

**COMMUNITY FOREST ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CFAC)  
MINUTES for THURSDAY, May 5, 2022, 1pm – 3 pm PT (virtual)**

Members of the public are invited to participate. Under the Brown Act, the Committee is prevented from acting on a matter that is brought to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, issues raised by a member of the public may be added to the agenda for future meetings. Members of the public can also provide comments on an agenda item when it is being considered.

Guests/City reps. (partial list): Stephen DuPrey, Marilouise Morgan, Glenn Bailey, John Vangelisti, John Collinson, Bryan Ramirez, Celeste Nguyen (DBS), Amanda Bashir-Chavez, Charles Miller, Jonathan Weiss, Theresa Maysonet, Amber Hawkes, Lee McLeod, Sarita Zaleha, K. Ramos (LACC), Diana Nicole, Rachel Malarich, Ron Bitzer, Hugh Kenny, Jonatha Weiss, Kathy Schreiner, Tanzi Briscoe, Amanda Bashir, Ann Rubin

**AGENDA:**

1. Call to order at 1:04.
2. **Motion to adopt the following Finding/Determination: Teleconference Meetings Pursuant to Assembly Bill 361. Shelley Billik, Chair moves, and seconded by Member Joanne D’Antonio, that the Community Forest Advisory Committee and all subcommittees including ad hoc committees determine in accordance with Assembly Bill 361, Section 3(e)(3) that this advisory body has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency and that the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person and/or state local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.** Passed unanimously.
3. Welcome by Chair SB and acknowledgement of the First Nations to open with an attitude of respect for community members from the First Nations and their traditional ecological knowledge.
4. Meeting call to order at 1:04 by Chair SB; Roll Call by Secretary LK (Present or Absent)

	P	A		P	A		P	A
Lynnette Kampe CD 1 (Secretary)	X				X	Lora Hall CD 13	X	
					X			
Joanne D’Antonio CD 2	X		Robin Gilliam CD 8 David McNeill, ALT.	X		CD 14		
Jane Skeeter CD 3		X	CD 9 - Lila Higgins		X	CD 15 - vacant		
Katherine Pakradouni CD 4 Amber Hawkes CD4 Alt.	X		Brent Green CD 10		X	Cyndi Hubach Mayor’s Rep -	X	
	X							
Shelley Billik CD 5 (Chair)	X		Isabelle Duvivier CD 11 (Vice Chair) Carolyn LoBuglio, ALT.	X				

CD 6 vacant		Mary Montes CD12	X			
		Scott Harmon Alt.		X		

5. **Chair report** - New policy on CFAC Alternate representative appointment policy is being defined. Carolyn LoBuglio has been appointed as CD11 Alternate and Amber Hawkes as CD 4 Alternate. Tim O'Connor has resigned as a CFAC representative.

6. **Approval of April 7, 2022 minutes postponed.**

7. Departmental Reports

**Dept. of Recreation & Parks - none**

**Urban Forestry Division** - Job opening for Environmental Supervisor, tentative hire fell through.

**City Forest Officer**, Rachel Malarich - thank you to everyone who attended the Earth Day event

**City Plants**, Amanda Bashir-Chavez - enjoyed seeing people at the Earth Day and TPF events

**LASAN Biodiversity Group**

**Dept. of Building & Safety**, Celeste Nguyen - no updates but welcomes email inquiries - request info on how current PTO will be distributed to people submitting permit requests

8. Consideration of possible immediate action items that came to the attention of CFAC Reps subsequent to the posting of the agenda - Planning Dept. will be coming to next BAT committee meeting, meeting date will be switching to last Thurs. of the month

9. Public Comments on non-agenda topics within Committee's jurisdiction - Charles Miller -Palms NC passed a motion requesting that the city transition to planting only native trees, hoping that other NCs will pass similar motions. NC desires natives even if the plantings will be delayed until the trees are available. Contact him if interested. Next comment: NCs are nearing the end of their fiscal year and could request planting in vacant tree wells. Requests step-by-step guide to making requests - Stephen DuPrey will work with him. Committee comments: Street tree planting must be a thoughtful, properly permitted process. NC funds could be used to remove agriperem tree well covers.

