

## **Sustainability Report for 9-9-'19 Greater Valley Glen Council Board Meeting**

Report by Joanne D'Antonio, Sustainability Representative, GVGC

Posted on GVGC website under City Reports: <https://www.greatervalleyglencouncil.org/special-reports/>

### **Community Forest Advisory Committee 9-5-'19 1:00 p.m. City Hall**

**Adel Hagekhalil (Streets LA, formerly BSS)** new website to get services; introduced new staff.

**Tim Tyson (UFD)** is hiring 16 new tree surgeons and is getting bids to conduct independent tree inventory. There are thousands of requests to remove bricks and grates from tree wells and no crews to do this work.

**Michelle Barton (LA Sanitation)** is taking suggestions for new street plantings for the 4<sup>th</sup> Cal Fire grant (min 25 trees in same area – low income districts)

**Holly Harper (Planning)** reports that above ground tree-planting requirement is 1000 cubic ft.

On Sept 20 a bump-out prototype to accommodate a tree will be built on 7<sup>th</sup> St.

**Rachel O'Leary (City Plants)** Re: tree giveaways: new guidelines for tree planting, pledge to plant and follow-up.

**Joanne D'Antonio (public comment)** reported on requested pruning by residents on Nagel that resulted in severe over-pruning by the City was covered by Channel 7 and received complaints. Also, at 11472 Laurelcrest in Studio City a property owner is trying to use the Protected Tree Ordinance to bypass CEQA review to remove an oak-walnut woodland where there will not be space to replant 4 to 1 once large home is built.

**Amber Elton (Bureau of Engineering)** reported that 648 trees have been removed in the sidewalk repair program thus far. 1145 trees have been planted and 151 are pending planting. They are starting to track preserved trees. Some alternative materials have been piloted, like rubber sidewalk pavers at the Vernon Library, that have been reported to be bumpy for wheelchairs that are mouth-controlled. Streets LA is doing all the paving, and UFD is handling all tree assessments. Streets LA is looking to install meandering sidewalks and remove legal obstacles for so property owners will be more willing to allow these (this was done on Cherokee Ave. to save the ficus trees and repair the sidewalk).

There is no date for the completion of the sidewalk repair draft EIR – trees are being removed despite motion from CFAC and letter from NCSA to only repair sidewalks not requiring tree removals and not remove trees until EIR is completed.

### **LAUSD modernization updates 9-5-'19. North Hollywood High School**

**(To receive copy of Power Point presentation – contact: [jdantonio@greatervalleyglencouncil.org](mailto:jdantonio@greatervalleyglencouncil.org))**

LAUSD held a meeting regarding North Hollywood High School renovation – a \$250 million project. The plan is to retain Kennedy, Frazier, and the Cafeteria buildings with some modernization of the interiors Kennedy and Frazier. New underground utilities for entire campus. Everything else will be torn down and rebuilt, with the work happening in two 2-year stages not to disrupt schooling. New buildings include 800-seat auditorium with band, dance classrooms, library on site of existing auditorium, library; 2-story gym building at north end of campus; new classroom building on Colfax north of Kennedy to replace all portable classrooms.

Sixty of the 272 campus trees will be removed (49 for construction, 11 for health reasons). Randolph Hall will be demolished which will result in the loss of the surrounding trees and the oak trees in the parking lot, which is being re-graded. The large trees along Magnolia, on Colfax near Magnolia, and those in the quad are to be preserved. Replanting is to bring the tree count to 365.

### **UPCOMING:**

CONGRESS OF NEIGHBORHOODS – SEPT 28, 2019 Los Angeles City Hall open to the public  
(free breakfast, lunch and 3 workshops)

Theme: "Effective Change in Our Communities"

Joanne D'Antonio, Chair and Founder of the Trees Committee of the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance will be a panelist at this workshop:

**Bringing LA's Green New Deal To Our Neighborhood Councils: Sustainability/Resiliency**

Register here for the Congress: [nccongressla.com](http://nccongressla.com)