



Community Forest Advisory Committee (CFAC) Minutes Dec. 4, 2025

[Community Forest Advisory Committee | Department of Public Works
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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, Joanne D'Antonio, Mihran Kalaydjian, Adele Slaughter - Alternate, Charles Miller, Theresa Maysonet, Isabelle Duvivier, Carolyn LoBuglio, Alternate, Marianne King, Scott Fajack, Jack Smith, Gwendolyn Henry, Michael Bircumshaw.

Members participating via Zoom: Kathy Schreiner, Sejal Patel

Guests: Angelo Yenko (StreetsLA), Holly Harper (Urban Design Studio), Glenn Bailey, , Christophe LaBelle, Yael Pardess, Edgar Velazquez, Thomas's iPad, Xiomara, Apekshya Bajracharya (Rec & Parks), Diana Nicole, Monica Ramirez (DBS), Ann Rubin, Rachel Malarich(CFO), Brooke Smith, alyza, Tiara Patrick, Vivian Lao (DBS)

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

- A. Call to Order at 1:00 pm - Chair Joanne D'Antonio
- B. Roll Call and Determination of quorum (12 qualifying members present) - Adele Slaughter (Vice Chair/Acting Secretary at this meeting)

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

Updates on members - Joanne D'Antonio reported that CD 6 and 9 indicated they will work on getting a representative for CFAC and that item # 11 would be postponed.

- Report/Announcements** - CFAC posted 3 Community Impact Statements (CISs) re: Native tree planting. They appear on the far right side of the Council File under online documents. a. Council file 25-0962 passed. CF 25-0974 passed as amended. CF25-1141-passed as amended in committee
- B. Board of Forestry Zone 0 Committee's Next Workshop Dec. 8, Dan Cooper, Principal Conservation Biologist at the Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains and Eric Blank from the Theodore Payne Foundation will speak. They did a tour with LA County and Fire officials. Brush Clearance - Cindy Hubach went on the tour with the officials. The Zone 0 Committee is leaning toward option 1 and tree option 1 that preserves protected trees. LA and Pasadena have protected trees. c.
 - C. LA Zoo project scaled down with settlement with Friends of Griffith Park and Griffith Charitable Trust. No dynamiting or making tunnels. Griffith Park was meant to be preserved as natural, and Griffith Charitable Trust governs use of the property.
 - D. Appointment of ad hoc Billboard Pruning Issues Subcommittee: Theresa Maysonet, Barbara Broide (pending acceptance), Yael Pardess - members instructed to coordinate with Bryan Ramirez of UFD
 - E. January date for CFAC meeting set on January 15th with 11 CFAC members qualifying for quorum committed to attend.

4. Motion to approve minutes of CFAC Meeting Nov. 6, 2025 - Adele Slaughter [CFAC Draft minutes 11.06.2025.docx](#) Moved by Charles Miller, seconded by Gwen Henry. No Discussion. Passed 10 yes, 3 abstained due to absence at the last meeting. Note: Jack Smith arrived at 1:23 pm after the vote on the minutes.

5. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS -

A. Yael Pardess - Report on South Pasadena info on trees and zone 0; B. Glenn Baily—Report on NC budgets. All budget requests were posted, due Nov. 21st. Suggest agendizing for next year. SB 707 amends the Brown Act and liberalizes voting members taking part by Zoom in a public place.

6. CFAC REPRESENTATIVES' ORAL UPDATES: Updates moved to the end of the meeting due to time constraints. Theresa Maysonet asked that time be allotted to her video. Changing the order of the agenda is at the discretion of the chair. Joanne moved updates to after item #15.

7. DEPARTMENT ORAL UPDATES -

- A. Angelo Yenko from Street LA reported trees dropped from watering at the end of 3 years rather than 5. Theresa M reported that on UFD's list there are over 1200 trees not scheduled for watering. CDs 8 and 9 have the greatest number of trees now at risk of not living through the summer heat. CD 10 has 270. Equity issue. Asked for the cost of watering one tree for 33 months. Ideas suggested:the City Council could use discretionary funds; involve the mayor in getting volunteers to water once a month; NC's could set up watering programs as a volunteer project. Angelo noted that the Tree guarantee fee account has money, but no staff to implement. Currently working on a plan to allow Streets LA to manage the tree guarantee program. Rachael Malarich noted that the Tree Guarantee Fee only covers 3 years of watering. Ana Tabuena-Ruddy is working on a larger analysis of the whole program. The fee study that was conducted suggested a 5-year watering plan. Updating the maps. Working on the timing - planting, which they have not been doing.
- Carolyn LoBuglio reported on Coral Trees removed on San Vincente Blvd. The current landscape plan makes the land uninhabitable for the Coral trees. Some trees have been removed and have not been replaced, and also the further landscaping planned for around the Coral trees is not conducive to their health. Since the trees have been deemed historic, the

Cultural Heritage Commission could be of service. Further discussion postponed.

