

Community Forest Advisory Committee (CFAC)
Special Meeting DRAFT Minutes
January 15, 2026, 1-3:00 pm

[Community Forest Advisory Committee | Department of Public Works](https://dpw.lacity.gov/commissioners-boardroom/community-forest-advisory-committee)
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Representatives: CD 1 Angelic Perez; CD 1 Alternate/Secretary Lynnette Kampe; CD 2 Joanne D'Antonio, Chair; CD 2 Alternate Kathy Schreiner; CD 3 Mihran Kalaydjian; CD 4 Deanne Paul; CD 4 Alternate/Vice Chair Adele Slaughter; CD 5 Charles Miller; CD 5 Alternate Mindy Mann; CD 6 Vacant; CD 7 Vacant; CD 8 Robin Gilliam; CD 9 Vacant; CD 10 Brent Green; CD 10 Alternate Theresa Maysonet; CD 11 Isabelle Duvivier; CD 11 Alternate Carolyn LoBuglio; CD 12 Marianne King; CD 13 Scott Fajack; CD 13 Alternate Cyndi Hubach; CD 14 Jack Smith; CD 15 Gwendolyn Henry; Mayor's Representative Sejal Patel; Mayor's Alternate Representative Michael Bircumshaw

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.

Members present: Angelic Perez, Lynnette Kampe (Alternate, not counted toward quorum), Joanne D'Antonio, Mihran Kalaydjian, Deanne Paul, Charles Miller, Theresa Maysonet (Alternate, primary not present, counted toward quorum), Carolyn LoBuglio, (Alternate, primary not present, counted toward quorum), Marianne King, Scott Fajack, Cyndi Hubach (Alternate, not counted toward quorum), Jack Smith, Michael Bircumshaw (Alternate, primary not present, counted toward quorum).

Members participating via Zoom: Kathy Schreiner, Isabelle Duvivier

Guests: Lionel Mares, Holly Harper (Urban Design Studio), Glenn Bailey, Apekshya Bajracharya (Rec & Parks), , Ann Rubin, Rachel Malarich (CFO), Vivian Lao (DBS), John Collison, Darrell Field, Jonathan Mason, Sarah Hammes, Alonso Garcia, David Card, Pamela Palmer, Sakae Koyama, Roy Payan, Brooke Smith, Silver Lake NC, Lisa Fimiani

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

- A. Call to Order - Chair Joanne D'Antonio
- B. Roll Call and Determination of quorum (9) - Secretary Lynnette Kampe

2. ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS - We acknowledge the original stewards of what is now Los Angeles County: the Kizh-Gabrieleño, Tongva, Chumash, Tataviam, Kitanemuk, Serrano, Luiseño 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](#).

3. WELCOME COMMENTS - Joanne D'Antonio, Chair

Report/Announcements - Joanne D'Antonio

- A. CF 25-1363 (CWUIC) – in December filed the CIS based on the motion we passed; item passed in Public Safety, Pending with full City Council
- B. Charles' CFAC letter sent to RAP in December re non-native trees at Rio de Los Angeles State Park
- C. CIS CF-25-1363 and CF 25-1370 CFAC CIS filed, but WUI motion passed unamended
- D. New CFAC 2026 Drive (save the link that was sent to members). New folder with a spreadsheet for our Items Under Consideration - CFAC members may add potential agenda items
- E. No protection for significant trees (except under Mt. Washington/Glassell Park Specific Plan). Need to add to Protected Tree Ordinance; CFAC should advocate no permit to remove for a pool or other non-housing element.

4. MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES of CFAC Meeting Dec. 4, 2025. (Lynnette Kampe) [CFAC draft minutes 12.04.2025.docx](#) Motion to Approve by Lynnette Kampe, seconded by Mihran Kalaydjian. Correction: remove Marianne King from work group in item 9. Passed unanimously.

5. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS. 1. Contacted Councilmember Padilla to suggest the City partner with the Theodore Payne Foundation to plant more native trees in medians & other locations. 2. Need a full date on agendas. Excessive pruning on Reseda Blvd., raising branches 20' above street even though there is a protected bike lane. Encino NC reports pressure to prune trees for neighbor's view.

6. CFAC REPRESENTATIVES' ORAL UPDATES (taken after item 13.) CD14 - UF forestry has been very supportive in following up on illegal tree removals; Councilmember is having a meeting re: San Pasqual Park; CD 13 - rookery Deodar Cedar on private property cut down despite community efforts; CD11 - high weeds in San Vicente median, community is willing to hire private contractor, gophers are not the issue, looking into possible "Adopt a Median" City says no replacement trees as it is not an equity area; CD5Westwood Greenway event Mar. 5th, noon, Feb. 7th Charles Miller will present at CNPS Conference; presented to Metro asking for one large native tree in each planting; CD4 constituent concern over deodar cedar pruning to 14' clearance - seems appropriate; CDBSS has removed declining tree; CD2 - Charles miller and Joanne D'Antonio attended a Tar Pits meeting - they have abandoned their grand design but are proposing a walkway that will remove trees.

