
Colleen McHorney

438 ½ Lincoln Avenue
Prescott, Az. 86301
cmmchorney@gmail.com
505-850-4132

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To Whom It May Concern,

Hello,

I have lived in the Dexter neighborhood since 2011. I value West Granite Creek Park as part of our community's riparian open space. This park is part of our beloved non-motorized Greenways trail system.

I am also a working parent who raises my child in the natural beauty of our area. I use this trail to commute on foot or by bicycle not only to work downtown, but also to bring our 9 year old son to and from school. As a pedestrian and a cyclist. I am deeply concerned about the city's egregious plan to permanently pave WGCP as a parking lot, severing our trail system, destroying our community park and posing a serious danger to cyclists and pedestrians.

Since the city opened this area up to vehicles, I have witnessed reckless drivers speeding through, vehicles suspiciously parked overnight, and a notable increase in litter. Predictably, occurrences such as these will only increase in a paved scenario.

This once beautiful riparian park is where I, for many years, walked our dogs, played with our child, and helped in the Community Garden. In 2013, I went into labor beneath the trees here just before our son was born. This space is beneficial to every citizen's sense of health and wellbeing, as the positive effects of access to nature are well-known.

Let's keep West Granite Creek Park a safe and healthy space for our community to enjoy.

Sincerely,

Colleen McHorney