays an important role in the quality of life in our community. Healthy trees above a certain size deserve our protection for the benefits they bestow on the larger community. As you are aware, the state already allows homeowners to remove diseased trees or trees that pose a danger. We need to make sure healthy trees are protected as these trees provide the basis for a healthy ecosystem, producing health benefits to humans and habitat for wildlife which extends well beyond our individual yards. Fees/costs for removal of healthy trees should not be eliminated. Our tree canopy shows, and will continue to show, the impact from the hurricanes of 2024. Please take steps to protect our healthy trees and don't further impact our tree canopy in a negative manner. Thank you for considering my perspective in your discussion on this matter.
Your Stand on the Issue	Oppose