

## **SUSTAINABILITY REPORT for 2-19-'20 Greater Valley Glen Council Gov't Relations 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 2-6-'20 1:00 p.m. City Hall BPW Conference Room**

UFD reported response to 10,000 emergencies since July 1, 880 during current week; 750 trees planted this fiscal year; 524 stumps removed; 22,800 trees trimmed; 4,000 root pruned for sidewalk repair. Added more staff. Tree inventory is in progress – NCs to be notified only on completion in their area. Tim Tyson reported that work which resulted in overpruned tree complaint on Topanga Blvd was done by Caltrans because it is a state highway. Hans Durant will be notifying NCs of Tree Blitz tree planting option on pothole repair days with 6-7 weeks lead-time.

Geoff Thompson LAX Community Liaison to CM Mike Bonin (CD 11) LA World Airports Landside Access Modernization Program presentation. Reported on 500 tree removals for LAX projects and tree planting projects that will follow no longer hampered by power lines, now below ground.

Attorney Jamie Hall advised on CEQA and LA Safe Sidewalks LA Draft Environmental Impact Report. Recommended looking at potential impacts of the Project. Disclosures must be made and mitigated by all feasible measures. Questions posed must be meaningfully answered by the City. Examples: Has a reasonable range of alternatives been explored? With only a 7-day notice of a tree removal for sidewalk repair, should the public have the right to appeal? Is there a way to create a hybrid system so people can have a role in determining whether removal happens and in the choice of street trees? Should there be street tree removal criteria, and have all criteria been met? Isn't best management a case by case approach? Project design features may have to be changed. There may have to be a lawsuit to get this.

CFAC passed a motion to request a 60-day extension to comment period on the SRP DEIR. CFAC also passed a motion to submit comments members have been working on but reserve the right to supplement if extension is granted.

### **Metro SFV Service Council 2-5-'20 Braude Constituent Center 6:00 p.m.**

Metro Next Gen proposed bus service changes have been released and are available to the public. Concern was raised that Neighborhood Councils were not consulted. Requests for re-evaluation by Service Council members and public include lack of service to Porter Ranch and Granada Hills; no change in SFV north-south lines on Coldwater, Woodman, Laurel Cyn, etc. that only run once an hour and do not serve people wanting to connect to the Orange Line and can have to wait close to an hour on a return trip if they miss their connecting bus. Other objections to proposal include the loss of the 750 line and the 734 to no longer to cross Ventura Blvd, removing its connectivity to museums in the Sepulveda Pass, UCLA and the Expo Line. There will be public hearings in June and Metro Board votes in August.

### **Community Forest Advisory Committee Ad Hoc Committee 1-31-'20 11:30 a.m. Corner Bakery Encino**

Prepared letter for CFAC to ask Safe Sidewalks for extension of 60 days beyond Feb. 24 to allow neighborhood councils time to give input on **Sidewalk Repair Program Draft EIR**. Also preparing document to respond to what is missing in Draft EIR. The Draft EIR does not scientifically consider the long-term effects in terms of air quality, heat island effect, energy loss, carbon sequestration, and water retention caused by the proposed removal of 12,859 street trees. Also there was no consideration of the Dudek Report on trees.

### **Orange Line Transit Neighborhood Plans public meeting 1-30-'20 North Hollywood Library**

Input given to LA Planning Dept. on construction around **Orange Line Transit corridors**. They would like Greater Valley Glen residents to come to **Community Plan Meeting** at Braude Center to talk in focus groups at 4:00 or 5:30 on Feb 18. This affects the kind of building and zoning around us. **They await our response.**

### **Sidewalk Repair Program Draft EIR Scoping Meeting 1-29-'20 5p.m.Sunland-Tujunga Library**

Poorly attended. Presentation by Safe Sidewalks LA. Public comments taken. No questions answered during meeting on public record. (No evidence of outreach for their meetings beyond posting on website.)

NCSA did an email blast in late January to all NC Board members to alert them of the Draft EIR, scoping meetings, and public comment period. You can send comments to [Shilpa.Gupta@lacity.org](mailto:Shilpa.Gupta@lacity.org)  
SRP DEIR available at <https://sidewalks.lacity.org/environmental-impact-report>