

## **Sustainability Report for Feb. 4, 2019 GVGC Board Meeting**

### **1-9-'19 NCSA Trees Committee 12:-00-2:00 p.m. Teleconference**

- \$10 million is sitting Quimby in funds. Cannot be used for tree maintenance – if trees are planted, there is no budget to keep them watered, etc. so money is used for astroturf fields.
- KCET is doing a 3-part series on trees in Los Angeles.
- Trees Committee brought holiday gift pies to Urban Forestry Division, City Plants and Bureau of Street Services (paid for by donations from 3 Committee members).
- To save trees, City Council needs to repeal sidewalk maintenance reverting to homeowner after repair. This happened in San Francisco.
- NCs need 90 days to for a tree removal objection to get through the NC motion system. Right now there can be as little as 3 days from the date the notice is issued.
- Los Angeles needs to pass an ordinance to protect all large trees (like Pasadena has).
- Protected trees are being removed unnecessarily in brush clearance – hillside owners not instructed properly in brush clearance notices. LAFD needs better direction – CFAC should inform Fire Commission. Protected trees need tags.
- Angelenos4Trees got a grant to compile statistics based on tree removal notices for 2018 listed on NCSA Trees website. <https://www.ncsa.la/trees>
- It was reported that \$100,000 has accumulated in “in lieu” fee funds since July 2018 for trees removed with fees charged instead of providing replacement trees.
- Rec and Parks should be required to post tree removal notices to allow for objections before removing park trees. Right now they can remove trees without public input.
- A new blog was started by a Tree Committee member: Treeology
- Business Licenses should come with a letter regarding owner responsibility for trees.

### **1-23-'19 Rooted in Urban Forestry Day 9:00-5:00 City Hall**

Sponsored by the Community Forest Advisory Committee and Tree People a select group of representatives, including NCSA Trees Committee Chair Joanne D'Antonio, met with all City Agencies that affect trees in the morning, the Mayor's policy director at noon, and visited each Council Office to meet with Policy Directors and/or Councilmembers to support the Dudek Report [http://www.cityplants.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/10939\\_LA-City-Plants\\_FirstStep\\_Report\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.cityplants.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/10939_LA-City-Plants_FirstStep_Report_FINAL.pdf) recommendations to prioritize tree funding and tree preservation. The letter they presented follows this report.

Joanne D'Antonio  
Sustainability Representative, GVGC