7. DEPARTMENT ORAL UPDATES

A. Urban Forestry Division - new website, need to verify protected tree and shrub images still appear.

B. Recreation & Parks - Apekshya Bajracharya - Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESA), Rio de Los Angeles tree relocation request - RAP staff that handled ESAs retired, suggests working with City Planning; Leon will attend in Feb. & update on tree relocation request. CFAC Comments: RAP is the appropriate agency to provide a SEA definition and process for RAP

C. City Forest Office - Rachel Malarich - UFMP Update on current progress - one more chapter completed, 3 to go; next internal review, then public review.

D. CityPlants - Rachel Malarich - LACC is distributing trees to homes and caring for Commonwealth Nursery. A contract will go out to bid for CityPlants.

E. LASAN - CFAC member reported LASAN is applying for additional funds under Prop 4

F. LADBS Department of Building & Safety - Introduction of substitute representative, Vivian Lao

G. Bureau of Engineering – Street Design Manual - Scott Fajack - There will be 5 meetings, 2 so far. Topics: transformer clearance, trees seem to be omitted from projects - disconnect with Engineering & green infrastructure. CFAC comments: See Streetscape Plans & review for manual. Continuous parkways needed for commercial districts. Planning comment: persistent opposition to continuous parkways in commercial areas found over a year and a half effort. Also

H. Dept. of City Planning - Landscape Site Design is imminent; looking at possible tree incentives for projects less than 5 units; parkway issue is frustrating, persistent opposition to continuous parkways in commercial areas found over a year and a half effort with resistance from disabled community. CFAC Comment: walkable, shaded streets are needed.

8. CORAL TREES ON SAN VICENTE - (Carolyn LoBuglio) postponed

9. POPPY PEAK IN HIGHLAND PARK - Possible motion to send letter of support to LADBS Commissioners on planned development (Jack Smith, John Collinson) 16 adjacent parcels, last, largest remaining open space in Highland Park; 40 homes indicated on initial documents, 44 oak trees on entire property; 4 homes completed, application for 4 more. Concerns: 1. piecemealing, combined projects would exceed 5 acres and require additional review. 2. Destruction of mature oaks, previous mitigation trees were too closely spaced; removal request has not yet been posted. Amendments to letter: add spacing comment; cite reference for estimated age of oaks, change title to a letter of "opposition;" remove legal reference in opening and emphasise PTO and community position. Moved by Jack Smith, seconded by Mihran Kalaydjian. Community comment: Land has an AB52 claim by the Kizh nation. Vote: 10 aye, 0 nay, 0 abstain. Passed.

Draft Letter: CFAC Poppy Peak Draft Letter of Support to LA Board of Building and Safety Commissio...
For reference: **CFAC Letter to LADBS Commissioners re Poppy Peak 050622.pdf (sent in 2022) Attachment 7 Poppy Peak Biological Report Poppy Peak by Dan Cooper.pdf**
Tree Report 6266 6270 and 6274 Annan Way.pdf Tree Report 6271 Annan Way.pdf Tree Report 6279 Annan Way.pdf

10. MOTION TO DISCONTINUE SETTING CFAC YEARLY PRIORITIES BY SURVEY. (Theresa Maysonet) Was in original by-laws but is not necessary: CFAC follows mission statement and council files. Moved by Theresa Maysonet, seconded by Charles Miller. Passed unanimously.

11. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE MOTION TO PURSUE HAVING CFAC MEETINGS UTILIZE TELECONFERENCING under the provisions of SB 707 by sending a CIS of our vote to CF 23-1114. Link to CF23-1114 [23-1114 \(CFMS\)](#) Discussion: passed at the state level, CIS on CF23-1114 is for NCs; CFAC adoption procedure tbd; will continue with City Hall meetings but hybrid format will allow more participation, reduce travel burden for some and may help with quorum.

