



**We create special places. We plant, care, inspire.  
We are a voice, a teacher, a steward.**

April 18, 2017

The Honorable Lee Brand  
Mayor of the City of Fresno  
2600 Tulare Avenue  
Fresno, California 93721

RE: Basketball Court(s) at Easton Plaza

Dear Lee:

We learned about the proposal to build a basketball court at Eaton Plaza from the Downtown Coalition. We subsequently talked to Wilma Quan, Assistant City Manager, on the telephone and, later, met in person with Bruce Rudd, City Manager and Wilma Quan to learn more about the reasoning for the proposal and what the site plan would look like.

Tree Fresno has a long history of seeking the development of a park on this site and the preservation of the existing trees when feasible. Our Board of Directors took up this matter at their regular meeting on April 12, 2017 and approved the following motion:

**Eaton Plaza:** We recommend the following to the City of Fresno: That the master plan for Eaton Plaza be implemented with the entire area developed as green space with supporting walkways and benches; that a basketball court(s) or other active recreation facilities not be added to the plan; that a plan for green spaces be prepared for the downtown area to create a Village Green; to reduce the area covered with asphalt in order to reduce temperatures and greenhouse gases.

Thank you for your consideration.

*Lee Ayres*  
Chief Executive Officer