9. Report from Street Services on CF - [25-0600-S111 \(CFMS\)](#) possible motion for a CIS. (Joanne D'Antonio) Taken out of order due to Angelo's time constraints. Discussion of Tree trimming-outsourced in order to have trimming done every 5 years or every 7 years since City's budget is inadequate. Do not want to use subcontractors for tree trimming but it is far less expensive. Needs to be further reviewed given that UFD does not have sufficient oversight of outside contractors and results have been poor in the past. Young tree structural pruning is needed. The CIS needs to be refined and the following CFAC members will rewrite the CIS: Joanne D'Antonio, Michael Bircumshaw, Marianne King and Gwen Henry. **Returning to item #7**

B. Rec and Parks Rec and Parks - Apekshya Bajacharya- how to nominate parks as environmentally sensitive areas. We followed City Planning documents, but currently no physical document from City Planning. Rec & Parks does not have a formal definition. The RAP environmental team expands biological monitoring for riparian areas. Discussion of how to nominate additional parks as environmentally sensitive. Marianne King questioned the procedure. The county has defined Sensitive Environmental Areas (SEAs)-Marianne to report on. CFAC would like to nominate areas. Requested that Matthew Rudnick be consulted on these areas that were determined and how to nominate others. Biodiversity Expert Panel could be consulted.

C. City Forest Office, Rachel Malarich reported on the status of the UFMP. Has 12 sections and 8 have gone out to key City staff to get feedback (incorporated as received). Two more have to go out for feedback. Feedback gets incorporated A large portion is completed, working on completing 2 sections. So close to the finish line. Public comment and reviewing after another final internal high-level review is completed and incorporated. Will release a draft text version without graphics. Finish draft hopefully in the next month or 2.

D. LASAN - see item 16

E. Update on City Plants (Rachel Malarich reporting) contract ends on Jan 31. Cannot work unless contract is extended. Non-profit partners will be able to continue distributing trees. She has no answers on Commonwealth nursery at this time, though LA Conservation Corps handles day-to-day work

Rachel monitoring CF25-1141- which has not been adopted by the City Council at this time. Will be lead on report back, which will be brief and pull sections from UFMP.

F. LADBS Monica Ramirez reported that her replacement during her leave, Vivian Lao, had to leave the meeting, but will attend future meetings.

G. BOE - none.

H. DCP:JD reported email from Michelle Levy: Landscape ordinance is in the final stages. Holly Harper reported they are seeing what they can do for 3 and 4 units giving them additional things such as height if they retain significant trees. Single family and duplexes are more difficult,. CFAC comment: Single family homes are required to have a tree in every yard and CFAC wants to find a way for the city to enforce this ordinance.

8. Possible motion to send letter to Rec & Parks Re: non-native oaks in Rio de Los Angeles State Park (Charles Miller) The letter was screen shared on Zoom. RAP planted non-native oaks in the parking lot as replacement trees, next to a native habitat restoration zone. The letter asks them to relocate the trees and not to plant non-natives oaks adjacent to restoration zones due to the risk of oak hybridization. There was a call for the vote. Moved by Marianne King, seconded by Mihran Kaladyjian. Motion passed: 12 Yes and 1 Abstain.

10. A. "Brush" Clearance Ad hoc Committee Report - (Joanne D'Antonio) No update.

10. B. Proposing CIS opposing Council File: 25-1363 Fire Commission report to request City Attorney to adopt the CWUIC before Jan 1, 2026. - Marianne King) #10B Proposing a CIS to

oppose CF 25-1363 City Fire Commission report to request City Attorney to adopt the CWUIC before Jan 1, 2026. Noted that SB1149 could override board of forestry—concern about updating the code re: defensible space –including in the high fire severity zones. Local mandates should be able to impact and/or supersede the defensible space codes. CFAC could ask the City Council not to allow this to affect local mandates. CFAC wants to write a motion to support the city’s legal right to keep local control. Diana Nicole gave us the language of the motion verbally and in the chat which Joanne D’Antonio wrote down. Moved by Joanne D’Antonio, seconded by Mihran Kalayjian. Motion passed unanimously (12 yes) in opposition to CF 25-1363 unless amended. To be submitted as a CIS to CF 25-1363.

11. **Possible motion to write CIS letter in opposition regarding Council File [25-1259 \(CFMS\)](#)** postponed.
12. **Motion to discontinue setting CFAC yearly priorities by survey. (Theresa Maysonet)** postponed
13. **Report on Onteora Protected Trees Appeal at BPW Dec. 3 and report on trees/street lighting 5300 Oakdale - (Marianne King)** postponed.
14. **Charter Reform** - Adele Slaughter will present CFAC’s proposal at the Charter Reform Meeting on December 9th.
15. **CFAC Brochure (Angelic Perez)** - passed out copies of the revised brochure. Minor suggestions were made.
16. **LASAN Tree grant report - (Angelic Perez, Theresa Maysonet) [Tree Team Grant Summary for CFAC 2025 - Sheet1.pdf](#)** Had meeting with Amy Schulenberg regarding LASAN tree planting: natives planted are planted, data on this would require more time to gather. California Natural Resource Agency Slauson Corridor project limits to only 2 years of watering – proposed to write a CFAC letter (possibly as part of a coalition) requesting 5 years of watering—hotter here. All other projects 3 years of watering, Draft at January meeting. LASAN will continue to report and answer questions to CFAC through Angelic and Theresa. LASAN also considers community direction in tree selection and funders priorities like low water usage. CalFire grants have tree species specifications. Seeking to get funding under Prop 40.
6. **CFAC MEMBERS ORAL UPDATES** Theresa Maysonet showed the video made of the tree planting program in CD 10. Other member updates postponed.

17. **My LA 311 issues to be fixed. (Gwendolyn Henry) Postponed**

18. **PENDING ITEMS - Postponed**

19. **ADJOURNMENT** CFAC meeting Adjourned by Joanne D’Antonio at 3:14 pm **Next Meeting January 15, 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.)

Minutes prepared by Adele Slaughter/Lynnette Kampe