

**COMMUNITY FOREST ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CFAC)
MINUTES
for REGULAR MEETING THURSDAY June 6, 2024, 1pm – 3 pm PT**

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.

CFAC Members Attending: Chair Joanne D’Antonio (JD), Vice-chair Isabelle Duvivier (ID) (virtual, not counted toward quorum), Secretary Lynnette Kampe (LK), John Smith (JS), Pablo Cardoso (PC) (virtual, not counted toward quorum), Lila Higgins (LH), Scott Fajack (SF), Charles Miller (CM), Theresa Maysonet - alternate (TM), Miran Kalaydjian (MK)(virtual, does not count toward quorum) Carolyn LoBuglio - alternate (CL), Deanne Paul (DP), Gwendolyn Henry (GH), and Adele Slaughter - Alternate (AD)

Guests/City reps. (partial list): Rachel Malarich, Stephen Duprey, Clarissa Boyajian, Marianne King, Hugh Kenny, Ann Rubin, Jonathan Weiss, Holly Harper, LA Garden Council, Kathy Schreiner, Monica Ramirez, Glenn Bailey, Mindy Mann, Jason Casanova, Christopher LaBelle, and Jeanne McConnell

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

- A. Call to Order by Secretary Lynnette Kampe at 1:06.
- B. Roll Call and Determination of a quorum (9)

2. ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. We acknowledge the original stewards of what is now Los Angeles County: the Kizh-Gabrieleño, Tongva, Chumash, Tataviam, Kitanemuk, Serrano, Luiseno and Cahuilla people. We commit to uplifting the names of these lands and the community members from more than 200 [California First Nations](#) who reside among us, and we honor their [Traditional Ecological Knowledge](#).

B. Welcome Comments by Chair Joanne Antonio: Welcome to newly approved members, she has worked extensively with the Mayor’s Office to get appointments approved. Every CD should also have an alternative.

3. MOTIONS

A. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY MINUTES - Motion to adopt the Minutes of the Community Forest Advisory Committee meeting held February 1, 2024. Moved by LK, seconded by JD, Friendly amendment to correct the date. Approved unanimously as corrected.

4. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS WITHIN THE COMMITTEE’S SUBJECT MATTER JURISDICTION - 15 MINUTES MAXIMUM (1 minute per speaker) - None.

5. MOTIONS

- A. Motion: To adopt the CFAC Areas of Focus for 2024: 1. Preservation of mature trees / Tree Valuation tool; 2. CFAC role in UFMP production and support; 3. Promotion of native species for biodiversity; 4. "Soft City" promotion; 30% reduction in hardscapes - promotion of a tree vision plan; 5. Require trees to be included and shown on plans.** Moved by GH, seconded by DP, passed unanimously.
- B. Motion: To Approve 2 Pruning Letters that may be sent out by CFAC members or alternates, upon authorization by the chair, to educate the public about the harm done to trees by aggressive pruning. UFD SD requested adding illegal root pruning to the letters – must be done by a specialist. Suggestion accepted. Moved by LK, seconded by JD. Discussion: add root pruning (harmful, requires A permit), add: for more info see: Trees Are Good, future HOA letter. Passed unanimously as amended.**

- C. **Motion: To approve sending a letter to LA City Planning, of CFAC recommendations regarding the April 2024 Draft Landscape and Site Design Ordinance and Draft Landscape and Design Point System.** Moved by CM, seconded by GH. Discussion: submit CFAC native tree list (suggestion to add to CFAC website); concern about recommending species as Street Trees that haven't been vetted by UF, delete "climate adapted" and insert "75% native", delete "and riparian trees like Western Sycamore." Passed unanimously as corrected.

Draft Landscape and Site Design Ordinance

https://planning.lacity.gov/odocument/33faf488-323e-4b58-a1e2-e40ee0509987/Landscape_and_Site_Design_Ordinance.pdf

Draft Landscape and Design Point System

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1a0lMK887QzHbnbK2ChZrskK4WjtiGhKzmE0ZPmUVzB0/edit>

- D. **Motion: To send a letter in support of Urban Forestry in recommending a 4 year withholding of a building permit for 8461 Grand View Drive as a result of illegal Protected Tree and Shrub removals.** Moved by JD, seconded by LK. Discussion: Amended to state CFAC recommends reinstating original 7 years, add financial loss. Passed unanimously as amended.

6. **CITY FOREST OFFICE REPORT ON UFMP PROJECT** - Rachel Malarich - presentation by RM and Clarrisa Boyajian. 4 pillars: Engagement, Planting, Preservation and Maintenance. 50 workshops have been held. Working on a 50 year Strategic Plan with 5 year Implementation Plans by department. Looking at public input, coordination with other Dept. plans like Metro and LASAN Biodiversity, highest impact and feasibility. Achievements: have completed: First Steps Report, Financial Study, creation of Office of Urban Forestry, and Park and Street Tree Inventory. Clarissa is working on data analysis - making data comparable, spatial analysis for neighborhood level analysis of equity. Equity includes reducing excessive pruning. Rachel Malarich writing chapters, UFMP will become adopted as a City Document. Funding is needed to implement.

