Community Forest Advisory Committee (CFAC)
Minutes
September 3, 2026, 1-3:00- 3:00 pm

Los Angeles City Hall - Room 361
(In-person attendance required for CFAC member quorum)

Zoom Video Conference 1 pm to 3 pm (Pacific)

Representatives: CD 1 Angelic Perez; CD 1 Alternate Lynnette Kampe, Secretary; CD 2 Joanne D'Antonio, Vice-Chair; CD 2 Alternate Kathy Schreiner; CD 3 Mihran Kalaydjian; CD 4 Deanne Paul; CD 4 Alternate Adele Slaughter, Chair; 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 prohibited from acting on a matter brought to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, members of the public may add issues to the agenda for future meetings. Members of the public may also comment on an agenda item while it is being considered.

Members present: CD 1 Angelic Perez; CD 1 Alternate, Lynnette Kampe, Secretary, (primary present, not counted toward quorum); CD 2 Joanne D'Antonio, Vice-Chair; CD 4 Deanne Paul; CD 4 Alternate Adele Slaughter, Chair, (primary present, not counted toward quorum); CD 5 Charles Miller; CD 6 Karla Ramos, virtual, not counted toward quorum; CD 10 Alternate Theresa Maysonet, (primary not present, counted toward quorum); CD 11 Isabelle Duvivier; CD 11 Alternate Carolyn LoBuglio (primary present, not counted toward quorum); CD 12 Marianne King; CD 13 Alternate Cyndi Hubach (primary not present, counted toward quorum); CD 14 Jack Smith, virtual, not counted toward quorum; CD 15 Gwendolyn Henry (@1;21); Mayor's Sejal Patel, (virtual, not counted toward quorum); Mayor's Alternate Michael Bircumshaw (primary not present, counted toward quorum). (9 qualifying quorum at 1:00; 10 qualifying quorum at 1:21.)

Guests: Apekshya Bajracharya (RAP), Ann Rubin, Constance Villalvazo, Rachel Malarich (OFM), Sakae Koyama, Thomas Grant, A. Kamkawa, Reed Arundo, Scott Mandell, Liz Chou, Jim Naber, Dennis Jones, Diana Nicole, Jeanne McConnell, D. Field, D. Zelma (Urban Design Studio), Brooke Smith, Stephen Crouch, Yael Pardess, Nicole Lewis (CD 12)

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

A. Call to Order at 1:00 - Chair Adele Slaughter
B. Roll Call & 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 - Adele Slaughter, Chair

Report/Announcements:

A. Appoint an Ad hoc committee to look into planting empty tree wells in Los Angeles (plan, raise support, large wells first) - Heather Lee, Jeanne McConnell, Sejal Patel, Charles Miller, Cyndi Huback. Reinstate Ad hoc committee to study our bylaws - Theresa Masonet, Lynnette Kampe.
B. Change CFAC meeting date in Oct. to Oct. 8th. Moved by Adele Slaughter, seconded by Theresa Maysonet. Discussion: UFMP expected in Sept.; we will need time to review. Rachel Malarich could present via Zoom in a Sept. informational meeting.

C. California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection unanimously adopted new "Zone Zero" on Aug. 19th. Update by Diana Nicole - it is not yet law; the CA Office of Administrative Law must review it. The LA Council File is still in the City Attorney's Office.
D. Status of CFAC CIP final letter - Michael Bircumshaw. The letter is completed and will be sent to the Mayor and all relevant parties. Discussion: Excellent letter; also submit as an LA Times Op. Ed.
E. Shade LA permitting reform letter status -
F. Reminder Letters to City Council and NCS on 5 Year watering uploaded in Letter Template Funding for Watering file on Google Drive. Possible watering partners: KYCC, NET
G. Shade LA permitting reform letter status - sent
H. Possible Special Meeting in Sept. to review UFMP - date tbd
I. Other - correct typo on agenda heading; this is the final agenda

4. MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES of CFAC Meeting August 6, 2026. (Lynnette Kampe) **Draft Minutes 08.06.2026**. Moved by Lynnette Kampe, seconded by Isabel Duvivier. Discussion: update titles for Adele Slaughter and Joanne D'Antonio; correct link in 3.A.; add to Charles Miller's original letter "100% native." Passed as corrected, 10 Aye, 1 abstain.

5. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS. 1. RE: Zev Greenway - MRCA phased removal of fan palms - alleged conflict of interest; 2. Sat. Sept. 5th is Black Walnut Day at Ascott Hills; 3. In favor of filling in empty tree wells. Aggressive and damaging clearance by goats at LA/Pasadena border. 4. Future CFAC Agenda should address goat grazing and type conversion.

6. DEPARTMENT ORAL UPDATES

A. City Forest Office - Rachel Malarich - thanks for members' council district reports; UFMP release date pending, 60-day comment period, will schedule special meeting if requested. Working on Landscape and Site Design; Post Fire Workshop next Wed. CFAC Questions: Is a % native specified in UFMP? - A: No; Who is in charge of City Hall landscaping? A: will send info.

