



- Committee Chair-

Walter Hall  
whall@greatervalleyglencouncil.org

City of Los Angeles  
**GREATER VALLEY GLEN COUNCIL**  
13654 Victory Blvd., #136  
Valley Glen, CA 91401  
[www.greatervalleyglencouncil.org](http://www.greatervalleyglencouncil.org)

- Committee Members -

Joanne D'Antonio  
Joseph Barmettler

**Government Relations Committee MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, March 21, 2017**  
**Uncle Tony's Pizzeria**  
**13007 Victory Blvd., North Hollywood 91606**

1. Call to Order at 7:00 PM, all members present.
2. No General Public comments on items not on the agenda.
3. Minutes of the meeting of February 21, 2018 approved unanimously as corrected. (Barmettler moved, Hall 2<sup>nd</sup>)
4. No March VANC meeting, J. D'Antonio, GVGC Sustainability Liaison, reported on March 14 Trees Committee teleconference, attached
5. Discussion of Ryu motion to oppose SB 827 (Wiener) re planning and zoning: transit rich housing bonus. Hall motion with D'Antonio 2<sup>nd</sup>: The Greater Valley Glen Council supports the Resolution (CF 18-0002-S13) presented by Councilmember Ryu and seconded by Council President Wesson for inclusion in the City's 2017-18 State Legislative Program, opposition to SB 827 (Weiner) which would override local control of planning decisions and allow the construction of housing developments without compliance to local land regulations, including construction of buildings four to eight stories high, with no parking minimums, even within single-family neighborhoods. [CIS the same.] Unanimously approved with addition of letter to Senator Hertzberg asking him to oppose SB 827.
6. Discussion of Bureau of Street Services report on tree pruning and removal (CF 15-0467-S4). No action taken.
7. Discussion regarding the proposed "in-lieu fee" for City tree removal (CF 16-0461). Motion for D'Antonio to author final motion (JD moved and WH 2<sup>nd</sup>) opposing unless modified, unanimous. Motion: The Greater Valley Glen Council opposes implementation of the in-lieu fee concept unless the following applies:

The in-lieu fee be sufficient to cover ALL costs necessary to successfully establish replacement trees, including watering, staking, mulching, weeding and juvenile pruning of the replacement trees for at least five (5) years;

An Urban City Canopy Assessment and complete Urban City Tree Inventory, performed by an expert contractor, be conducted and include identification of available space for planting;

An Urban Forest Management Plan is drafted, implemented and enforced;

A tree replacement plan is in place for No Net Loss of Tree Canopy for the City;

And the Urban Forestry Division is provided adequate funding to hire required staff and acquire sufficient resources necessary to fully implement its responsibility to safeguard City trees, including the In-Lieu Fee alternative.

Meeting adjourned at 8:37.

#### Sustainability Representative Report for 3-21-'18 Gov't Relations meeting

The NCSA Trees Committee met on 3/14/'18 via teleconference with ten members in attendance.

Diana Zogran explained CF 16-0461 and presented a review along with a cover email that opposes the latest version of the motion that is due to be considered by the City Council Public Works and Gang Reduction Committee on Wednesday March 21<sup>st</sup> because it sanctions mature tree removals at low cost with no guarantee of even sapling planting. This review and position will be sent to all NCSA Representatives to bring to their

NCS. The Committee also would like to request that Grayce Liu post the Tree Removal listings link on all the Nextdoors.

The Committee voted to write to all the NCSA representatives advocating that they write to Public Works President asking that tree pruning be in line with climate goals.

The Committee is advocating for a professional tree census, not an inventory, to be done as a necessity toward raising money for a Urban Forest Master Plan for Los Angeles.

Re: CF 03-1459-S3 Protected trees are being removed too easily, and an email blast needs to go out to NCs to protest that protected trees are no longer really protected.

The UFMP Working Group is preparing a survey and it looking for input on the draft prepared by Dudek. Joanne will collect Committee comments and weigh in by the end of Thursday March 15.

San Diego was put forward as a good model for Los Angeles in terms of an Urban Forestry Master Plan.

Discussion on whether it is still possible to influence City budget regarding trees. At this point suggestions need to go directly to the Mayor as the Budget Advocates white paper is turned in.