10. New Business - Discussion, planning and possible motions:

- a. Letter to Board of Building & Safety Commissioners re: Poppy Peak - John Collinson - a developer has purchased 7 acres including a grove of heritage oaks; he has built 2 houses, has 4 permits open and appears to have plans to build 40 homes. Substantial grading will be needed and a public hearing held for a haul route. Cooper Ecological Services has visited the site. The community is asking the city to consider the project and require CEQA review for the totality of the project as a sensitive ecological area and headwater of the North Branch of the Arroyo Seco. A CFAC draft letter was circulated. Comments: cc to Planning; make sure that word "piecemeal" is used . **Motion to send this letter as amended by Isabelle.** Moved by JD, seconded by ID. Passed unanimously.
- b. Tree Disclosure Statement & Tree Report Template for DCP & LADBS - has been revised to clarify that it covers private property trees, street trees and significant trees under the Mt. Washington/GP Specific plan
- c. Environmental Assessment Form - Dept of City Planning - This form is not well known; use and process for verification need to be explored. UF is only involved in Protected Trees; an environmental planner /ecologist for the city is needed.
- d. CD8 Marqueece Harris-Dawson motion: CF 15-0499-S2, May 17, 2022 PLUM Committee - Theresa Maysonet and CFAC members RB, SB and others efforts to block removals of sycamore grove for Crenshaw Crossing project were not successful but visibility raised was valuable, collaborations formed and the attention of several council members gained. This motion for a report back came forward and will have recommendations that trees be evaluated at the beginning of future projects.
- e. Letter to DCP's Urban Design Studio re: New Landscape Ordinance (Healthy Building Healthy Places) JD - draft letter circulated to CFAC members asking points be given for tree retention. Community comment: requesting circulation of letters with agenda if possible. RM: the preservation of trees is being

considered but comments are valuable. It is a work in progress. **Motion: To approve sending the letter.** Moved by JD, seconded by ID, Passed unanimously.

- f. Grading Pre-inspection checklist - JD everything is clear cut on the flats. Extensive grading is needed for steep hillsides and trees are often clearcut.
- g. Link or a copy of the latest PTO be distributed by LADBS - JD will speak to Pascal.
- h. In Lieu/Tree Guarantee Fee & Planting Forecast (CD2, 5, 11) JD got 7 non natives swapped for desert willows; DuPrey reported that in CD5 & 11 they are reviewing and will report next month. Is requesting assistance from Charles Miller on mature canopy of native species. ID reported that Del Rey NC asked that all 59 of their trees be native. She will get addresses of replacements needed in Westwood.
- i. Clean California Grants - UFD Medians - opportunities for oaks and native shrubs, 10 Million awarded. Funding and staff are needed. Authority to hire needs separate approval. Contracts not finalized
- j. Landscape Irrigation Restrictions June 1, 2022 - impact on tree planting, maintenance & public messaging on watering trees - DuPrey - will apply to City; newly planted trees will be watered once per week. UFD wants to try mycorrhizae. Golf courses on recycled water are not restricted. Hand Watering of trees is permitted. Public comment: Mulch would be helpful for medians, at the State level water may be cut off.
- k. Improper Mitigation for PTO Removals letter - Diana Nicole - mitigation plans for walnuts in particular are planted 3 to a hole or too close and this is not horticulturally sound. There is often not sufficient room to plant mitigation trees properly on site. Committee comments: Directed to Rachel Malarich: what can we do if there is not sufficient area available on the property? Can we limit home sizes or hardscape? A: This is something she is working on, new tree disclosure form will help ensure that mitigation is required. For now we have to work within existing rules. Community comment: we cannot ask UFD to question architecture design, CEQA is being ignored and alternatives are not considered. Motion: To approve the draft letter. Moved by: SB seconded by: ID. Passed unanimously.
- l. Contract Growing of natives - TreePeople & Commonwealth Nurseries - collaboration suggested. Amanda Bashir-Chaves - working with Western Redbud seeds, Commonwealth is growing from seed to 5 gal. to build up an inventory of 5 gal. trees for CityPlants. Currently no capacity for 15 gal. growing at Commonwealth. UFD can only purchase from contract vendors and needs a minimum 15 gal. RM: There is a purchase order process if plants are not available from approved vendors, but it has limitations. Rec & Parks sometimes uses this but it is not feasible for UF due to the volume of plants needed. UFD standard is 15 gal and these are seldom available for native trees (from commercial nurseries) but this could change over time. Some natives are not appropriate as standards (multi-stemmed/shrubs.)

11. Ongoing & Pending Business - Discussion, planning and possible motions - postponed.

- a. Budget Letter
- b. CFAC Guidelines & bylaws
- c. ROW Tree Protection during Construction Draft Guidelines
- d. Inventory of City Medians by Streets LA -
- e. SB9 Implementation Motion
- f. Tree Removal transmittals motion to BPW
- g. Proposed Brush Clearance Guidelines
- h. ROW Species Master List
- i. SB 1404 (Stern) Oak Woodlands - letter submitted
- j. SB 1425 - requires Open Space Elements to be updated by 2026
- k. CF 03-1459-S3 - Strengthening the Protected Tree Ordinance, 8" DBH per Planning policy

Meeting adjourned at 3:06.

Next CFAC Meeting: TBD (June 2 canceled)

Minutes prepared by Lynnette Kampe.