B. Recreation & Parks - no update

C. Urban Forestry Division - Status of CFAC Tree Guarantee letter sent May 30th - no update

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. **Discussion and Possible Action/Motion** regarding a letter regarding a formal recommendation/complaint to the Department of Recreation and Parks and the Board of Public Works regarding contract performance and urban forestry impacts by Mariposa Landscaping. (Adele Slaughter)
Links to Photographs taken by Jack Smith in the Children's Garden at Elysian Park, June 2024 - Jack Smith - Problems with clearance 2 years ago, lack of prior inventory/photos, clearance went beyond 200', bark damage to trees, poor cuts. Visual post-inventory by RAP; RAP found no fault with Mariposa. Mariposa's contract was renewed despite public protest on advice of the City Attorney. The city cannot exclude a vendor based on public comment. Changes to RAP contracts suggested. Ad hoc committee appointed: Diana Nicole; Sakae Komaya; Jack Smith; Joanne D'Antonio; Sejal Patel. Public Comment: 1. Appearance of conflict of interest in Zev Greenway palm removals. 2. Dennis Jones, from Mariposa Landscaping, apologized and is willing to meet with the Ad hoc committee. Committee comments: contract review is needed for all RAP vendors; add a new financial liability clause; CFAC sent a letter in 2024.

B. Theresa Maysonet: Budget issues

- 2026 Budget Recommendation R75 - Adjustments needed for full recovery costs - Link to Council File 26-0600-S97. Transfer of trees - from BPW to UFD.
- **2026 Budget Recommendation R73 - Grant Funding Opportunities -** Link to Council File 26-0600-S94**.** Asks for a report back. Discussion: Prior letter suggested the replacement cost be adjusted annually; Theresa Maysonet to draft a letter for the next meeting.

C. **CEQA** - State proposal not to require EIRs - Prop 45 - Discussion and Motion to sign on to People Over Polluters Letter Moved by Adele Slaughter, seconded by Joanne D'Antonio. Discussion: expansive letter; adding CFAC logo may not be relevant but good association. 1 recuse, 9 aye. Passes

D. **Sunland McGroarty Corridor Development - Karla Ramos -** not present

E. **Tree Spacing Guidelines - Council File 26-1050 Marianne King** Tree spacing brief - USC.
Report on meeting with John Lee. LA is overly restrictive; Marianne will request that CFAC have a seat at the table. In Landscape and Site Design, John Lee amended to reduce tree spacing from 30' to 25'.

8. OLD BUSINESS

A. **Discussion and possible motion to reconsider CFAC's August 6, 2026 action regarding the proposed comment letter on Council File 26-0757 (City Plants);** and, if reconsideration is approved, consideration, amendment, and possible approval of a revised CFAC comment letter regarding sustainable funding and program recommendations for City Plants. Draft of proposed revised letter: CFAC CIS CF 26-0757 Updated **(**Theresa Maysonet) Procedural process: Dissenter, Theresa Maysonet, makes a motion to reconsider. Moved by Theresa Maysonet, seconded by Dee Paul. Passes unanimously. Discussion: change wording of "reasonable" to a fixed %; fixed % not enforceable or reasonable with limited space; funding constraints. Motion to approve letter. Moved by Theresa Maysonet, seconded by Angelic Perez. Passes unanimously.

B. **Fire Code Modernization CFAC Ad Hoc Committee Update -** Cyndi Hubach -Working to change 200' clearance to 100', reduce spacing between shrubs, raise mowing height, remove demonization of native plants; good support from Henry Herrera at CalFire; good timing. Presented at the Fire Commissioners meeting.

C. **Discussion and Possible Motion to send a letter in support of or opposition to Missing Middle -** Re: Michelle Levy presentation (Marianne King). Letter read - concerns about effectiveness with preserving trees, need for proof of planting, removal of significant trees should be replaced 1:1; massive cumulative loss; loss of community input; wholesale review of environmental impact; problem with exemption for Starter Homes, 4' side and rear yards insufficient. Discussion: State Law time frame; Motion to send letter to Michelle Levy only and request meeting. Moved by Joanne D'Antonio, seconded by Gwendolyn Henry. Passes unanimously.

D. **PTO Ad Hoc Subcommittee Update -** Lynnette Kampe **DRAFT Report** Motion to approve proposed changes in concept; wordsmithing and possible re-organization still to come. No vote taken. Discussion: complete rewrite needed - see: Pasadena; committee advises to edit existing Ordinance and let City Attorney rewrite; general approval of proposed changes; enforcement is key; recommendations need not come as part of UFMP comments; contact Bryan Ramirez, UFD. Community comment - enforcement is key.

E. **Onteora Hillside Project - 808-812 & 828 Onteora in CD14** - Marianne King - Results of hearing at BPW July 15 and Van Nuys August meeting. Appeal denied; impacted trees not adequately addressed.

9. CFAC REPRESENTATIVES' UPDATES - CD5 - Charles Miller will attend the 30x30 conference at the end of Sept. and invites ideas for change.

10. ADJOURNMENT ***Next Meeting Date - October 8, 2026 - Date changed - Special 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 notifications at:
https://lacity.gov/government/subscri)(be-agendas/boards-commissions-committees (Select the 4th box down.)