7. **New Council File 24-0602 Synthetic Grass / Artificial Turf / Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) / Forever Chemicals / Health and Environmental Risks / Drought-Friendly Landscaping**

Discussion of the Motion as written: https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2024/24-0602_misc_5-24-24.pdf
Assigned to committee: AS, CM, MK, and JD.

8. **Ordinance No. 180619 adopted in 2009. City already has a law that requires disclosure of the type and number of protected trees on a property when it is sold. LAMC 96.302 requires that, prior to close of escrow, an owner obtains from LADBS a "9A Report" containing information specified in LAMC 96.304. That section of the Code requires that a 9A Report contain all of the declarations set forth in LAMC Section 96.303. Significantly, one of the those declarations at LAMC 96.303(5) is as follows:**

"The owner must also provide a declaration under penalty of perjury that he or she has inspected the property for the existence of protected trees and the number of protected trees, if any, located on the subject property. For the purposes of this section, the definition of "protected tree" set forth in Section 46.01 the Los Angeles Municipal Code shall apply. The declaration shall also authorize the Bureau of Street Services within the Department of Public Works to verify this information by entry upon the subject property. A fee may be collected for any inspection required to verify the declaration. The fee shall be determined and adopted in the same manner as provided in Section 12.37 I.1 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code for establishing fees."

This is commonly known as a "9A Report." The instructions for completing the form are found at https://ladbs.org/docs/default-source/forms/administrative/rpr_form9.pdf?sfvrsn=426ae453_33.

Note: Not currently enforced.

Discussion whether the Tree Disclosure form prepared by a certified arborist could be required as part of the 9A report, as we have been told that property owners routinely indicate “none.” Note: Not currently enforced.

9. DEPARTMENT ORAL UPDATES/DISCUSSIONS - 10 minutes

- A. Recreation and Parks - none
- B. Urban Forestry Division - Stephen Duprey - Thanks to MK for alerting UF to bad actors. On target with tree pruning, requesting on-demand funding from councils. Comments: Tree Removal notices are not going out to Neighborhood Councils. Report requested from Hector on Biodiversity. City Forest Officer, Rachel Malarich - Status of new street selections for Tree Guarantee Planting? – CityPlants - Carlos Campero
- C. LASAN Biodiversity Group DWP biodiversity motion implementation - none
- D. Department of Building & Safety (LADBS) New clearances for protected trees have been added to the LADBS Manual pp 34-35
<https://www.ladbs.org/docs/default-source/publications/misc-publications/clearance-handbook.pdf?fvrsn=25> Monica Ramirez indicated that counter staff is aware of this change and implementing these clearances requiring coordination with UFD
- E. Planning - none -

10. CHAIR REPORT/ANNOUNCEMENTS - New EIR for Sidewalk Repair Program - please all review. The Little Hoover Commission has recommended in-fill development exempt from CEQA. AB 17 would require a public site with a CFAC member present for Hybrid Zoom Meetings. CFAC terms may be continued past 2 years. New Officers Election will take place at the July meeting. Nominating Committee appointed: LK, CL, MK.

11. CFAC REPRESENTATIVES’ ORAL UPDATES - Planting & Care on the Westwood Greenway; effort to ban artificial turf; United Neighborhoods distributed 98 trees; massive destruction of Protected Trees with Brush Clearance - UF is investigating.

12. REPORT - LA 6th Annual Beautification Conference – GH reported that it was attended by 250+; 30 exhibitors with info. and resources. See LASAN- “Discover Your Watershed” Dee Paul’s report available on CFAC Google Drive.

13. PENDING ITEMS - postponed

- A. Tree Guarantee Fee plantings for 2024 Status of California grants for biodiversity medians (LASAN & UFD)
- B. CD 8 Marqueece Harris-Dawson [CF 15-0499-S2 & Report backs](#)
- C. Trees for Biodiversity motion (CFAC) & [CF: 22-1469](#)
- D. ROW (Right of Way) tree protection during construction draft guidelines - CFO
- E. Update on Proposed Median Inventory - StreetsLA
- F. ROW Master Species List implementation - UFD
- G. Implementation of Motion to BPW on providing tree removal transmittals to CFAC
- H. [SB 1425](#) – Open Space Elements of General Plan to be updated by 2026
- I. Negative impacts of Artificial Turf
- J. Resolve tree removal notice ambiguities as to which tree
- K. Follow-up/take away from the WeHo Private Property Tree Presentation

14. ADJOURNMENT

Next Meeting July 11, 2024

For questions regarding agendas, please contact Lynnette Kampe at CFAC.CD01@gmail.com.

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