Community Forest Advisory Committee (CFAC)
Draft Minutes
March 6, 2025, 1-3:00 pm

CD 1 Angelic Perez
CD 1 Lynnette Kampe, Alternate
CD 2 Joanne D'Antonio, Chair
CD 3 Mihran Kalaydjian, Vice Chair
CD 4 Deanne Paul
CD 4 Adele Slaughter, Alternate
CD 5 Charles Miller
CD 5 Mindy Mann, Alternate
CD 6 Veronica Lopez
CD 7 Pablo Cardoso
CD 8 Robin Gilliam
CD 9 Vacant
CD 10 Brent Green
CD 10 Theresa Maysonet,Alternate
CD 11 Isabelle Duvivier
CD 11 Carolyn LoBuglio, Alternate
CD 12 Marianne King
CD 13 Scott Fajack
CD 13 Cyndi Hubach, Alternate
CD 14 Jack Smith
CD 15 Gwendolyn Henry, Secretary
Mayor's Representative Sejal Patel
Mayor's Rep. Michael Bircumshaw, Alternate

Members present: Angelic Perez, Lynnette Kampe (Alt.), Joanne D'Antonio, Mihran Kalaydjian, Charles Miller, Veronica Lopez, Isabelle Duvivier, Carolyn LoBuglio (virtual, not counted toward quorum), Marianne King, Cyndi Hubach (virtual, not counted toward quorum), Scott Fajack, Jack Smith, Gwendolyn Henry, Michael Bircumshaw, Mindy Mann (virtual, not counted toward quorum), Cyndi Hubach (virtual, not counted toward quorum)
Guests: Rachel Malarich, Tanzi Cole, Darrell Field, David Card, Linda Gibbs, James Komen, Andreas Kemkes, Kathy Schreiner, Lacey Beattie, Lisa Fimiani, Patrick McMabel, Nurit Katz, Frank Shotwell, Dan Cooper, Sakae Koyama, Emily Loughran, April Serrano, Ann Rubin, Stephanie Bartron, Haines Wilkersen, Diana Nicole, Wendy Rosen, Yael Pardess, (partial list)

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

A. Call to Order at 1:01 pm by Chair Joanne D'Antonio
B. Roll Call and Determination of quorum (9) - Secretary Gwendolyn Henry. Members present: Angelic Perez, Lynnette Kampe (Alt.), Joanne D'Antonio, Mihran Kalaydjian, Charles Miller, Veronica Lopez, Isabelle Duvivier, Carolyn LoBuglio (virtual, not counted toward quorum), Marianne King, Scott Fajack, Jack Smith, Gwendolyn Henry, Michael Bircumshaw (Alt.) (11 qualified for quorum)

2. ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS - 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.

A. Welcome Comments - Chair Joanne D'Antonio - Angelic Perez is officially the new CD 1 Representative and Michael Bircumshaw is the new Mayor's Alternate CFAC Representative who is hosting our 2025 Google Drive.
B. Chair Report/Announcements - Joanne D'Antonio
    1. Due to a procedural error, the motion to send Brush clearance letter voted at 12/5/2024 CFAC meeting was invalid. It is being referred back to the Brush Clearance ad hoc Committee to reconsider after hearing from our guest, Travis Longcore who will need to be scheduled later in the spring due to a conflict with his teaching schedule.
    2. Brief update on Landscape Ordinance - Joanne D'Antonio - CFAC letter sent

with additional points. One point was voted in a City Council amendment and the other 3 involving transparency and enforcement may be added after the ordinance passes.

3. Final Recirculated Environmental Impact Report for the Sidewalk Repair Program was released January 28, 2025 and includes responses to CFAC's comment letter and other comment letters. It is available at this link: Final Recirculated Environmental Impact Report
4. La Brea Tar Pits FEIR released. CFO of the Natural History Museum had a meeting with LANCSA who had submitted a comment letter. Bird issues appear to be resolved but still removing at least 150-200 trees and installing underground stormwater capture compromising the tar pits historic ecosystem. FEIR available at this site: https://tarpits.org/la-brea-tar-pits-master-plan-final-eir. It's possible 4 special trees will be saved. Conflict of County vs City on planting of street trees as replacements.
5. Inviting Diana Nicole and Travis Longcore to join ad hoc Brush Clearance Committee

3. Motion to approve minutes of CFAC Meetings held July 11, October 3, November 7 and December 5, 2024. Lynnette Kampe - Moved by Joanne D'Antonio, seconded by Mihran Kalayjian. Passed Unanimously. Links: CFAC Draft Minutes, 07.11.2024 - Google Docs
CFAC Draft Minutes, 10.03.2024 - Google Docs.docx
CFAC Draft Minutes, 11.07.2024 - Google Docs.docx
CFAC Draft Minutes 12.05.2024.docx
Motion to re-appoint Lynnette Kampe as CFAC Secretary. Moved by Joanne D'Antonio, seconded by Mihran Kaladyjian. Passed Unanimously.

4. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS. 1. Tree and Plant Appraisal Qualification (TRAQ) Certificate available from American Society of Consulting Arborists. 2. Seeking source for free trees (Joanne to be in email contact).
5. CFAC REPRESENTATIVES' ORAL UPDATES Charles Miller: It's possible 4 native trees will be saved at the Page Museum; problem with plan to divert native creek to street. LA Climate Reality March 8th event. Scott Fajack - Children's arboretum letter has received minimal response, however the Children's Arb. has been listed as a Sensitive Environmental area. Marianne King: CHIP has been postponed for City Council; no environmental protection measures are included. Carolyn LoBuglio - 4 historic coral trees cut down on San Vicente Blvd. Only 1 was emergency removal.