12. MOTION FOR CIS TO CF 15-0103-S4 CLIMATE VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT REPORT - (Theresa Maysonet)

Link to Climate Vulnerability Assessment Report:

https://cityclerk.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2015/15-0103-S4_misc_2_09-11-25.pdf

Draft CIS: **Draft CFAC_CIS_CVA_Jan 8 2026.docx**

CFAC letter will add emphasis on tree protection and planting for heat island mitigation, heat index and social equity. CFAC comments: 1. high heat areas in the SF Valley need to be addressed also; under tree protection and regulatory systems state that climate adaptation should not reduce canopy. 2. Add a section on biodiversity & need to prioritize native species. Discussion: Diverse opinions on adding biodiversity comments. **Motion to approve CIS with added comments re: high heat areas in the Valley and canopy preservation.** Moved by Theresa Maysonet, seconded by Mihran Kalaydjian. 7 Aye, 3 Nay, 1 Abstain. Passed. **Motion: to add a section on biodiversity.** Moved by Charles Miller, not seconded.

13. "BRUSH" CLEARANCE AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT - (Cyndi Hubach) Board of Forestry Zone 0 Advisory Committee on hiatus until March.

Council File 25-1428 status - motion passed with LA option to allow potted plants, low well-maintained vegetation, prohibits flammable mulches; allows well maintained trees with branches 5' from walls and 10' from chimneys. LAFD review pending. Unclear if LA Options are to be temporary pending state action or if they can be permanent. The City Attorney needs to review LA Options in light of state regulations. Joanne D'Antonio will send email Re: status of CF and ability of LA to alternate guidelines.

14. CHARTER REFORM (Adele Slaughter, Joanne D'Antonio) Report on presentation at Charter Reform Committee in December. AS presented & JD took questions. The presentation was well received. Keith Mossee of Street's LA expressed agreement.

15. UPDATE ON CFAC BROCHURE - (Angelic Perez) Postponed.

16. EARLY PLANNING NOTIFICATION - Need to subscribe and track for trees. (Marianne King) Instructions to subscribe: **[self-register-DCP-early-notification-reports.pdf](#)** SB 79 takes effect in July and will have a negative effect on trees. Presentation postponed. New PTO needed. Lynnette Kampe will reconvene the PTO Ad hoc Subcommittee.

17. VERIFYING 9AS ON PROPERTY SALE PAPERWORK. Have received reports that sellers are not accurately revealing the existence of protected trees on property sale documents. How can these be checked? (Joanne D'Antonio) Postponed.

18. REPORT ON ONTEORA PROTECTED TREES APPEAL AT BPW DEC. 3 AND REPORT ON TREES/STREET LIGHTING 5300 OAKDALE - (Marianne King) review revisions and next steps, discussion and possible motion. Onterora will return to BPW in Jan.; only 3 days notice is given. New plans indicate fewer removals but that 80% of Protected Trees will be impacted. Plans don't provide sufficient info. On degree of impact, location of storms drains and sewer locations. Joanne D'Antonio will contact Bryan Ramirez.

19. REPORT OF MY LA 311 ISSUES TO BE FIXED. (Gwen Henry) Postponed.

20. PENDING ITEMS - Postponed.

- A. Tree Guarantee Fee plantings maps and new fee structure
- B. Status of grants for biodiversity medians (LASAN & UFD)
- C. ROW (Right of Way) tree protection during construction draft guidelines - CFO
- D. ROW Master Species List implementation - UFD
- E. Viability of CFAC BPW tree removal transmittal info through requests to UFD, or by Public Records Request (to be fast-tracked by Dep. City Attorney)
- F. Update on Proposed median Survey - StreetsLA
- G. SB 1425 – Open Space Elements of General Plan to be updated by 2026
- H. Negative impacts of Artificial Turf - advocacy
- I. No tree removal notifications to CFAC and DONE - ways to deal with lack of notices
- J. Tree over-trimming by billboard companies - possible action?
- K. CF 24-1312 Withhold Certificate of Occupancy until mitigation trees are planted
- L. CF24-1228 amendment - tree spacing guidelines review
- M. Landscape and Site Design Ordinance and Point System - pending City Attorney
- N. BOE Street Design Manual
- O. PTO revision
- P. Request for representation on Mayor's ED 9 Group - no response
- Q. How RAP determines environmentally sensitive park areas
- R. CF 25-0600-S111 5-year pruning cycle cost report (Heather Hutt)
- S. Street spacing guidelines
- T. 500-600 tree removals on Van Nuys Blvd for East SFV Light Rail
- U. CFAC website revisions
- V. Council File: 25-1363 (CFMS) CFAC CIS opposing unless amended filed.
- W. Replanting of trees at Rio de Los Angeles Park

21. ADJOURNMENT at 3:21, moved by Joanne D'Antonio, seconded by Jack Smith, Passed unanimously.
Next Meeting Date - February 5, 2026

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 READING: "Death of a Tree" New York Review of Books -

<https://www.nybooks.com/online/2025/06/29/death-of-a-tree/>