6. NEW BUSINESS -
Discussion item: Rachel Malarich facilitated a discussion on urban forestry educational materials and resources that CFAC and/or the public view as beneficial in light of the recent local disaster. **Chair appoints CFAC Ad Hoc Committee on Fire Recovery: CFAC Members: Michael Bircumshaw (Chair), Mihran Kalaydjian, Mindy Mann, Isabelle Duviver. Public Members: Dan Cooper, Nurit Katz, Wendy Sue Rosen, Emily Loughran, Rosalind Helfand, Diana Nicole, Andres Kemkes.**

7. MOTION to Approve CFAC letter as amended to Colonel Eric Swenson, Army Corps of Engineers. Moved by Joanne D'Antonio, seconded by Charles Miller. Passed unanimously. Amended letter: CFAC Letter to Col. Swenson .docx.pdf

8. Proposed removal of 6.7 miles of street trees (approximately 500) on Van Nuys Blvd. to narrow sidewalks by 2 feet each side of the street for Metro construction project (East SFV Light Rail), this between the Van Nuys Civic Center and San Fernando Road. Tree removals were not cited in Final EIR, but 3 years later cited in an EIR Addendum with questionable circulation to the public. **Motion to send letter to City Officials and Metro questioning the decision to create**

what amounts to 20 years of canopy loss in a tree equity area and its insufficient public outreach for this plan during the planning process. Moved by Joanne D'Antonio, seconded by Mihran Kaladyjian. Passed unanimously.

- **EIR Addendum link Addendum Sept '23 to FEIR East SFV Light Rail.pdf**
- **Final EIR FEIR Sept 2020 East SFV Light Rail.pdf (this large file has to be downloaded to view, listed here to show that trees were not included in this EIR)**
- **Link to many of the Van Nuys Blvd. tree photos Van Nuys Blvd. trees**
- **Link to the draft letter from CFAC: Draft letter re Van Nuys Bl tree removals.docx**

9. Consideration of letter from Kathleen Whitaker of the Onteora Hillside Alliance and No Motion. Marianne King, Jack Smith and Yael Pardess to research, review last CFAC letter, and draft letter for next meeting.

Letter from Kathleen Whitaker RE Onteora tree removals.docx

10. Motion to request CFAC representation on Mayor's ED 9 group that includes parks and green space upgrades. Moved by Joanne D'Antonio, seconded by Mihran Kaladyjian. Passed Unanimously. Charles Miller volunteered.

See:
https://mayor.lacity.gov/news/mayor-bass-signs-executive-directive-repair-streets-clean-parks-and-enhance-infrastructure

11. Time permitting: CITY FOREST OFFICER RACHEL MALARICH SPECIAL REPORT - Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) pre-draft presentation. For your review:
Draft UFMP Executive Summary for CFAC_01.2025.pdf
Postponed.

12. Department Oral Updates - postponed

A. Recreation and Parks
B. Urban Forestry Division - Protected Tree & Shrub Photo Guide on UFD website
C. City Forest Officer, Rachel Malarich - See Item 6
D. BPW New commissioners - No contact with CFAC as yet.
E. CityPlants - Free trees only available in tree equity areas.
F. Department of Building & Safety (LADBS)
G. LA DCP Protected Tree one-page informational and photo guide
https://planning.lacity.gov/odocument/555281f6-f5ef-44e9-b094-1fce25c1c4dc
H.Other Government Representatives

13. CFAC priorities for 2025 - email your top 5 priorities to Lynnette Kampe by Feb. 21 to be included in the survey. cfac.cd01@gmail.com

14. SUB- COMMITTEE REPORT - postponed

A. Ad hoc Protected Tree & Shrub Subcommittee follow-up report - Lynnette Kampe
B. Ad hoc Brush Clearance Subcommittee - Cyndi Hubach

15. PENDING ITEMS - postponed

A. Tree Guarantee Fee plantings and new fee structure
B. Status of grants for biodiversity medians (LASAN & UFD)
C. CD 8 Marqueece Harris-Dawson CF 15-0499-S2 & Report backs
D. Trees for Biodiversity motion (CFAC) & CF: 22-1469 (sponsors no longer on City Council) E. ROW (Right of Way) tree protection during construction draft guidelines - CFO F. ROW Master Species List implementation - UFD

G. Implement Motion to BPW on providing tree removal transmittals to CFAC
H. Update on Proposed median Survey - StreetsLA
I. SB 1425 – Open Space Elements of General Plan to be updated by 2026
J. Negative impacts of Artificial Turf
K. No tree removal notifications to CFAC and DONE - ways to deal with lack of notices
L. Tree over-trimming by billboard companies - possible action in March?
M. CF 24-1312 Withholding Certificate of Occupancy until mitigation trees are planted
N. 24-1228 amendment - tree spacing guidelines review
O. Landscape and Site Design Ordinance and Point System - to be heard at full City Council
P. BOE Street Design Manual
Q. PTO revision
R. CFAC Letters to be reports on Council Files instead of in Public Comment - Adrin Nazarian is supporting

16. ADJOURNMENT - Moved by Jack Smith, seconded by Mihran Kaladyjian. Passed unanimously. Adjourned at 3:10 p.m. ***Next Meeting March 6, Regular Meeting***

For questions regarding agendas, please contact Lynnette Kampe at CFAC.CD01@gmail.com. CFAC regularly meets on the 1st Thursday of every month. You may subscribe to receive future meeting agenda notification at: https://lacity.gov/government/subscribe-agendas/boards-commissions-committees (Select the 4th box down.)

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES/READING: Learn about CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act at this site: https://lci.ca.gov/ceqa/